



SAINT ANN'S SCHOOL

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT:

HISTORY TEACHER

Saint Ann's School, an independent, non-sectarian day school enrolling 1085 students in pre-kindergarten through high school, seeks the rare combination of a passionate teacher and learned history scholar who is thrilled to share that passion with students ranging from grades 4-12, and who is excited to teach in a flexible, creative environment.

ABOUT SAINT ANN'S SCHOOL

Saint Ann's School is a leading independent not for profit school located in Brooklyn Heights, New York. Since its founding in 1965, Saint Ann's has embraced a commitment to education for its own sake, oriented to the capacities of each individual student, free of the encumbrances of formal grading, prizes, and rankings. At the same time, we are unabashedly committed to excellence in all that we do. The lives of our graduates speak powerfully to the potential of an education based on these principles to ignite a passion for learning and to sustain creative energy in every field of endeavor. We accomplish this by offering talented students instruction shaped by creative and dedicated faculty, forming a true community of learners from pre-Kindergarten through high school.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Academic classes at Saint Ann's meet four times per week, and teachers teach four classes, generally two high school classes and two middle school classes. Teachers have minimal duties outside of teaching: we do not act as advisors, we do not coach sports (unless we elect to), we do not advise publications (again, unless we elect to). Our expectation is that teachers will spend their non-teaching hours preparing for their classes and pursuing their academic and extra-curricular interests.

Grading

We do not give grades. Instead, twice a year, teachers write full-page reports on each student's progress. Reports are a holistic description of a student's work over the course of the semester and include anecdotes, descriptions of a child's progress with a particular skill and the development of their understanding of the subject material. Report writing is intrinsic to how we understand our students, and teachers find it more rewarding and satisfying than giving grades.



History Curriculum

Each grade from fourth through tenth follows a general theme or timeframe. Fourth grade is an introduction to history, with an emphasis on geography, the use of primary sources, and the critical methodologies of historians. Fifth grade is U.S. history, from the pre-Revolutionary era through to the present. Sixth grade history begins the chronological sequence of the next four years with an examination of prehistory and ancient civilizations around the world. Seventh grade explores the rise and fall of empires like Rome and the increasing interconnections between Europe, Africa and Asia while introducing students to the major religions of the world. Eighth grade starts at the time of the Black Death and examines the Gunpowder Empires, exploration and the origins of colonization, with a special emphasis on the Americas. Ninth grade begins with the Age of Revolutions and takes the students well into the 20th century, examining amongst other topics, imperialism, slavery and rise of global capitalism. Tenth grade is a return to U.S. history, in greater depth and with an attention to historiography. Starting in eleventh grade, students can choose from a variety of electives. Recent offerings have included “Childhood in America,” “The History of Midwifery,” “African-American History,” “A History of New York City” and “Modern East Asia.”

Teachers at Saint Ann’s enjoy a great deal of freedom in the classroom. While teachers at some schools team teach and/or or teach a set curriculum, at Saint Ann’s, teachers are encouraged to introduce their own scholarly interests to their students within the parameters of the curriculum. (For example, a recent fourth grade class used the words of Bertold Brecht as a jumping off point for their examination of monumental architecture such as the Great Wall of China and the oft-overlooked contributions of those who did the actual building of the same.) At the same time, we are a collegial department: faculty members are encouraged to collaborate and should be prepared to work on grade-wide projects, for example, a major term paper in the eighth grade.

PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor’s degree
- Experience working with children (this may be teaching, but we are also take seriously any job in which a candidate was charged with caring for children)
- Superb planning and organizational skills
- A passion for history (any time or place will do)
- Ability to work with children and adults of diverse backgrounds
- Interest in working with gifted children and children with learning differences
- Desire to investigate and discuss how a history curriculum is (and should be) designed
- Superb writing skills
- Ability to work independently combined with a willingness to respond to feedback
- Ability to listen carefully and respond thoughtfully to children of a variety of ages
- A strong desire to teach both middle and high school students



COMPENSATION

A competitive compensation package, commensurate with level of experience, plus benefits.

TO APPLY

Please submit a resume and cover letter *that speaks directly to the school's mission* (more information is available at our website, www.saintannsny.org) to historyposition@saintannsny.org.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY

The School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, gender, age, marital status, disability, national or ethnic origin or sexual orientation in carrying on its educational activities or in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, employment policies, financial aid programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.