



## Working Arts for Street-Involved and Homeless Youth

Dear Placement Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in completing an educational placement at SKETCH. We recognize the tremendous contribution that students make to SKETCH and seek to create meaningful, clear and valuable roles for them.

In the attached placement application package, you will find the following information:

1. **SKETCH Mission Statement and Principles**
2. **Placement Application Form** - Please fill out the application form as carefully as possible and submit it with your most current CV or resume. Please also tell us which program that you are studying in and anything we need to know about the program's placement requirements (timelines, number of hours you must complete, supervision requirements, etc).

### **SKETCH Placement Process**

- It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that SKETCH meets the requirements of the education institution.
- Applicants are considered on an individual basis at the time of application and it is therefore recommended that those interested in a placement position apply early.
- Please note that there may be a delay of several weeks before you hear back from us. Be patient as we are processing your application form as quickly as we are able!

Thank you once again for your interest in SKETCH, we look forward to receiving your completed application form, resume and list of references.

Best wishes,

SKETCH Staff

Phone: 416.516.5428 • Fax: 416.516.6286 • info@sketch.ca • www.sketch.ca  
Mailing Address: PO Box C, Station C Toronto, Ontario M6J 3M7  
Location: 180 Sudbury Street, Toronto, Ontario M4J 3H2

Charitable Registration No: 85912 8332 RR0001

## **SKETCH Mission Statement and General Principles**

### Working Mission Statement:

**Sketch exists to foster creativity, self-discovery, and personal empowerment for youth who are street-involved, at-risk and homeless, in an atmosphere of safety, freedom and acceptance.**

### It is for this purpose that...

Sketch creates opportunities for youth to engage in the arts. Through this engagement youth ...

- are involved in creative self-expression
- celebrate one another's creativity
- build their self-esteem and self-awareness
- can become aware of healthy lifestyle choices
- can enhance their job readiness and life skills
- can explore future options beyond the streets
- can participate in the life of their community
- can develop leadership skills

### For these reasons (and more)...

- Sketch is a gathering place where creativity is celebrated and explored
- Sketch is a place where refreshment, renewal and compassion can be found.
- Sketch values imagination and diverse styles of learning.
- Sketch seeks to honour and to respect the experiences of youth who are street-involved and who struggle with homelessness.
- Sketch invites a sense of play and childlike willingness to risk and try new things.
- Sketch encourages safe and healthy self-expression through the arts and does not judge that expression.
- Sketch respects that everyone moves at their own pace and in their own time.
- Sketch is privileged to be just one of the many influences in the lives of young people on the streets and does not presume to answer all questions or satisfy all needs.
- Sketch encourages and enjoys process and does not focus solely on results.
- Sketch is concerned with setting up the best context possible for youth to recognize that they are accepted and valued for *who* they are, not by *what* they do.
- Sketch believes that its presence in the city testifies to the creative potential of everyone regardless of his or her economic or societal status.
- Sketch is a public demonstration that the artistic voices of youth who are street-involved are unique and are an essential part of our culture.
- Sketch hopes to reduce the misconceptions regarding youth who are street-involved and homeless encouraging the surrounding community to recognize and celebrate the creative potential of youth.
- Sketch aspires to invigorate the lives of youth with the knowledge that they can make a contribution to their community and can participate in the life of their community.
- Sketch is concerned with modeling healthy lifestyle choices and movement toward personal wholeness in its leadership, its committees, its volunteers and its programming.
- Sketch staff collective and volunteers are expected to keep informed about the struggles of street life.
- Sketch encourages youth to build leadership skills and to participate in the culture forming process of the broader community.
- Sketch creates and implements projects and programs that enhance job readiness and life skills.
- Sketch draws on the experience and expertise of youth to assist in the development, delivery and evaluation of its programs.
- Sketch involves artists in the broader community in its programming.
- Sketch develops partnerships with youth serving agencies to assist and resource youth so they can find what they need to make healthy lifestyle choices and move beyond life on the streets.

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# SKETCH Placement Application Form

Please complete this form and email it to [sonya@sketch.ca](mailto:sonya@sketch.ca). All placement applications are processed and kept on file by the Administrator.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
email \_\_\_\_\_

## Interests and Availability

Check off all areas of volunteering that you are interested in. *Please be aware that those volunteers wishing to work directly with participants are sometimes required to undertake an initial probationary period of volunteering in an area without direct contact with youth.*

- Board of Directors or committees
- Computer tech/design (Mac troubleshooting, network admin, web & print graphics)
- Lunch & Snack Program (shopping, cooking and sourcing food donations)
- General administration (mailings, campaigns, filing, data entry, organizing etc.)
- Research and resource development (seeking out resources, developing manuals, making connections, etc.)
- Program delivery (art-making with participants, workshop facilitation, etc.)
- Space maintenance (cleaning and handiwork, assistance in the woodshop)
- Special events (assistance with awareness and fundraising events)
- Other (please explain):

*Note: if you have a specific idea of what you would like to do, feel free to attach a brief proposal.*

What is your availability in terms of time (which days of the week and how many hours)?

Do you have a car, and if so would you be willing to use it as part of your volunteering?

## Life Experience & Knowledge

Why do you want to be a volunteer at SKETCH?

What knowledge and/or experience do you have of the issues facing homeless youth? (e.g. poverty, drug abuse, lack of self-esteem, lack of work skills and experience)

If interested in facilitating art with youth, please list the specific skills, training and experience(s) that would assist you in doing this.

## Employment Information

Present Occupation:	Previous Occupation:
Organization:	Organization:
Length of employment:	Length of employment:
Responsibilities:	Responsibilities:

Other relevant employment history?

## Education and Training Information

List your educational and training background:

## Volunteer Experience

Have you been a volunteer before? Please describe:

## Reference Check

Please provide the name and phone number for three references if possible.

Category	Name and relationship to you	Phone number
Personal		
Employment or Training Program		
Volunteer or Student Placement		

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

***Please attach your resume to make your full volunteer application to Sketch.***

The logo for 'Sketch' is rendered in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letters are slightly shadowed and have a hand-drawn, sketchy appearance, with some lines extending from the letters as if they were just drawn on a surface.