



Roshniislight.org

9641 E 16th Ave Aurora

**Position Title:** A male Project Leader for 'Dreams of Becoming', a Creative Arts Wellness Program for male-identifying youth aged 13-21.

### **About Roshni:**

Roshni is a community-based Arts organization that works with those at the margins. We harness the power of the Arts to uplift, heal and inspire. We:

1. Support the cultures and artistic traditions of New Americans (refugee/immigrants), people with physical disabilities and mental illnesses, racial/ ethnic minorities, people experiencing homelessness, the LGBTQ community, and seniors.
2. Produce high quality artwork and provide opportunities to our artists to present them.
3. Initiate long-term projects to strengthen neighborhoods and communities.

Our free programs include 20+ weeks youth & adult programs, original theater productions, monthly community events, and an annual Arts festival.

### **Program Overview:**

This role supports "Dreams of Becoming", a Creative Arts/Wellness-based new initiative. It's a 6-month project, with potential renewal.

This project is aimed at promoting physical and emotional well-being for 8-10 male-identifying youth aged 13-21. The 18 week program will combine various artistic activities (e.g., visual arts, music, theater, creative writing) with mindfulness and wellness practices to foster self-expression, resilience, healthy habits, empathy, and community building. The goal is to create a sense of overall health and self-worth for the participants.

This pilot program is based on Roshni's three value pillars:

1. **Affirmation:** Acknowledging and appreciating the worth and uniqueness of each individual and the integral role each have in our vibrant American tapestry.
2. **Connection:** Bringing together people from diverse backgrounds, over time and through a shared purpose, we create connections and potential friendships.

3. **Expression:** When an individual feels seen and accepted, they are able to express their thoughts, feelings, and emotions, without fear. This is the moment of transcendence.

## **Key Responsibilities**

### **1. Program Planning and Execution:**

- Provide overall leadership and project management of the Dreams of Becoming program.
- Together with the Executive Director, develop and facilitate a comprehensive project plan that aligns with the program's wellness goals.
- Incorporate activities promoting self-expression, emotional awareness, and physical health.
- Adjust projects to be inclusive, engaging, and suitable for diverse skill levels.

### **2. Group Leadership:**

- Lead group sessions, providing structure and encouragement.
- Foster a supportive, respectful environment where participants feel safe to express themselves.
- Build rapport with participants, offering guidance and mentorship as needed.

### **3. Wellness Integration:**

- Collaborate with wellness experts or school counselors to incorporate emotional and physical health concepts into activities.
- Teach techniques such as mindfulness, stress management, and positive coping strategies.

### **4. Collaboration:**

- Recruit participants through outreach to partner schools/organizations.
- Work closely with school officials, community organizations, and families to ensure alignment with broader wellness efforts.
- Establish new individual and/or community partnerships needed for the program including space, resources etc.
- Recruit and supervise 4-5 mentors, each of whom will provide young adult mentorship for two program participants.
- Coordinate other guest artists, speakers, and volunteers as needed.

### **5. Monitoring and Reporting:**

- Track participant engagement and progress. Provide regular follow-up with participants who need additional encouragement to attend and participate.

- Gather feedback to refine activities and improve program outcomes.
- Develop strategies and evaluation methods to demonstrate program effectiveness and social-emotional growth of the participants.
- Provide regular updates to stakeholders about the program's impact.
- Prepare program budget and the reports at the end of the program.

6. **Community awareness:**

- Plan, lead, and promote events celebrating participant accomplishments within the community.
- Create social media posts regarding program successes.

**Qualifications:**

- Male with 5+ years' experience working with male-identifying youth, preferably in a group or educational setting.
- Bachelor's degree – preferred in art, education, or social work, but other education will be considered.
- Background in creative arts (e.g., art, music, drama, creative writing) or a related field highly desired.
- Bilingual, especially Spanish, is a plus.
- Strong leadership, communication, interpersonal, and organizational skills.
- A dedication to and experience in working with underserved communities.
- Understanding of adolescent development and mental health principles.
- Ability to foster a safe and inclusive environment.
- Applicants must have a vehicle for work-related travels.
- Background check and drug test report is desirable.

**Preferred Skills:**

- Experience integrating arts and wellness activities.
- Training in mindfulness, art therapy, or similar practices.
- Familiarity with the North Aurora community and its resources.

**Salary, Working Hours, and Commitment:**

- This is a pilot program, offering part-time work (8-12 hours per week) for 6 months, with an opportunity to renew for additional 6 months and beyond.
- \$35.00 to \$40.00 per hour, depending on background and experience.

- Benefits include: Mileage reimbursement for work travel; Wellness pay of \$100/month.
- Hours TBD, based on availability of Project Leader and participants.
  - 50% work from home and 50% on site, with once a week meeting with program participants and staff.
  - Based on availability of the participants, evening or weekend time may be required for sessions or events.
  - Available to lead a 5-7 day nature camp.

**Reports to:** Executive Director

**How to Apply:** Submit a resume and cover letter to [info@roshniislight.org](mailto:info@roshniislight.org)

Deadline to apply: 31 Dec, 2024 or until the position is filled.

### **Non-discrimination policy**

Roshni is committed to a work environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. Each individual has the right to work in a professional atmosphere that promotes equal employment opportunities and prohibits unlawful discriminatory practices, including harassment. Therefore, Roshni expects that all relationships among persons in the organisation will be free of explicit bias, prejudice and harassment.

Roshni does not discriminate against any person or organization based on age, race, sex, color, creed, religion, national origin, native language, sexual orientation, transgender status, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, ancestry, marital status, gender, veteran status, military status, political service, affiliation, or disability.