



**Dance Teacher and Assistant Director of Terpsichord
Girls Preparatory School
Chattanooga, Tennessee**

ABOUT GIRLS PREPARATORY SCHOOL:

Girls Preparatory School (GPS) was founded in 1906 to provide girls with the necessary courses to pursue a college education. GPS has proudly graduated almost 6000 young women since then. Currently, 130 faculty and staff serve 575 girls in grades 6-12 with a college preparatory curriculum that includes a full complement of humanities, arts, and STEM courses, and co-curricular programs of leadership development, athletics, performing arts, and community engagement.

TEACHING POSITION SUMMARY:

The candidate for this position will be expected to design and maintain a class environment favorable to girls' academic and personal growth and to establish effective rapport with students while maintaining proper classroom management. The ideal candidate will be enthusiastic about teaching girls at different grade levels and adjusting classroom management skills accordingly. They will work within a team setting of shared ideas and constructive feedback in a collaborative manner. Daily instructional plans should demonstrate knowledge of best practice in differentiated instruction and implement 21st-century pedagogical approaches, encouraging student-led inquiry and creative critical thinking.

The ideal candidate will demonstrate an educational and academic background in varying types of dance with a specialty in Modern Dance. Additionally, they will also have experience in designing a dance curriculum with interdisciplinary connections.

This position is part-time (non-benefits eligible) with the potential for the ideal candidate to take on additional roles or duties at the school in order to receive full health care benefits.

TEACHING DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Reporting to the Division Heads, GPS teachers are expected to do the following:

- Create a classroom environment that actively engages students and is developmentally appropriate for the age, maturity, and interests of the students;

- Employ a variety of instructional and assessment strategies, including, but not limited to, direct instruction, guided practice, demonstrations, discussions, and inquiry-based learning activities to facilitate knowledge and skill development;
- Plan, develop, and execute lessons that reflect the co-developed curriculum;
- Adapt the dance course curriculum for individual or small group instruction to meet the needs of identified students or subgroups of students;
- Evaluate the academic and social growth of students;
- Evaluate student progress and, with the assistance of support services, develop a path for all students to meet course standards in knowledge and skills;
- Establish and maintain standards of student behavior;
- Know emergency plans and evacuation routes for the classrooms assigned;
- Know and follow school procedures and regulations; and
- Perform other related duties as directed by the Head of School or Upper or Middle School Division Heads.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF TERPSICHORD:

Founded in 1954, Terpsichord was the first high school contemporary dance company in Tennessee and holds the distinction of being the oldest modern dance association in the state. Today, it's one of several GPS dance ensembles that provide performance experience and instruction in both technique and improvisation. Open to girls in grades 10-12 through audition, Terpsichord members choreograph and perform in three major concerts a year. In addition, the director and assistant director, who are widely recognized for their contributions in the regional and national dance communities, annually welcome professional dancers and choreographers as guest artists who introduce new techniques and contribute to the pieces performed in concert.

RESPONSIBILITIES SPECIFIC TO TERPSICHORD:

- Follow Terpsichord policies and guidelines (auditions, officer elections, communications);
- Utilize best pedagogical dance practices during classes and rehearse students for upcoming performances;
- Represent the GPS dance program throughout the local and statewide community with the Director;
- Attend all weekend rehearsals with the Director;
- Teach and rehearse after school four days a week with the Director;
- Assist with the envisioning and producing of all May Day dancing in conjunction with Terpsichord Seniors;
- Choreograph a major work for the company every other year (alternating with the Director);
- Provide one-on-one coaching for choreographers and students;
- Prepare students for competitive awards and college auditions;
- Maintain and organize all costumes and delegate laundry assignments to Terpsichord members; and
- Other related duties as assigned by the Director of Terpsichord

CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelor's degree or post-graduate work in dance, dance education, or a related field; MA or MEd highly desirable;
- A minimum of three to five years of teaching experience;
- Understanding of and commitment to the instructional and educational practices that support, guide, and inspire girls and young women to identify their strengths and hopes for their futures;
- Demonstrated commitment to building cultural competencies and empowering students to engage across differences;
- A desire to be a school educator both inside and outside the classroom;
- Excellent planning and organizational skills; and
- Outstanding and varied written and verbal communication skills.

It is the School's policy to provide equal employment opportunity to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, genetic information, veteran status, or disability or any other characteristic protected under federal, state, or local anti-discrimination laws. It is the intent and resolve of the School to comply with the letter and the spirit of the law in the implementation of all facets of equal opportunity. The School's equal employment opportunity practices extend to recruitment, hiring, selection, compensation, benefits, transfer, promotion, training, discipline, and all other terms, conditions, and privileges of employment.

All employees are responsible for complying with the School's equal employment opportunity policy.

Interested and qualified candidates, [apply here](#).