



**Prison+Neighborhood  
Arts Project**

2040 N. Milwaukee Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60647  
www.p-nap.org

### **Poetry Teaching Artists – PNAP**

The Prison and Neighborhood Arts Project (PNAP) offers the position of co-teaching Poetry Teaching Artist (PTA) in partnership with the Poetry Foundation. The PTA is a unique opportunity to co-teach with poet Tara Betts and develop work with incarcerated writers at Stateville Correctional Center.

The ideal candidate will have: extensive experience as a poet or poetry editor; extensive experience teaching poetry and facilitating class discussions and writing workshops; understanding of the histories and context of incarceration; clear ideas of collaborative possibilities; and time and class management skills; and, transportation to and from prison. Candidates should be at least 21 years of age.

PTA must be able to get clearance to teach at the prison; must agree to follow all PNAP and Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) rules for visitors and volunteers; and must attend orientations with PNAP prior to the beginning of Fall classes.

#### **Time Requirements and Compensation:**

As a co-teacher for this poetry course, you would be expected to meet monthly with co-teacher Tara Betts and teach some sessions individually and with your co-teacher. During your meetings, the co-teachers would work out lesson plans and activities, and select assigned readings. Both teachers would collect, offer feedback, and return student writing promptly. Due to the circumstances of the P+NAP students, co-teachers would also make arrangements to type student work, undergo editing process with clean drafts, and submit a manuscript for a student anthology at the end of the spring semester. In addition, co-teachers are invited to attend meetings and cultural events for the larger P+NAP cohort. In the coming year, we hope to integrate more of the student writing into exhibits, performances, and events.

Co-teachers will attend 2 orientations, 1 meeting per semester and co-teach 28 sessions during the academic year (schedule is Sept-Dec and Feb-May). Each class session is held on Mondays at Stateville prison and is approx. 2.5 hours long; however, with the commute and the process to enter and exit the prison, the time commitment is at least 5.5 hours per week, not including lesson preparation.

**The PTA will be compensated \$8,000.00.**

**Illinois Department of Corrections Rules:**

There are many more rules for volunteers but these are some that might impact a potential candidate's decision to apply. Please consider:

\*The PTA/co-teachers will not be able to make personal visits or write incarcerated people in IL Dept. of Corrections while teaching at Stateville.

\*Clearance into IDOC facilities requires an application that includes background checks, drug testing, TB testing, and fingerprinting.

\*Facial piercings are not allowed at the prison and a dress code is enforced.

\*Faculty will teach in the prison's gym, on a second floor room (with no elevator). The room has large windows. Students and faculty locked in the room during the class sessions. When faculty or students need to leave we waive to a guard outside the room to be let out. Please consider these conditions as you apply for this position.

### **WHAT YOU NEED TO APPLY:**

- 1) CV (including your contact information-phone number, email, address).
- 2) Letter of intent, stating your experience working with others, teaching and why you want to work with incarcerated writers (500 word maximum).
- 3) Teaching focus and project description: Let us know what you might focus on pedagogically and what you have in mind for a final, culminating project (500 word maximum).
- 4) Three to five samples of your work.
- 5) Three references with phone numbers and e-mail.

### **HOW TO APPLY:**

Combine all the above information into **one** PDF and name the file with your first and last name. Please send to:  
contactpnap [at] gmail.com

PNAP is an Equal Opportunity Employer. People of Color, women, LGBTQI people are encouraged to apply.

### **DEADLINE:**

Until position is filled. At which time the online posting will be taken down.

For more information:

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or

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