Rhode Island STEAM Center
Full-time Graduate Assistant (GA), 2023-2024
Submitted by RI STEAM Center Direct - Lisa Bain, lbain@ric.edu

The Rhode Island STEAM Center located at Rhode Island College serves as a central education hub and statewide resource focused on building partnerships, advocating for increased science, technology, engineering, arts + design, and mathematics (STEAM) literacy and promoting and implementing research-based practices. The Center was re-imagined last year after the tragic loss of its full-time Director, Carol Giuriceo. The Office of Professional Studies and Continuing Education together with the Department of Computer Science and Information Systems and the Langevin Center for Design, Innovation and Advanced Manufacturing to continue and expand the partnerships and collaboration among PK-12, higher education, after school programs, community-based organizations, non-profit groups, business and industry, and government agencies leading to the sharing and exchange of knowledge, ideas, and experience.

Duties and Responsibilities
Most of the STEAM Center full-time GA's responsibilities will focus on four main initiatives:

1. Computer Science (CS) and Computer Information Systems (CIS): The Center works with faculty in the RIC Department of Computer Science and Information Systems to support the growth of the cybersecurity program and with the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) to implement and support CS4RI, a statewide CS education initiative. The Center will also support related grants and grant applications related to Information Technology.
2. Million Women Mentors (MWM): MWM is a national movement to attract and retain more women in STEAM fields through quality mentorships. The STEAM Center is leading the Rhode Island leadership Team.
3. Re-establishment of the Rhode Island STEAM Now Coalition: The Coalition is a broad alliance of 350+ individuals and organizations representing business, education, and government that the STEAM center leads.
4. The National Center for Women and Information Technology (NCWIT) is the only national non-profit focused on women's participation in computing across the entire ecosystem, helping 1,400 organizations recruit, retain, and advance women from K-12 and higher education through industry and entrepreneurial careers by providing support, evidence, and action.

Key tasks include:
- Research and identify existing databases that list Rhode Island programs, internships, externships, mentoring opportunities, professional development, resources, grants, etc.
- Interface with national MWM office to coordinate Rhode Island's mentor pledge.
- Assist in the planning, coordination, and implementation of The NCWIT Awards for Aspirations in Computing (AiC) honors 9th-12th grade students who self-identify as women, genderqueer, or non-binary for their computing-related achievements and interests, and encourages them to pursue their passions. Students at any skill levels are encouraged to apply and participants will be considered at the national and regional levels.
- Attend statewide STEAM-related meetings.
- Assist in the planning, preparation, and implementation of Coalition meetings, the Center's Advisory Board, and STEAM-related grant activities.

Contribution to Professional Development

The GA will join an environment that supplements academic learning with authentic experience in the area of STEAM education including equity issues, mentorship, and preparing students for the 21st century. Throughout the term of the assistantship, the GA will have the opportunity to hone skills in project management, database management, event planning, and community outreach – all focused on increasing STEAM literacy.

Qualifications

- Accepted degree candidate enrolled full-time in plan of study (min. 6 credits; max. 9 credits);
- **STEAM/STEM degree not necessary**
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Strong organizational skills & ability to balance demands of multi-faceted and varied job responsibilities;
- Comfortable interacting with various stakeholders including K-12 educators, higher education faculty, business/industry professionals, after school program providers, community groups, & government officials;
- Strong written and verbal skills

How to Apply

Please send an application, resume, and letter of interest to Lisa Bain at lbain@ric.edu.