

Thaden School
Film Education Specialist
Bentonville, Arkansas

In July 2015, the Walton Family Foundation announced the appointment of [Clayton Marsh](#), former Deputy Dean of the College at Princeton University, to serve as the founding head of a new independent school in Bentonville, Arkansas. Named in honor of Louise Thaden, a pioneering aviator who was born and raised in Bentonville, the school opened in the fall of 2017 with approximately 50 students in grades 7 and 9 and will grow incrementally over the next several years to serve approximately 500-550 students in grades 6-12.

The School and the Region

A non-sectarian independent school under the direction of its own board, [Thaden School](#) offers a challenging and innovative educational program that ignites in its students a passion for discovery and learning, prepares them to succeed in college, and inspires them to lead lives of integrity, purpose, and responsible global citizenship.

At the core of the school's mission is a commitment to balance that takes many forms: a curriculum that integrates the sciences and the humanities; indoor and outdoor teaching spaces where sustainability is a tangible part of the lesson; hands-on programs for civic engagement; athletics and physical education programs that build confidence and character through competition and meaningful participation; and a diverse faculty and staff that empower students to think deeply and expansively about their potential and place in the world. The school's remarkably robust indexed tuition program further supports the creation of a balanced learning community where students of many perspectives, talents, and interests come together.

Located on a 30-acre campus in downtown Bentonville, the school is walking distance from the town square, Brightwater Culinary Institute, The Momentary (Crystal Bridges' center for contemporary arts), and a variety of other educational resources. With generous support from the Walton Family Foundation, the school has also engaged a nationally renowned team of architects to design an enduring and innovative campus that will spark curiosity, inspire creativity, and invite reflection. As featured in [Architect magazine](#), the school's first permanent buildings opened this fall as the enrollment increased from 110 to approximately 220 students.

With more than 500,000 residents, the region combines a thriving economy with the natural beauty of the Ozarks and a rich variety of cultural and recreational amenities such as the [Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art](#), the Razorback Regional Greenway, the [Scott Family Amazeum](#), and the [Bentonville Film Festival](#). Northwest Arkansas is also home to the world headquarters of three Fortune 500 companies (Walmart, Tyson Foods, and J.B. Hunt) as well as the University of Arkansas. For more information about the region and its national rankings, see [Finding NWA](#) and the website for the [Northwest Arkansas Council](#).

The Thaden School website offers detailed information regarding its mission, leadership and faculty, educational programs, indexed tuition program, and campus plan.

The Position

Thaden School offers an integrative educational program that provides students with a broad foundation in the sciences and humanities, enabling them to move across disciplines and explore their dynamic connections, inside and outside of the classroom. In addition to our core curriculum, we offer three signature programs — [Wheels, Reels, and Meals](#) — that allow students to combine multiple fields of study and engage with our community in ways that foster a sense of civic and global responsibility.

Thaden School's Reels program carries students deep into the region's extraordinary resources for the study and creation of film, photography, and other forms of visual media. This program engages not only the humanities and creative arts, but also the scientific, commercial, and cultural forces that set pictures into motion. While creating film and other forms of visual media, Thaden students learn how to bring critical distance to the consumption and production of the images and visual stories that saturate our world.

The specific responsibilities of the Film Education Specialist will include:

- Teaching two to four courses of middle and/or upper school Reels
- Collaborating with faculty on the integration of the Reels program into other parts of Thaden's curriculum
- Developing related programs and projects that promote community engagement
- Helping to maintain the physical infrastructure needed to support the program

Experience and Qualifications

- Expertise in post-production and video as a fine art (other optional areas of expertise include post-fx, graphic design, video game design)
- Ability to design and implement age-appropriate programs for students in grades 6-12
- Ability to work effectively with educators in a wide range of academic disciplines
- Commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Excellent verbal and written skills

Applications

Please submit applications to careers@thadenschool.org.

Applications should include a cover letter, resume, and vision statement that explains how the candidate would approach the development of Thaden's Reels Program, including illustrative examples of potential programs, projects, and activities.

The start date must be no later than August 3, 2020.

Thaden is an equal-opportunity employer and complies with all federal, state, and local laws that prohibit discrimination in employment because of race, color, national origin, citizenship, age (18 or older), religion, disability, marital status, veteran status, and sexual orientation.