

Vice President, OpenHouseGI

The Trust for Governors Island seeks a dynamic, creative, open minded and exceptional individual for a new position, Vice President OpenHouseGI.

OpenHouseGI is Governors Island's signature program offering 150,000 square feet of indoor space in former officer homes and 25 acres of outdoor space free of charge to any organization creating an experience that is free and open to the public during the Governors Island season.

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Each year dozens of organizations participate in the program, offering an extraordinary and eclectic array of experiences including but not limited to mini golf, exhibitions, site specific performances, festivals celebrating unicycles, street food, the Jazz Age and VW Bugs, to name just a few of the events which have taken place during the last decade. Governors Island is open seasonally every day from the end of May through the end of September.

The Island has earned a reputation as New York City's shared space for art and play, welcoming hundreds of thousands of visitors during the season. Approximately 3 out of every 4 visitors live in the five boroughs, enjoying the Island "created by and for New Yorkers." OpenHouseGI is the heart of this shared democratic culture.

The Trust for Governors Island does not select, fund or curate any of the programming presented by organizations. The Island is a venue or more broadly a platform for the programs created by independent organizations, which range from nascent groups and community based organizations to some of the City's leading cultural institutions. Information about the program including permits can be found on govisland.com. (<https://govisland.com/get-involved/openhouse-gi-program-exhibition-guide>) Presentations by the Trust which describe the Island's approach are also on the website (<https://govisland.com/about/public-presentations>). The Island and individual programs have also been featured in national media including the New York Times, the New Yorker, Public Art Review, Washington Post and other outlets.

The Trust is seeking a Vice President, OpenHouseGI, to take OpenHouseGI to the next level, maintaining its spirit of openness and improvisation while encouraging more development of new ideas and programs, more collaboration among groups and heightened visibility and activity.

The Vice President will report directly to the President of The Trust and will be a part of the Island's leadership team.

Interested candidates should submit a résumé, and cover letter to jobs@govisland.nyc.gov .
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Roles and Responsibilities

- Develop a strategic plan for OpenHouseGI, including, but not limited to determining the Trust's approach to programming over the next three years
- Develop unique program ideas that will ensure Governors Island remains the experimental, inclusive cultural destination it has become
- Oversee every aspect of OpenHouseGI throughout the entire process, from the initial outreach to organizations through the production of the program
- Act as an ambassador for Governors Island by contacting and presenting to institutions, field service organizations, district arts councils and other interested parties about programming opportunities
- Cultivate programming ideas by working directly with organizations that can bring programs to the Island. This includes contacting, meeting and following up with all prospective programming organizations
- Connect programming organizations already working on Governors Island with prospective programming organizations to explore potential collaborations
- Oversee web strategy and content as it relates to programs
- Oversee the permit process for all private events, film and photo shoots
- Work with development team to raise funds to support programming vision
- Manage all permanent and seasonal programming staff to ensure smooth operation of public season

Qualifications

- Minimum of 10 years of experience in creating or collaborating on original programming that serves a diverse public
- Track record of success in creating and executing a creative vision
- Demonstrated experience in cultivating organizations and individuals to support this vision
- Ability and experience with working with development staff on raising funds to support this vision.
- Experience managing staff in a dynamic environment
- Positive outlook and enthusiasm for Governors Island, its mission and its future

Required skills and competencies

The ideal candidate is a creative and entrepreneurial leader. This position requires outstanding communication, written and interpersonal skills. The Vice President must also be a strong public speaker who can act as an ambassador for Governors Island. The Vice President must be able to deliver results that build on Governors Island's already impressive track record of innovative, experimental and dynamic arts, cultural and recreational

programming. The Vice President must be very open minded, truly creative and collaborative, and interested in developing new approaches. This individual must also have a passion for welcoming and working with diverse audiences and groups.

Background

For almost two centuries, Governors Island was a military base - home to the US Army and later the Coast Guard, and closed to the public. In 2003 the federal government transferred 150 acres of the Island to the people of New York, with governance and funding jointly shared by The City of New York and State of New York. The remaining 22 acres of the Island was declared the Governors Island National Monument and is owned and managed by the National Park Service.

In 2010 the City took full responsibility for the Island Property and created the Governors Island Corporation, doing business as The Trust for Governors Island the 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization charged with the planning, redevelopment, and ongoing operations of 150 acres of Governors Island.

The Trust's mission is to transform Governors Island into a vibrant resource for New York City, making the Island a destination with extraordinary public open space, as well as educational, not-for-profit, and commercial facilities. With the mandate to activate Governors Island, maximize public use and attract long term tenants, the Trust has led with arts, culture, and design.

The Mayor of the City is the sole member of The Trust and appoints all its directors. The City is the primary source of funding for the Trust's operations and its capital projects pursuant to a contract between the City and The Trust. The offices of the Trust are located on Governors Island and are reachable by ferry service from Lower Manhattan at all times and seasonally from Brooklyn.

Since 2006, the Island has become a lively and loved destination welcoming close to 500,000 visitors during its current season which runs 7 days per week from Memorial Day to the end of September. Visitors enjoy an exceptionally diverse array of recreational and cultural programming, bike riding, hammocks, views and the spectacular landscapes of the new 30 acre park which opened in 2014. The Island has become known as New York City's shared space for art and play, with its signature OpenHouseGI program.

In the summer of 2016, the Hills will open, creating a new extraordinary destination for New Yorkers, with unique vistas, art and slides. The Island's year round tenants include the New York Harbor School, a public high school focused on the maritime environment and the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Arts Center, with work space for artists. The Trust is readying the Island for its next chapter with a comprehensive update of the Island's infrastructure, expanded access and the Island's first commercial tenant, QC Terme, a

destination day spa campus scheduled to begin construction in 2016.

With the combination of recently expanded access, an amazing contemporary park, new infrastructure, and expanded tenancy, the Island is at the cusp of a complete transformation from moribund former military base into a vital component of the arts, culture, and recreational life of New York City.

See govisland.com for more information about the island, including presentations and press coverage.

Equal Opportunity Employer

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The Trust for Governors Island does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, retaliation, parental status, military service, or other non-merit factor.