



## Embassy Adoption Program **Volunteer Corps**

### **ABOUT THE EMBASSY ADOPTION PROGRAM**

Established in 1974, the Embassy Adoption Program (EAP) is a partnership program of the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) and Washington Performing Arts. The EAP is a unique education program that exposes DCPS students to international perspectives and cross-cultural lessons. Through direct interactions with embassies and other global entities—including consular offices, government offices, representative offices, and others—fifth and sixth grade students have the opportunity to learn about the language, customs, history, arts, and culture of their partner’s home country.

### **DESCRIPTION**

The Embassy Adoption Program volunteers provide additional learning opportunities for EAP students, by supporting the classroom teachers, and by supporting the EAP on an as needed basis. EAP volunteer opportunities take place during the school day (typically 8:30 am – 3:30 pm, Monday through Friday). Teachers will remain the primary contact for their embassy or global partners at all times.

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **Share Global Perspectives**

Volunteers will be prepared to present to a classroom for approximately 45 minutes about a country or region’s food, sights, people, culture, etc. Photos and/or videos, as well as ways to directly involve students in the conversation, will make the presentation stronger. EAP staff can provide a template for your presentation.

Requirements: Applicants must have in-depth experience with a country or region and be comfortable working with children.

#### **Assist with Preparation for the Mini United Nations**

The Mini UN takes place in May or June. Delegations from each classroom represent their adopted countries to debate climate change (5<sup>th</sup> grade) or natural disaster response (6<sup>th</sup> grade). Teachers occasionally need assistance preparing students for this event. The EAP provides a curriculum with 10 lessons designed to gradually build to the event. Volunteers can help with public speaking skills, lesson support, assistance with writing positions, or in any other way that the teacher requests.

Requirements: Applicants must have experience with public speaking, active listening, or negotiation and conflict resolution, past United Nations simulation experience, classroom teaching, or similar as

well as prior experience working with children as a teacher, community volunteer, childcare professional, or similar.

### **Assist with Preparations for the EAP Final Presentation**

The Final Presentation is a time for the students to present what they have learned to their embassy or global partners. Teachers often need help thinking of ideas for the presentation, creating elements of the presentation, coaching students on proper performance techniques, supervising rehearsals, and acting as an audience for student rehearsals. Due to space and other limitations, only teachers and students will attend the EAP Final Presentation.

Requirements: Experience in the performing or visual arts, public speaking, or in other similar fields and have prior experience working with children as a teacher, community volunteer, childcare professional, or similar are suggested.

### **Assist Classroom Teachers**

Teachers may request volunteers to assist during visits by their embassy or global partners to support learning by assisting with projects, set-up and clean-up and general assistance in the classroom. Teachers will request support on an as needed basis for this opportunity.

Requirements: Applicants must be available during the school day. Prior experience working with children as a teacher, community volunteer, childcare professional, or similar is preferred.

### **HOW TO GET INVOLVED**

- Complete the EAP volunteer application (online at <https://tinyurl.com/EAPVolunteerCorps> or paper version), complete with two professional or personal references who can speak to your ability to work in a classroom setting;
- Complete the DCPS Volunteer Clearance Process (<http://dcps.dc.gov/page/volunteer-our-schools>);
- Attend a volunteer orientation session to learn about the EAP and volunteer requirements.

EAP staff will review applications on a rolling basis and offer volunteer orientation sessions at least twice per year. Spaces in the EAP Volunteer Corps are limited and opportunities to participate are not guaranteed as opportunities are available by teacher request only.

For more information, please contact:

Trisha Taylor, Education Initiatives and Curriculum Manager at Washington Performing Arts

[ttaylor@washingtonperformingarts.org](mailto:ttaylor@washingtonperformingarts.org)

(202) 533-1883



## Embassy Adoption Program Volunteer Application

This application is also available online at <https://tinyurl.com/EAPVolunteerCorps>

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Employment  Full Time  Part Time Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any previous experience working with children:

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### **Volunteer Interests** (Please check all that apply)

See full description for more details

\_\_\_\_ Sharing Global Perspectives

\_\_\_\_ Assist with Preparations for the Final Presentation

\_\_\_\_ Assist with Preparations for the Mini United Nations

\_\_\_\_ Assist Classroom Teachers

\_\_\_\_ Other (Please describe)

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Describe your background and/or experience in your selected area(s) of interest, including country/countries of specific expertise:

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## Embassy Adoption Program Volunteer Application

### References

Please print the name, phone number, and email address for two professional references who have known you for at least two years.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for Washington Performing Arts and/or the District of Columbia Public Schools and their authorized representatives to contact any of the above listed people for reference checks.

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Volunteer Consent

By my signature, I acknowledge that neither Washington Performing Arts, nor any of its staff, nor participants will be held liable in the event of accident or injury to my person.

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Background Check

By my signature, I acknowledge that in order to be considered for volunteer opportunities with the EAP, I must complete the DCPS Volunteer Clearance process (<http://dcps.dc.gov/page/volunteer-our-schools>) and submit my clearance letter to EAP staff.

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit completed applications to Trisha Taylor at [ttaylor@washingtonperformingarts.org](mailto:ttaylor@washingtonperformingarts.org), fax to 202-833-1595, or mail to:

Trisha Taylor  
Washington Performing Arts  
1400 K St NW, Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20005

This application is also available online at <https://tinyurl.com/EAPVolunteerCorps>