The City of Tempe is Seeking
Deputy Community Services Director— Arts & Culture

$109,882 - $148,341

Position Information
The Deputy Community Services Director— Arts & Culture is responsible for overseeing the planning and administering of a comprehensive system of performing and visual arts programming to help people improve their lives, the lives of others, neighborhoods, and the total community. The Arts and Culture Deputy works closely with City Council, City Manager, Tempe Boards and Commissions, arts partners, employee groups, city departments, and other governmental and non-governmental entities. In addition, the Arts and Culture Deputy will provide executive leadership support to the Tempe Arts and Culture Commission and maintain ongoing effective communication with its Commission members.

Qualifications

Minimum Qualifications:
Five years of professional experience in arts and/or cultural administration, including management of museum(s), cultural facilities, performing arts, public arts, art in private development, or community art engagement. Three years of supervisory responsibilities.

Education:
A Bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in human arts administration, public administration, or a degree related to the core functions of this position. A Master’s degree is preferred.

Selection Criteria
Applicants whose experience and training most closely meet the needs of the City may be selected for further testing/ interviews. Falsifying information or lying during any stage of the selection/hiring process will make you ineligible for new or continued city employment.

Benefits
- Minimum of 14 paid vacation days per year (depending upon length of service)
- 56 hours of executive leave
- 12 paid sick leave days per year
- 12 paid holidays per year
- Health, dental, life and vision care coverage plans
- Up to $6,000 per year tuition reimbursement
- Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS)

How to Apply
Applicants are required to submit a cover letter, resume, application and respond to all supplemental questions.

To apply: tempe.gov/jobs

Questions: Contact Jessica Love, Sr. Human Resources Analyst at 480-350-8802.
The Community

Tempe is located in the center of the Greater Phoenix Metropolitan Area and covers about 40 square miles. The city, home to more than 185,000 residents and a workforce of more than 158,000, is surrounded by six freeways and is the only Arizona City to have border-to-border light rail. With the distinct identity as an emerging destination city, Tempe boasts all the offerings of a community rich in economics, technology, culture, tourism, and educational resources.

Tempe features a wonderful mix of history and modern urban amenities and respects its heritage while planning for its future. The city still has buildings from the late 1800s in its downtown, and while enjoying dynamic growth, has maintained its unique personality and style through a careful blending of the new with the old.

The nation’s most innovative university – Arizona State (ASU) – calls Tempe home, and Tempe Town Lake, to the City’s north, provides one of the most popular destinations in the state – second only to the Grand Canyon. Tempe is the spring training home for the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim, and Downtown Tempe offers a walkable urban downtown district, representing a destination for the independently spirited, a hub for entertainment, and an attractive market for entrepreneurial business.

About 40,000 people work in downtown Tempe and around Town Lake for companies such as Carvana, Silicon Valley Bank, State Farm, Amazon, and Chase and tech companies NortonLifelock and Align Technology relocated their global corporate headquarters to Tempe in 2020. Other major employers in the city include ASU, DoorDash, Northern Trust, and Becton Dickinson as well as an electric mix of small and locally-owned businesses.

Tempe is among Arizona’s most educated cities with more than 40 percent of its residents age 25 and older having Bachelor’s degrees or higher. This lends itself to a creative, smart atmosphere where anything seems possible.

Additional Position Information

The City of Tempe is seeking a visionary and dynamic Deputy Community Services Director – Arts and Culture to assist in leading, developing, and administering the Arts and Culture Division. The Division includes the Tempe Center for the Arts (TCA), the Tempe History Museum, Tempe Galleries, Community Arts, and Tempe Public Art. and Art. The Arts and Culture Deputy works closely with City Council, City Manager, Tempe Boards and Commissions, arts partners, employee groups, city departments and other governmental and non-governmental entities. In addition, the Arts and Culture Deputy will provide executive leadership support to the Tempe Arts and Culture Commission and maintain ongoing effective communication with its Commission members. The Arts and Cultural Division oversees the preparation and administration of the Arts and Culture Fund and monitors related expenditures and revenues to provide effective, efficient, and economical fiscal management of Tempe’s Arts and Culture facilities and programs. The Deputy will oversee an annual multi-million dollar dedicated Arts and Culture sales tax that is one-tenth of one percent.

