

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - DESIGN x RI**

**Full Time, Salaried Position**

**Providence, RI**

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### **Organization**

DESIGNxRI (DxRI) is committed to creating a more design-driven world. Great design creates strong communities. Strong communities create great design. Together we can instigate change locally, socially, and globally. As the only statewide organization for design in RI, we build value in the sector by investing in RI design talent, shining a spotlight on our amazing design community, and connecting that talent with the nation and the world.

Our goal is to highlight design's creative innovative and problem-solving practices to attract business opportunities, grow the RI design community, and act as an economic builder, collaborator, and communicator for the design sector in Rhode Island. A nonprofit organization with an entrepreneurial mindset, DxRI's mission is to create an environment for RI designers, design businesses, and the design sector to thrive.

Founded in 2013, DxRI is a nimble and growing venture. We were built on a foundation of collaboration and work with strategic partners throughout the state to position design and create access and opportunities in economic, workforce, and community development. Through our programs, we work to catalyze design business growth, advance design skills, and market RI's design assets.

DxRI has been an industry anchor and is seeking a new leader to evolve the organization, opening up design and continuing to be responsive to our Rhode Island community. We anticipate 2022 to be a highly transformative year for the organization and look forward to engaging a dynamic and productive new leader for our team.

### **Position**

DxRI seeks an Executive Director (ED) who will bring exceptional leadership, management, and communication skills to DxRI. Reporting to the Board of Directors, the ED will have overall strategic and operational responsibility for DxRI's staff, programs, expansion, and execution of its mission. The ideal candidate will have the skills to take DxRI to the next level with a fresh vision and the ability to build relationships to shape the future of the design sector in Rhode Island.

This is an excellent opportunity for a strategic, process-minded leader with experience leading a collaborative and diverse team and developing a high-performing organizational culture. The successful Executive Director will have the skills, sensitivity, and personal confidence to tap into the power that each member of the organization

brings to create an environment for RI designers, design businesses, and the design sector to thrive.

## **Responsibilities**

The Executive Director will have the following responsibilities:

### Leadership & Management

- As the public face of DxRI, actively engage and energize DxRI volunteers, board members, event committees, alumni, partnering organizations, and funders
- Lead DxRI's vision by developing competencies, skills, capabilities and abilities to solve challenges, drive innovation, and sustain transformation.
- Direct and manage operations including financial planning and budget, contracts and policies, annual reports, human resources and general office management
- Create a dynamic office environment: lead, coach, develop, and retain DxRI's staff with a commitment to excellence
- Collaborate with Board of Directors and committees

### Business & Fund Development

- Evaluate opportunities for the organization; work with board to set direction, prioritize opportunities and establish and test business models
- Implement strategic plans and work plans to achieve earned income and fundraising goals
- Seek and win funding opportunities to support the organization

### Programs & Grant Management

- Guide and oversee all programs of the organization, including events, workforce development, grants and business development programs
- Ensure programmatic excellence using evaluation tools, tracking finance, sticking to timeline, prioritizing diversity, equity and inclusion and maintaining mission alignment
- Prioritize and communicate objectives necessary to achieve organizational goals

### Communications & Partnerships

- Forge viable and catalyzing relationships in the design community while leading and representing the organization at cross-sector events and in the community

- Advance the DxRI mission by overseeing the marketing and communications efforts of the organization through web, social media, and email to strengthen and grow the brand

#### DxRI Mission Alignment

- High level of design fluency, be able to communicate design-driven process to designers and represent the value and opportunities of design to other sectors
- Demonstrate knowledge and model respect for Rhode Island's communities as a diverse state, with economic challenges and prioritize access to design for BIPOC/queer/disabled/under-resourced residents

#### **Compensation and Benefits**

DxRI is offering a competitive salary (ranging from \$80,000-90,000) with modest benefits. This is a full-time, salaried at-will position.

[Application Link](#)