



Chevron Open Minds at The Rooms - Information for Teachers

The Rooms counts among its divisions the Provincial Archives, Art Gallery and Museum. It is filled with art and artifacts, specimens and historical sources that inspire, engage and open young minds.

Chevron Open Minds at The Rooms provides teachers with the opportunity to move their classroom to The Rooms for an entire week. The program is based on the Open Minds education concept, which emphasizes the value of allowing students to slow down and become immersed in new and engaging learning environments.

Each week is a unique, curriculum-based program developed by the teacher in consultation with The Rooms program coordinator.

Journal writing and drawing are key elements to the Open Minds concept and every participating student, teacher and parent volunteer will be provided their own journal to use before, during and after their time at The Rooms. Prior to their week at the site, teachers will be given the opportunity to participate in workshops on object-based learning, journal writing and sketching.

How to Apply

1. Plan a long-term multidisciplinary study using the week at The Rooms as a focus.
2. Use your outline to develop a 1-2 page proposal (proposal guidelines attached).
3. Fill out the accompanying application form and submit it along with your proposal by **April 30, 2011**.

Guidelines

- The program is available to Grades 1 to 12.
- Only one class of students per week can be accommodated.
- Teachers may write a joint proposal if team teaching multiple classes of the same grade. Their weeks will be scheduled back to back if possible. Please submit one application and indicate on your form that you are applying as a larger team.
- If a successful applicant moves to another school the program usually moves with the teacher. However, in team situations leaving it with the school will be considered.
- French immersion schools are welcome to apply but please note that programming is in English.
- Cost is **\$500 per week** and includes all busing to and from school to The Rooms, teacher and student journals, and other costs associated with each program.
- **Deadline for applications is April 30, 2011.** You will be notified by e-mail when your application and proposal have been received.
- Teachers will be notified regarding acceptance into the program by **May 26, 2011**.

Proposals are selected on the following basis

1. Demonstration of congruency with the philosophy of the Open Minds Education Concept;
2. Proportional distribution of grade levels, schools and program (English, French Immersion, etc);
3. Adherence to the above guidelines and dates

Stephanie Rowe Slaney, Chevron Open Minds Program Coordinator, 709-757-8069, stephanieroweslaney@therooms.ca





Program Application Form – 2011/2012 School Year

Send this completed form, along with your 1 to 2 page proposal, by **April 30, 2011** via regular mail, fax or email to:

The Rooms
Attn: Stephanie Rowe Slaney
P.O Box 1800, Stn. C
St. John's, NL A1C 5P9
F: 709-757-8017
T: 709-757-8069
stephanieslaney@therooms.ca

Teacher name(s): _____

School: _____ Principal: _____

School phone: _____ School fax: _____ Home phone: _____

School address: _____ Postal code: _____

Email address: _____

Grade level: _____ Number of students (one class per week): _____

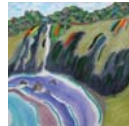
Is this application for one class or two classes? 1 2

Time of year preferred: _____

How did you find out about the Chevron Open Minds at The Rooms program? _____

IMPORTANT: Attach to this form a 1-2 page proposal describing your plan for a long-term multidisciplinary study that uses the week at the site as a focus. Please see provided proposal guidelines.

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Proposal Guidelines for Teachers

Below are suggested components to include in your **1 to 2 page** *Chevron Open Minds at The Rooms* proposal. Your proposal needs to contain a description of an extended study that uses the week at The Rooms as a catalyst for your entire year. It is understood that this is only a preliminary plan that may change as you begin working with the program coordinator and your students.

Please ensure that your name, school, grade level, and whether you teach an English, French Immersion, or French first language class is noted on your proposal.

The BIG IDEA

To guide your planning, think about an over-riding theme for your year-long multidisciplinary study. This may be expressed as a statement (e.g. Belonging, Survival, Community, Diversity) or as a guiding question (e.g. What is my legacy? What do we treasure? What does it mean to be human?).

Curriculum Connections

Outline how your BIG IDEA works with the curriculum. This may be done as concept web with the BIG IDEA in the middle and the various curriculum links connected to it or as a written description.

Year-Long Plan

Your plan helps us to understand how a week at The Rooms will fit into your classroom teaching over the year. The concept web or description might include components such as novel studies, field trips, art programs, science activities or research projects.

A major part of the work begins well before your arrival to The Rooms through helping your students hone their drawing, descriptive writing and object interpretation skills. We will discuss this in greater detail at the summer in-service.

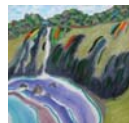
Please note that you do not have to give a detailed account of what your week at The Rooms will look like, however, you should give us an idea of what your interests are in order to assist with program development. For a listing of possible offerings, please check out the *What Does Chevron Open Minds at The Rooms Offer?* section of the information package.

Please include what culminating activities you might do after your return to school. These might include a school museum, a community service project, a drama production or simply a **program sharing session** with the rest of the school. Note that your year-long plan is tentative and we are open to changes to your customized program.

Additional Information

In this section you may include anything else you feel would support your proposal. You may want to include specific information about your school, how you feel this would benefit your students, and why you want to participate in the *Chevron Open Minds at The Rooms* program.

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What Does *Chevron Open Minds at The Rooms* Offer?

Exhibitions

A wide range of archives, art gallery and museum exhibitions are available for your class to explore and study during their week on site. For more information on The Rooms temporary and permanent exhibitions, visit our website at www.therooms.ca.

Collection Storage Vaults

Everyone loves going behind the scenes! Open Minds participants are given the rare opportunity to visit our vast collections to see how artifacts, art, and records are stored and cared for.

Meet our Experts

During their Open Minds experience students can meet curators, archivists, and technicians as they explore the various exhibitions, vaults, and laboratories at The Rooms.

Archives Reference Room

The Archives is home to a wide range of primary source materials such as census data, newspapers, photographs, and journals that students can utilize while researching a range of topics.

Classrooms

Students are welcome to explore their creativity in our bright, inspiring classrooms. Educators can engage students in various hands-on projects related to the theme of their program.

Education Programs

Teachers may want to choose components of the various education programs that are offered by The Rooms. These workshops can be good starting points to a more in-depth study of a particular topic. For a full listing of currently offered education programs at The Rooms visit www.therooms.ca/schoolsandkids/

Chevron Open Minds Program Coordinator

The coordinator will support you throughout the planning stages. Once at The Rooms the coordinator can also lead workshops to develop critical viewing and interpretive skills and supply you with hands-on objects and other resources.

Additional Resource People

Depending on the theme of your program, staff members of The Rooms or resource people from within the community can be brought in to spend time with your students.

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