

VOX ATL



VOX Investigates Story Coach Description – Spring 2019

Overview: Each school semester, volunteers will have an opportunity to work with an incredible team of ten teens as story coaches and mentors to help lead VOX Investigates' semester-long deep-dive publishing project. You will be able to connect with young, aspiring journalists and storytellers, and use your expertise to support their skill development. It's truly a blast!

We are looking for volunteers with experience in reporting, writing, audio production, video production and/or graphic design. For Spring 2019, our investigation topic is mental health and teens, with an emphasis on access to quality care and community mental health resources. Each volunteer will be paired with a teen to support them as a guide on the side throughout the story creation process.

Volunteers will work with teens to produce complete stories for our print edition to be released in April 2019 and complementing digital content. Stories can be written, audio or video, and all should include visual elements (photos, visual art, video, etc.). The project goes from January 19 to May 11, 2019. During this time, volunteers will meet regularly with the team and individual teens to support them on stories. **All mentors will be fully supported by VOX adult staff.**

Key Volunteer Responsibilities

- **If you are a new volunteer, attend our volunteer training on 1/12.** If this date doesn't work with your schedule, please email Allison at allison@voxatl.org and she will set up another time with you.
- **Attend the VI kick-off on 1/19 (10 a.m-4 p.m.) and/or the first team check-in on 1/26 (2:30-4 p.m.).** It is essential that you are present for one or both of these! You'll have a chance to meet the teens and hear more about their story pitches so you can see which story might be a good fit for you. Teens often find it challenging to get started with the researching and writing process, so it's helpful for them to get extra support on the front end.
- **Maintain weekly contact with the teen** you are working with to encourage and support story production, meet deadlines, solve problems, etc. (This contact can be via email, Google Hangout, and/or GroupMe). **All in-person meetings should be done at the VOX office.**

The time commitment for volunteers will average about five hours total per week throughout the course of the project (some weeks might include more time, some less). **We will always work with you to accommodate your schedule** and needs but do want to be upfront about the time commitment.

Key Dates for Spring 2019 VOX Investigates Project

- Saturday, January 5, 2:30-3:30 p.m. - VOX Open House (a good time to visit VOX if you've never been here before and want to know more!)
- Saturday, January 12 - VOX Volunteer Training (time TBA)
- **Saturday, January 19, 10 a.m.-4.p.m. - VI Kick-Off**
- **Saturday, January 26, 2:30-4 p.m. - First VI Check-In**
- Saturday, March 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. - VI Check-In and Reporting
- Saturday, March 23 - VI Work Day (time to meet 1:1 with mentors)
- Saturday, March 30 - Print Draft Deadline
- Saturday, April 13 - Final Deadline & Print Production Day
- Saturday, May 11 - VOX year-end Community Event

Questions? Interested in volunteering in this role? Please contact Allison Hood at allison@voxatl.org for next steps!