



## **Volunteer posting – Choreographer 2737 Keele St. Toronto, ON**

The Mennonite New Life Centre is a place of welcome, friendship and community, where newcomers and neighbors gather to support each other, learn from each other and take action together for a more just and compassionate society.

The Centre offers a youth group, which uses popular theater to help newcomer youth explore and express their experiences in a new country. For the year 2011/12 we are looking to include dance, rhythm and corporal expression in the composition of a performance. The group usually performs pieces created collectively during the school year, inspired by the struggles, challenges and hopes of the newcomer youths. They may present a few public presentations during the year (between 2 or 3 presentations a year).

In the past, they have explored their experiences around bullying in school; peer pressure; linguistic barriers; dislocation of the families as a result of immigration; lack of opportunities for immigrant youth, etc. Theater becomes then a vehicle to express and denounce systemic issues, but at the same time, reach out for solutions and advocate for social change. The group is an excellent support for youth and a valuable space for socializing.

We are looking for a talented dancer or choreographer who wants to work with youth and help them express themselves through movement, combining dance with dialogues, and working closely with the artistic director.

### **Main Responsibilities:**

- Work collaboratively with the Artistic Director to create a performance that integrates dance and theater.

### **Requirements:**

- Must have knowledge or experience working with youth and community work.
- Must have an understanding of the newcomer experience and systemic barriers affecting immigrant communities.
- Must be willing to work with youth with no previous experience in dance.
- Able to integrate an anti-oppression perspective to their work, with a commitment for social justice.
- Able to work independently, with minimal supervision.
- Creative and talented, with the ability to work with few resources.
- Friendly, open, reliable, patient, non-judgmental and non discriminating.
- Must have cross-cultural sensitivity.

### **Benefits:**

- Free parking
- Letter of reference upon completion of 3 months of volunteer work.
- Opportunities to network and socialize.
- Opportunities to make public presentations.

If you are interested in this position send your resume to **Gabriela Martinez** at [gmartinez@mnlct.org](mailto:gmartinez@mnlct.org) or call (647) 776-2057 x 303.