

Job Title: Teaching Artist

Location: Phoenix

Full-/Part-Time: Part-Time

Rate of Pay: Depends on Experience; Depends on Region

Start Date: August 17, 2026

About Lead Guitar:

Lead Guitar collaborates with schools in Atlanta, Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles, Phoenix, and Tucson where >80% or more of students qualify for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch. We provide daily to twice-weekly in-school guitar classes for 7,200+ students per year through our Four Pillars of Service model:

- CO-TEACHING that matches a guitar instructor with at least a master's degree with a K-12 teacher to provide in-school guitar ensemble classes using our proprietary curriculum.
- TEACHER WORKSHOPS that offer K-12 teachers formal Professional Development towards promotion and recertification as they master the Lead Guitar curriculum and improve their own playing.
- IN-SCHOOL CONCERTS that inspire students through up-close connections with global artists.
- STUDENT PERFORMANCES that invite students to perform, learn, and be celebrated on the campus of their local college or university.

By sharing the joy of music-making with thousands of kids who would otherwise go without, Lead Guitar delivers “tangibly better student outcomes in terms of dropout rates, behavioral issues and academic achievement” (US News & World Report).

Lead Guitar provides in-school music education that inspires students to engage with their school community in new ways and prompts students to examine and expand their personal narratives to activate a growth-mindset. Our mission is to offer a rigorous music program to public schools that lack access to critical resources and opportunities, including arts education. We are believers in the power of learning and making music for music's sake.

Job Summary:

We are seeking a Lead Guitar Teaching Artist for delivery of in-school guitar ensemble classes for Grades 3-12 to join our team. The Teaching Artist position is a highly-qualified nylon-string guitarist and/or music educator with classroom teaching experience and a passion for impacting underserved communities. In addition to being a skilled performer-educator, a Teaching Artist must be an effective and empathetic communicator with K-12 teachers and principals, youth, and donors as well as a confident classroom presenter. Teaching Artists must prioritize school-day hours (8am-3pm) for scheduling Lead Guitar work in late summer/early fall, then can otherwise create a flexible schedule to complement other artistic/instructional pursuits, such as private lessons, K-12 or university/college teaching, touring, recording, etc. This position will report to the Regional Director, and meet regularly with the Executive Director, Director of Operations, and Regional Director team.

Responsibilities:

- Primary instructor for 1-3 schools teaching in-school guitar ensemble class in collaboration with a K-12 certified teacher. Typical hours in a first year are 2-6 per week, growing to 4-10 in subsequent years during the academic year. (Lead Guitar does not run summer programs).
- Learn, master, and teach the Lead Guitar method through 10 hours of training and mentorship with the Lead Guitar Regional Director and Executive Director
- Attend monthly meetings with Regional Director and quarterly meetings with all Lead Guitar staff
- Participation in academic year events:
 - Help coordinate in-school performances (typically winter/spring) along with each school's Teacher of Record;
 - Assist in the execution of an End-of-Year regional Showcase Concert on a local partner's college campus;
 - Assist with an annual Teachers' Workshop to provide Professional Development sessions and/or private lessons to Teachers of Record

This job description reflects the position's essential functions; it does not encompass all of the tasks that may be assigned.

Requirements:

- High energy with effective and influential people skills. Positive attitude, empathy, and the desire to motivate others
- Ability to work effectively with teachers, students, and peer teaching artists
- Must be able to collaborate with underserved communities
- Ability to learn, master, and teach the Lead Guitar method
- Ability to mentor teaching partners and collaborate on lesson-planning to hit curricular milestones throughout the academic year
- Must pass a background check and submit to fingerprinting in compliance with local school district policy
- Must provide reliable transportation to and from school sites

Education and Experience:

- Master's degree in classical guitar or music education
- 2 years' classroom teaching experience

Equal Employment Opportunity Statement:

Lead Guitar is an equal opportunity employer. We celebrate people from all walks of life and pride ourselves in servicing an inclusive community. We are committed to hiring staff members to reflect the diverse community that we serve. Within our hiring practices, we do not discriminate based upon race, religion, color, national origin, gender (including pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions), sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, status as a protected veteran, status as an individual with a disability, or other applicable legally protected characteristics.

To apply for this position, please send a cover letter, resume, and a writing sample to info@leadguitar.org and include "Lead Guitar – Teaching Artist" in the subject line.

The writing sample can be any document that demonstrates the candidate's capacity to write professionally, such as a report, article, marketing piece, or even email correspondence. No more than 1-2 pages necessary (excerpts accepted).