The City of Tempe engaged AMS Planning & Research in early 2019 on a planning effort focused on the Arts and Culture Division. In conjunction with division leadership, AMS helped to define a strategic direction and develop a plan which optimizes operations, aligns marketing, and communications with programmatic goals. The planning team identified the tools and procedures necessary to better manage the division and report data internally and externally with its stakeholders. There are more than 30 recommendations in the report that is framed by four mandates to guide the division moving forward as it strives to bring incredible arts and culture services to the community. The Deputy will be responsible for implementing recommendations set forth.

The ideal candidate will recognize the full scope and impact of arts and culture throughout the City of Tempe and appreciate the value of equity and diversity within the community. They must demonstrate a commitment to the City’s values while having the ability to collaborate effectively with multiple sectors and interest groups maintaining strict focus on organizational strategic priorities and division mandates.
Community Art

Community Arts provides arts experiences through participatory, inclusive, and community-driven programming in diverse locations throughout the city. Programs include neighborhood activations, skill building, school partnerships, creative civic engagement, and arts grants. Neighborhood activations include Arts in the Parks events, Painting in the Park, temporary community art installations, as well as Tempe Playlist. Skill building programs consist of over 400 ceramics, visual arts, dance, and theater classes and Free Art Friday offered at the Edna Vihel Arts Center. School partnerships are customized dance residencies within the high schools, Music under the Stars at Tempe Diablo Stadium, and Studio Artists Program providing visual arts instruction within the elementary schools. Creative civic engagement are partnerships with Economic Development’s initiatives and the Office of Sustainability’s Cool Kid grant. The Arts Grants program infuses long-term growth of the arts in Tempe by annually funding 68+ high-quality, community-initiated projects for non-profit organizations, artist collectives, and teachers.

Public Art

Tempe Public Art aspires to cultivate a unique community identity that advances Tempe as a vibrant and progressive destination. Tempe's diverse collection of permanent and temporary public art complements the natural and built environment through innovative place-making, installations, and infrastructure enhancements. Tempe Public Art promotes artistic expression, bringing people together to strengthen Tempe's sense of community and place. The public art office oversees the Art in Private Development program and works with various city departments to coordinate capital art projects within city infrastructure. In addition, professional development assistance is provided to emerging artists, and resource information such as a GIS art map and an Artist Roster are available to assist the community in finding and commissioning artwork.

Tempe Center for the Arts

TCA is one of the finest venues in Arizona – and a major aspect of the art scene within the city that is full of local, national, and community programs/projects. The TCA is located downtown on the southwest end of Tempe Town Lake and resides in a beautifully appointed 17-acre lakeside art park, developing IDEA campus, and surrounding growing residential community. The striking TCA facility, designed by Tempe-based Architektton and award-winning Barton Myers Associates of Los Angeles, houses a state-of-the-art, 600-seat proscenium theater, a 200-seat studio theater, and a 3,500 square-foot gallery. The finely appointed Lakeside Room overlooks Tempe Town Lake, with views of the Papago and Camelback mountains, and hosts performances, meetings, banquets, and special events. The gallery features a variety of curated, traveling, and juried exhibitions featuring contemporary original art by local and internationally recognized artists with themes of popular culture and interest. TCA’s season encompasses presentations that are multidisciplinary and inclusive of multicultural art forms and resident artist partnerships.

Tempe History Museum

The Tempe History Museum is a center where the community comes together to explore Tempe’s past, share its present, and imagine its future. The museum features an open concept permanent exhibition, regular changing exhibitions in the main gallery and the Community Room, and a variety of pop-up exhibits, all created in-house. The Community Room is a place for a variety of programs and events including Performances at the Museum, Lunch Talks, Juneteenth, and Black History month events, and more. Tempe History Museum staff provides original research for exhibitions and publications; and assists community members with research. Educational opportunities for schools and community groups at the museum and historic houses are offered throughout the year. The museum manages historic Petersen House, Elias-Rodriguez House, and Eisendrath House, in addition to partnering to provide programs and access to other city historic properties. At the heart of all these services is the preservation and care of an extensive collection of historic photographs, archives, and artifacts. An online collections database provides access to these resources.

COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a sudden and substantial impact on Arts and Culture in Tempe. Many large-scale events are postponed during the pandemic and the Arts and Culture Division has transitioned to a virtual client experience. The City of Tempe and the Arts and Culture Division have not been spared the challenges associated with working through the coronavirus and planning for a time when the curve has been flattened enough for reopening. We acknowledge the uncertainties of this time, but also plan for a future when the implications of social distancing and biosecurity do not fully drive both the economics and artistry of activating a space.