



## SAINT ANN'S SCHOOL

### LOWER SCHOOL HEAD TEACHER

Saint Ann's is seeking a Lower School Head Teacher to join us beginning in August 2021. The ideal candidate will have a love of elementary teaching and early childhood development as well as powerful personal artistic or intellectual passions, and a commitment to inclusive, anti-bias teaching.

The Lower School Head Teacher is responsible for developing and leading all aspects of the classroom throughout the academic year, including building community and attending to the social-emotional development of the children; meeting the children as readers, writers, critical thinkers and mathematicians; and taking them further on their academic and creative adventures. As a key part of this work, the Head Teacher is responsible for teaching what we call Curriculum: central units of study built around areas of personal intellectual passion. We give our teachers great freedom to teach what they love—be it a Calvino story, ancient Egypt and Islam, or the Great Depression—and to carry out the joyful task of integrating the practice of academic skills into these meaningful content areas. We think of Curriculum as the vehicle that brings sophisticated intellectual and artistic ideas and pursuits into the realm of childhood, and as the terrain in which we build relationships, ask questions of the world, make discoveries, and ultimately cultivate a passion for life-long learning. The recent launch of a curriculum review process in the Lower School seeks not to replace these distinctive fields of study, but rather to bring anti-racist teaching practices, skills, and concepts into focus in all dimensions of the classroom experience.

### ABOUT SAINT ANN'S SCHOOL AND THE LOWER SCHOOL

Since its founding in 1965, and occupying space in seven separate buildings clustered in Brooklyn Heights, 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. The lives of our graduates speak powerfully to the potential of an education based on these principles to ignite a love of learning and to sustain creative energy in every field of endeavor. We accomplish this by bringing together passionate and talented



teachers with gifted and motivated students, and offering instruction shaped by the community that emerges from these relationships. In the past ten years the school has recognized that celebrating the individual must include affirming the many aspects of community members' identities. More recently Saint Ann's has made a commitment to centering anti-racism in every aspect of the life of the school.

The Lower School resides within its own building on Pierrepont Street and includes approximately 240 students across first, second, and third grade. Each of the twelve homerooms (four in each grade) is led by a Head and Associate teaching pair who are supported by the Division Head as well as a three division-specific Floating Teachers. In addition to the classroom teachers, an abundance of specialty teachers from our many academic and artistic departments—Math, Poetry, Art, Library, Recreational Arts, Science, Computer, Dance, Theater, and Music—visit our classes each week for specialty classes that are run in a mix of half- and full-group sessions.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Design and teach original Curriculum topics of personal expertise and interest, drawing on and advancing children's developing academic and creative capacities.
- Prepare and implement effective and inspiring curricula to support both academic (math, literacy) and social and emotional learning.
- Partner with and mentor an Associate Teacher.
- Write comprehensive narrative reports for each child twice a year; mentor Associate Teacher in writing their two reports.
- Communicate professionally and compassionately with every member of the community: students, families, and colleagues alike. Attend and participate in parent conferences and school events.
- Participate in regular meetings with the Division Head
- Participate in grade-level, division-wide, and school-wide meetings as needed.
- Partner with our Student Support team in supporting students' academic, social and emotional needs.

### **REQUIREMENTS**

- Bachelor's degree
- Minimum three years of classroom teaching in relevant grades.



- Strong familiarity with teaching Lower School subject areas.
- Demonstrated commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- A passion for the arts.
- Strong written and oral communication skills.
- Strong planning and organizational skills.
- Ability to thrive with a great deal of independence and autonomy.
- A playful, positive attitude, flexibility, and sense of humor.

### **COMPENSATION**

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

### **TO APPLY**

Interested applicants should send a cover letter *that speaks directly to the school's mission* (you can learn more about us at <https://saintannsny.org/>) and a resume to Gillian Baine, Head of the Lower School, at [lowerschoolheadteacher@saintannsny.org](mailto:lowerschoolheadteacher@saintannsny.org). Candidates who identify as members of historically underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

### **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.