



## Arts Department Chair

Ransom Everglades School in Coconut Grove, Florida, seeks an enthusiastic, collaborative leader to be its next Arts Department Chair (Performing and Visual Arts). The school has retained Marcus Hurlbut of Educators' Collaborative to assist with this search.

This position involves overall responsibility for the school's performing and visual arts programs, faculty, and facilities in the middle and upper schools. Responsibilities include leadership, support, and development of faculty; coordination of curriculum and programs; representation and promotion of the visual and performing arts departments and their work in the school and the larger community; and teaching 2 courses in the candidate's discipline.

Highly developed organizational, communication, and interpersonal skills, thorough knowledge of best practices in arts education, performance, and exhibition, and a deep understanding of the way that the arts complement the academic and co-curricular programs at a premier independent school are essential.

Although the position is primarily administrative, the role involves teaching two courses in the appointee's discipline. The Arts Department Chair reports directly to the Head of the Upper School, serves on the school's Academic Council, and works in consultation with division heads, other department chairs, and the Head of School.

The department is composed of twenty faculty members in the visual and performing arts, as well as adjunct instructors in instrumental music. The performing and visual arts facilities include, on the upper school campus: the 1,000-seat Lewis Family Auditorium, the Wakefield Rehearsal Hall, practice rooms, the Acting Studio, studios for ceramics, photography, architecture, printmaking, and painting, and the Solomon Art Gallery. The middle school campus has a 500-seat auditorium, Swenson Hall, band room, dance studio, and visual arts studios. Additional exhibition spaces exist across both campuses. Posner Lecture Hall, a new flexible speaking and performance venue of nearly 200 seats, is part of our Fernandez STEM Center, which opened in August 2020.

Ransom Everglades School has a long history of excellence and achievement in the visual and performing arts. The faculty emphasize equally the growth of the artist, the process of art-making, the final product, and performance. RE students have earned regional and national recognition in painting, photography, acting, and music, and have developed a national reputation for jazz performance. In the past few years, RE graduates have embraced musical theatre and matriculated to top institutions. RE alumni are distinguished filmmakers, musicians, actors, photographers, and architects. The Arts Department Chair has the opportunity to help with an articulated curriculum and vision for the programs and elevate the profile and presence of the arts at Ransom Everglades, on campus, and in the community.

### **Qualifications:**

- Demonstrated leadership and teaching excellence in the arts
- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively with all constituents and stakeholders, on and off campus
- Familiarity with and ability to learn about current best practices in the visual and performing arts
- Demonstrated capacity for arts leadership, including facilities and event management, budget, and technology
- Experience as part of a comprehensive arts program
- MFA or Master's Degree in a particular visual or performing art or arts education
- Understanding of work with student portfolios
- Enthusiastic and charismatic leader
- Collaborative and collegial mindset
- Willingness to be an active and professional member of the community.
- Supportive of The RE Way.
- Be a positive, energetic, and collaborative colleague who is interested in the school, events, and people.

### **Performance Factors:**

**Attendance and Dependability:** The employee can be depended on to report to work at the scheduled time and is seldom absent from work. Employee can be depended upon to complete work in a timely, accurate, and thorough manner and be conscientious about assignments.

**Communication and Contact:** The employee communicates effectively both verbally and in writing with, all individuals inside and outside the School. **Relationships with Others:** The employee works effectively and relates well with others, including members of the leadership team, faculty, colleagues, parents, students, and all individuals inside and outside of the School. The employee exhibits a professional manner in dealing with others and works to maintain constructive working relationships.

## **The RE Way**

### **Our Mission**

Guided by the words of Paul C. Ransom, Ransom Everglades School produces graduates who “believe that they are in the world not so much for what they can get out of it as for what they can put into it.” Ransom Everglades School prepares students for a lifelong journey of learning, the call to service, and the responsibility to lead in an environment that fosters academic and co-curricular excellence as well as social wellbeing. The school’s caring faculty and staff empower students to explore their passions, discover their strengths, and develop their character so they can pursue their ambitions and lead purposeful lives

### **Core Values**

#### **Joy & Wellbeing**

We prioritize the wellbeing of our students, ensuring they feel supported by the community, have ample opportunity to explore their varied interests, and find joy and balance in their lives.

#### **Service & Outreach**

We deliver on the promises of founders Paul C. Ransom and Marie and Edward Swenson by guiding students to make a positive contribution to our school community, the neighboring Coconut Grove community and the broader world.

#### **Support & Community**

We are a supportive community where all members feel accepted and valued for their unique talents and contributions.

#### **Diversity & Inclusion**

We are a diverse community, and we promote collaborative inquiry, open-minded discussion and authentic curiosity about different perspectives and cultures.

#### **Honor & Excellence**

We build on a tradition of honor and academic excellence where students, mentored by inspiring faculty, are challenged to think deeply, critically, empathetically and creatively.

### **Supporting Excellence**

Ransom Everglades faculty members are expected to pursue a continuous program of professional development and engagement and are supported in doing so by the flexibility and financial generosity of the school and its benefactors and our membership in the FolioCollaborative. The school regularly distributes books for the faculty to read together and brings national guest speakers to campus to work with the faculty. Every faculty member and student is issued a stylus-enabled laptop computer. Microsoft 365, including Teams and OneNote, G Suite Enterprise Edition for Education, and the Adobe Creative Suite, as well as subscriptions to a number of other platforms, are provided for all faculty and students. Classrooms are equipped with ViewSonic interactive displays.

A competitive compensation is based on the experience and qualifications of the person selected. Ransom Everglades offers a comprehensive benefits package, including retirement, health and dental insurance, disability and life insurance, and other benefits. Florida has no state or local income taxes

### How to Apply

Interested candidates should submit the following materials in a single merged document by December 1, 2024 to Marcus Hurlbut at [mhurlbut@educatorscollaborative.com](mailto:mhurlbut@educatorscollaborative.com)

- EC Candidate Summary Sheet (contact Marcus Hurlbut)
- Letter of Interest addressed
- Current résumé
- A one-page statement of the role and the importance of the arts in an independent school. Contact information for five professional references with name, relationship, phone number, and email address of each (references will not be contacted without the candidate's permission)
- EC Disclosure Form (contact Marcus Hurlbut)



*Ransom Everglades School (RE) provides equal employment opportunities (EEO) to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or genetics. In addition to federal law requirements, RE complies with applicable state and local laws governing nondiscrimination in employment in every location in which RE has facilities. This policy applies to all terms and conditions of employment, including recruiting, hiring, placement, promotion, termination, layoff, recall, transfer, leaves of absence, compensation and training. RE expressly prohibits any form of workplace harassment based on race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, age, genetic information, disability, or veteran status.*



#### **Middle School**

2045 South Bayshore Drive, Coconut Grove, FL 33133  
Phone 305-250-6850

#### **Upper School**

3575 Main Highway, Coconut Grove, FL 33133  
Phone: 305-460-8800

Founded in 1903, Ransom Everglades School is a coeducational, college preparatory day school for grades 6 - 12 located on two campuses in Coconut Grove, Florida. Ransom Everglades School produces graduates who "believe that they are in the world not so much for what they can get out of it as for what they can put into it." The school provides rigorous college preparation that promotes the student's sense of identity, community, personal integrity and values for a productive and satisfying life, and prepares the student to lead and to contribute to society.