ERfC Internship Project Ideas

MECA Multi Ethnic Creative Arts Program

- The programs uses age-appropriate drama, writing, storytelling, puppetry, music, dance and visual art activities as strategies for promoting learning, teaching basic academic subject areas, encouraging positive social experiences and promoting positive relationships
- Activities focus on theatre techniques, community building, self expression, self confidence and creativity and community building
- Must be passionate about popular, transformative and cross-cultural education, active in the arts, theatre, dance, music
- Increase parent and community awareness of the MECA program with a Showcase of Activities
- Strong leadership and organizational skills required

MECA Project Ideas

Theatre Time / Performance Prep
Introduction to the fun of stage theatre in its improvisational form

- Work with students to create scene after scene, playing theatre games, and learning valuable life lessons such as making friends, handling tough social situations, being kind, finding laughter in life, and correcting mistakes
- Design for younger students take-home art projects; older students can create journals
- Research poetry and local authors to develop productions

Poetry in Performance
Teach kids the power of learning to recite and perform poetry.

- Kids develop their interpretations of poems and decide how best to express themselves
- Plan a showcasing event for parents and community members

Play Production
Use the talents of our students and a favorite local author!

- Kids learn the ropes of putting together a complete play in this fun class, experiencing everything from performing to props
- Features set design, costumes, and music

Experience Dance
Design and choreograph an introductory dance class that covers a wide variety of dance styles and introduces kids to fun music to get them moving

- Students are introduced to tap, ballet, swing, 50’s, even the electric slide could be covered in this dance medley
- Design a program to give students knowledge of basic dance routines and movement
- Showcase a final performance for parents and community members
Singing, Acting & Hip-Hop

- Use pop/rock songs, show tunes, Disney hits, scripts, monologues, improv, choreography and more
- Introduce kids to music as a means of expressing themselves vocally, dramatically and through movement
- Design a program with the goal of building confidence and poise
- Encourage kids to feel comfortable within themselves to perform—-an attribute that helps them in all areas of schooling and in growing up
- Design a variety of activities that emphasize the fundamentals of performance through singing, acting, and dance
- Children can explore their imaginations by getting connected to their movements
- Showcase a final performance for parents and community members

Dance Around the World
Create dances that offer students an introduction to the beauty, grace, and excitement of various dance styles from around the world

- Introduce students to American Jazz, Classical, and Latin dances
- Choreograph dance routines where students learn valuable life skills such as poise, confidence, kindness and cooperation
- Design a program to give students a global experience while increasing their ability to self-express
- Showcase a final performance for parents and community members

Yoga for Kids
Design a yoga and creative movement project that really brings out the fun in exercise!

- Students learn body-stretching yoga poses and learn to express themselves
- Discuss balance and self-calming techniques through creative dance storytelling
- Design a program that teaches children the lifelong benefits in handling daily stress
- Create a parent/child routine
- Showcase student routines for parents and community members

The Making of Technology
Work alongside ERFC's media specialist using the portable Studio Dynamix lab

- Students create their own magazine covers and mini movies using green screen technology and computer software
- Work with students to brainstorm ideas, plan out backgrounds, create story boards, write scripts, and perform in front of the green screen
- Must be familiar with Chroma Key® green screen editing software
- Must have experience in Photo Key, Paint Shop Pro, Photo Shop or other similar programs to edit green screen backgrounds
- Editing and writing skills necessary
**KidZ Sports**
KidZ Sports is designed with all skill levels in mind. Students K-5 learn the fundamentals of games. Sportsmanship and teamwork is highlighted every day!

- Must have knowledge of basketball, wiffle ball and flag football
- Kids use their new abilities to compete in fun games designed to increase skill levels
- Evaluate skill levels and place kids on teams to scrimmage in friendly competitions
- Organize a KidZ Sports tournament to showcase for families and community members

**Building A Healthy Community Afterschool**
Building Healthy Communities (BHC) is a K-8 service-learning program designed to promote healthy behaviors and combat childhood obesity.

- Design a program to empower youth participating in school-based after-school programs to develop service-learning projects that positively impact community health
- As part of this program, students share their projects and experiences as agents of positive change and celebrate their commitment to healthy communities and their power to make a difference

**Love to Write!**

- Implement engaging literacy activities; e.g. spoken word, reading groups, creative writing with groups of up to 10 students in grades K-5
- Create and deliver literacy-based lesson plans and activities
- Review and revise programs to meet emerging needs/interest
- Design an Interactive Bulletin Board
- Design a Writing Incentive Program
- Design a culminating activity to showcase student work to parents and community members

**RetroPlay**

- Design retro games and teach students cooperative skills
- Research how to play the games they've heard of (or have never heard of!) like Kick-the-Can, Marble Shooters, Hyper Hopscotch, and so many more!
- Activities feature lots of positive reinforcement that teaches kids how to win (and lose) graciously, a powerful life skill
- Organize a family night of activities to showcase the retro games
**Oven Masters**
Do you have a passion for cooking? Oven Masters is a special program for Middle School Students in grades 6, 7 and 8

- Assist in hands-on cooking classes that aren't just fun— they are educational
- Each class contains curricular components that are included in CT Framework Standards for science, math, language arts, social studies and health
- Research recipes and nutritional value and cultural history
- Design an interactive bulletin board
- Include cooking strategies and resources needed to cook healthy in an Oven Masters recipe collection
- Organize “Taste Testing” Events for families and community members

**Special Events Planning**
Build and after-school community

- Planning and implementing an event or program
- Work with the Center Administrators and the Volunteer & Community Coordinator to develop monthly “Family Fun Nights.” Families Fun Nights typically includes a healthy meal, games, special presenters, and a performance or display by the children. Events engage participating children, their families and other members of the school community
- Develop an advisory team of parents, teachers, school administrators, and members of the community to meet with Center Administrators
- Assist in developing an on-going recruitment plan for the Centers
- Develop a bulletin board of parent/community information about the Centers

**Development & Grant Internship**
Locate funding specific to non-profits for educational projects

- Work with Agency Staff to establish funding needs
- Research available and applicable grants
- Work with the Volunteer & Community Relations Coordinator to communicate with foundations, businesses and civic organization contacts to determine guidelines and feasibility of proposals
- Research, retrieve and assemble background material for grant proposals
- Draft full grant proposal for submission
- Submit proposals
- Strong research and writing background required

**Other Project Ideas**
Entrepreneurs Club
Photography
Robotics
Newspaper Club

**Design your own Project…**