About STEAM Labs

STEAM Labs is a community makerspace where people of all ages build projects using digital fabrication tools (like laser cutters and 3D printers), code, craft, wood and electronics.

We offer memberships for those looking to share space and tools, and interest-led project-based maker education programs for adults, kids and educators.

We believe that making enables our creative autonomy, capacity for life-long learning, and the decentralization of technological innovation.
About the position

STEAMLabs is looking for a Maker Educator to join our team for summer.

Compensation is $18-23 per hour, depending on your skills and experience.

Your passion is to help students develop creative, technical and personal skills through hands-on interest-lead learning. You’ve gained meaningful knowledge and experience in teaching, mentoring and/or facilitating in hands-on environments. You’re not necessarily a traditionally educated teacher - no teaching certificate is required.

You’re not afraid to let a 6 year old wield a hot glue gun in their pursuit to make a “robotic fish tank”, and if a student proclaims she wants to make a bow and arrow out of marshmallows, you’re ready to enable her make it work. You celebrate failures, are comfortable in controlled chaos, and value the process over the product.

You are a creative and energetic person who likes working with kids and young people, and enjoys enabling their weird and wonderful ideas come to life. You have experience working with kids in an experiential and active environment such as at a summer camp, after school program or otherwise. You’re organized, flexible, and interested in growing your own learning and teaching practice.

Your job will be to lead (and co-lead) STEAMLabs’ summer camps with Meera Balendran, our Director of Youth Programs and other staff at STEAMLabs. These camps include Robot Olympics & Big Robots – which involve physical making, robotics & coding.
Responsibilities

- Lead, co-lead or assist with summer camps
- Maintain Makerspace materials, tools and equipment.
- Collaborate with STEAMLabs staff and outside partners to develop maker education programming
- Document your work – write lesson plans and activity guides where needed
- Take photographs or videos to document student progress for social media
- Complete other operational tasks that relate to your role (e.g. sourcing materials)
- Train and supervise other staff and volunteers as needed
Skills + Experience

- 2 years experience working with kids in an experiential learning environment
- Strong classroom management skills and/or experience with public speaking
- Experience using Arduino
- Experience with electronics

Bonus

- Experience developing/designing programs and activity plans
- Experience with HTML, Javascript or Scratch Minecraft experience
- Knowledge of popular education, interest/project based learning, inquiry based learning, or other teaching philosophies.
- Familiar with design software such as Adobe Illustrator or 3D design programs.
- Digital Fabrication experience (3D printing & laser cutting) Basic woodworking experience.
Time Commitment

The time commitment for this role is split into 2 parts: Training & Summer Camps:

Training

Training will consist in attending the latter part of our Spring Intensive Maker Educator Boot Camp, as well as shadowing some of our Imagineering and Inventioneering programs in May / June.

Summer

You will be rotating between leading and co-leading Summer Camps alongside Meera Balendran and Andy Forest for summer camps over 9 weeks in July - August. There might also be the possibility of additional evening work.
Why work with us?

- We’re a small, agile team of friendly people with varied skills and experiences.
- The lab is full of interesting tech, and interesting people working on projects.
- We’re a relatively new organization, so there are still lots of ways to contribute to it’s shaping!
- There is plenty of opportunity to learn, grow and try new things.
- The STEAMLabs Community (members, volunteers, program participants and otherwise) are awesome, and a pleasure and privilege to work with and for.
- We’re a workplace that embraces failure as the most potent form of learning!
- You’ll have access to the makerspace, and benefit from the same perks as a member.
- All staff get a membership at the Toronto Tool Library.
Send a resume, and cover letter to info@steamlabs.ca with “Maker Educator” in the subject line before Wednesday 26th April, 2017 at 5pm.

www.steamlabs.ca