Thaden School
Film Education Specialist
Bentonville, Arkansas

Named in honor of Louise Thaden, a pioneering aviator who was born and raised in Bentonville, Thaden School opened in the fall of 2017 with 50 students in grades 7 and 9. With its well-resourced tuition assistance program and a national faculty, the school has grown to 220 students (grades 6-11) in just two years and is expected to grow over the next several years to serve as many as 500-550 students (grades 6-12). The projected enrollment for the upper school (grades 9-12) in the coming year is 140 students.

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 — Meals, Reals, and Wheels — 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 but not be limited to:

- 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 School’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

- Thaden School’s ideal candidate has significant experience in media production, documentary form, and time-based storytelling from a variety of perspectives, including social justice, anthropological, environmental, and cinema verité.
- The ideal candidate is also well-versed in mobile and social media and immersive and emergent technologies.
- Developing related programs and projects that promote community engagement
- Acknowledging a lack of diversity in the film industry, Thaden embraces an inclusive environment and is particularly interested in receiving applications from members of underrepresented groups and strongly encourages women, persons of color, LGBTQ, and
gender-nonconforming individuals to apply.

Applications

Salary and benefits will be competitive within the independent school sector. Pre-employment background screening is required for all positions. The start date is flexible but must be no later than August 3, 2020. 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 School's Reels Program, including illustrative examples of potential programs, projects, and activities.

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.

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 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 supports the creation of a balanced learning community where students of many perspectives, talents, and interests come learn and grow stronger 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. 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. The school’s first permanent buildings opened this fall, and two more will be ready for occupation in 2021.

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.