



Program Overview

ARTEFFECT, an initiative of the [Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes](#) (LMC), invites applications for the 2024-2025 ARTEFFECT Ambassadors visual arts online fellowship. Now in its second year, ARTEFFECT Ambassadors brings together an annual cohort of outstanding educators working directly with middle and high school students to foster teaching and learning through the visual arts. During the school year, Ambassadors learn from and alongside other high-level practitioners through an art-focused project-based curriculum centered on the inspiring and diverse stories of LMC Unsung Heroes.

Since 2016, LMC has run an [annual ARTEFFECT competition](#) for middle and high school students. The competition encourages students to creatively interpret the stories of [LMC Unsung Heroes](#)—individuals from history across varied disciplines who are not widely recognized for their extraordinary contributions to society.

Ambassadors participate in learner-centered professional development offerings that include **online modules**, lesson plans, and the completion of a capstone project. The **ARTEFFECT lesson plans** explore themes related to the stories of the LMC Unsung Heroes—their character traits and actions as role models. Ambassadors design and complete a **capstone project** that integrates this content in meaningful, relevant, and engaging ways in their classrooms or communities.

The program runs from October 30, 2024–June 2, 2025. The 2024-2025 cohort will include up to 25 Ambassadors.

Who is an eligible candidate?

Eligible candidates are educators working directly with students in grades 6-12 to foster visual arts education. This includes, but is not limited to, classroom teachers, district/school administrators, librarians, private art tutors, and teaching artists. Ambassadors may sponsor students entering the annual ARTEFFECT competition. Individuals employed by LMC and their family members are ineligible.

What are the benefits of participating?

The program offers educators:

- ✦ Participation in live online professional development modules, taught by seasoned visual arts educators and expert practitioners, accompanied by standards-aligned lesson plans.
- ✦ Learner-centered strategies for developing instructional practice and designing project-based activities and assessments.
- ✦ Expanded opportunities for social impact through a capstone project integrating LMC Unsung Heroes.
- ✦ Peer-to-peer-learning within a collegial, creative, and growing network and meaningful dialogue on timely issues in the field.
- ✦ Opportunities to promote the ARTEFFECT annual competition and inspire educators and learners across classrooms and communities.
- ✦ Recognition in an official press-release.
- ✦ An unrestricted stipend of \$1,250 plus a \$250 credit for materials, and a Certificate of Participation (upon completion of all required components).

What are the participation requirements?

1. Online Modules

In 2024-2025, ARTEFFECT will run a series of live virtual sessions for educators that Ambassadors are expected to attend. Ambassadors are required to attend **at least four of the six live modules** below. **MODULES 1 & 6 are MANDATORY.** Sessions are on Wednesdays - Pacific Time.

1. OCT 30, 2024—4:00-6:00 PM (PT) **MANDATORY**
Program Overview – Meet the Unsung Heroes.
2. NOV 20, 2024—4:00-5:15 PM (PT)
Character and Values.
3. DEC 11, 2024—4:00-5:15 PM (PT)
Storytelling through Art.
4. JAN 22, 2025—4:00-5:15 PM (PT)
Unsung Heroes and STEAM.
5. FEB 26, 2025—4:00-5:15 PM (PT)
Artmaking and Social Impact.
6. APR 9, 2025—4:00-6:00 PM (PT) **MANDATORY**
Impacting Communities – Capstone Projects.

2. Capstone Project

Ambassadors are expected to develop and complete an approved capstone project that integrates the stories of the LMC Unsung Heroes through a visual arts project in their classrooms or communities. Examples of capstone projects include developing and teaching a visual arts lesson plan, complementing existing curriculum with ARTEFFECT content, leading a community workshop, presenting at a professional conference, creating an exhibition of student artworks, leading a school or district-wide initiative, developing a publication, and other approved projects. A capstone project can be designed to support district, school, or classroom participation in the annual ARTEFFECT competition.

Ambassadors are required to submit a written description of their proposed capstone and have a 45-minute check-in meeting with the Program Director by **April 1, 2025**. The approved capstone project should be completed no later than **June 2, 2025**.

3. Reporting

Ambassadors are required to submit a brief report about their completed capstone project by **June 2, 2025**. Stipends will be disbursed via check once Ambassadors have met all requirements of the program.

What is the application and selection process?

All candidates must submit an online application by **September 16, 2024, at 11:59 PM Pacific Time**. There is no cost to apply. Candidates will be notified of decisions via email by **September 27, 2024**.

The candidate pool will be established by open submission, active recruitment, and invitation by LMC. All completed applications submitted by the deadline will be evaluated by an LMC selection committee. Candidates should demonstrate their interest in teaching and learning about the LMC Unsung Heroes and related thematic topics; their commitment to fostering visual arts education for middle and high school students; their desire to strengthen their instructional practice and skills

that enhance character education, creativity, and visual storytelling through a capstone project.

Application Elements

The online application asks applicants to provide personal and professional contact information, brief written responses (200-400- words), a description of an initial capstone project concept, a description of a recent visual arts educational project, a current résumé (3 pages max), a short bio, headshot photo, and contact for two professional references. The application requires an electronic signature.

Applicants are asked to respond to these prompts:

1. What interests you most about participating in the ARTEFFECT Ambassadors fellowship?
2. How might the ARTEFFECT modules and lesson plans—centered on visual arts project-based teaching and learning about the LMC Unsung Heroes as role models—relate to your specific work with middle and high school students?
3. Describe initial thoughts on how you might carry out one of your capstone project ideas in your classroom, school, or community.
4. Describe a recent visual arts education project that you've undertaken individually or as part of your classroom duties.

Accepted candidates will be asked to sign a media consent and release form for promotional and other purposes.

ACCESS THE ONLINE APPLICATION:

<https://bit.ly/AE-Ambassadors-Application-2024>

Application due September 16, 2024

TIP: Gather all the required information prior to starting the application. Text can be copied and pasted from a separate document. If needed, the form has a SAVE feature, using a link sent via email to complete the form later.

For inquiries, please contact:

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