

**Amherst Cinema Arts Center seeks an Executive Director** to lead the organization into its next phase of growth and development. Amherst Cinema is Western Massachusetts' premier independent theater serving the Pioneer Valley and beyond. The Cinema has been in operation since 2006 as a nonprofit organization with a mission "to inspire, inform and entertain through the universal language of cinema arts and to serve as a cultural and educational resource for all." The Cinema shows current release art-house and specialty films, holds special events and hosts one-time screenings that explore timely issues and topics. It offers a range of special programs in collaboration with other area nonprofits, museums and academic institutions, and hosts filmmakers and other guests for presentations and discussions. The Cinema also serves over 1600 third graders in the Pioneer Valley with the See-Hear- Feel-Film visual literacy program.

The job of Executive Director offers an opportunity to bring strong leadership, vision and creativity to a highly successful organization that is poised for an even greater impact on the cultural community of Western Massachusetts through innovative programming, unique films and educational events. The ED is responsible for the leadership, management and financial viability of Amherst Cinema consistent with the strategic direction set forth by the Board of Directors. A passion for, belief in and ability to speak to the power of cinematic art is an important requirement of the job. The ED will be responsible for establishing and executing a creative vision for the Cinema that builds on its strengths, expands its established audience and creates space for continued growth.

Amherst Cinema is committed to a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion. The Executive Director must share this commitment and demonstrate an ability to reflect these values in all aspects of Cinema operations, including but not limited to Board and staff recruitment and development, programming, outreach, fundraising, marketing and communications. A successful ED will need to carry out the Cinema's mission with a commitment to service for all, especially communities that have been underserved, exploited and marginalized by systemic racism, prejudice and neglect. The applicant must be a relationship builder with a proven capacity, willingness and enthusiasm for networking and fundraising. The ED must be able to address individuals and audiences in a variety of settings to articulately communicate the values, vision and needs of the organization.

Strong business management skills and financial acumen are vital. Responsibilities include oversight of day to day operations, care and maintenance of equipment, facilities and technological systems. Having experience in nonprofit governance is essential and having the ability to lead a nonprofit organization is of paramount importance.

The Executive Director must be able to work with a highly skilled, creative and engaged staff, and must support and empower them to function in their independent roles. The ED needs to communicate and collaborate with many constituencies - the Board, staff, public audiences, members, filmmakers and guest artists, volunteers, business and community leaders, government officials, and donors and other funders. Leading an independent cinema necessitates the flexibility to manage a variable work schedule which may frequently include evening and weekend events.

The film industry is evolving at all levels, from production to distribution to exhibition. In this changing environment, leading a beloved cultural institution like Amherst Cinema offers an opportunity to be a trailblazer by tackling new challenges, taking risks and embracing the many opportunities that lie ahead. The Amherst Cinema Executive Director must be a person with a balance of experience, vision and values, with the courage to lead a strong organization into the future.

## **Job Requirements**

### **Experience:**

Applicants must have at least three to five years experience in an executive or senior staff role in a nonprofit organization  
(Nonprofit arts related organizations preferred)

### **Education:**

BA degree from an accredited College or University required  
MA or other professional degree preferred

**References:** Professional references and social media review will be required.

**Compensation:** Salary commensurate with experience.

Applications must be submitted by 9/8/20 to: [EDsearch@AmherstCinema.org](mailto:EDsearch@AmherstCinema.org)