

WOOD LATHE INSTRUCTOR

ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Generator Makerspace is a vibrant community workspace and innovation hub located in Burlington, Vermont. Our mission is to empower individuals to explore, create, and collaborate through access to tools, technology, and education. We provide a supportive environment for makers, artists, hobbies, and entrepreneurs to turn their ideas into reality.

ABOUT THE ROLE?

Generator Makerspace is seeking an experienced Wood Lathe Instructor to teach our tool trainings. This hands-on course introduces students to safe lathe operation, fundamental turning techniques, and basic machine maintenance. Trainings run approximately 2.5 hours, serve a maximum of 3 students, and are offered every other month.

The ideal candidate brings extensive wood lathe experience and a genuine enthusiasm for teaching beginners in a hands-on environment. Wood shop certification is not required, as we are glad to offer that training at no cost as part of the instructor onboarding.

Notice: Wood lathe students must complete Generator's Wood Shop Training before enrolling in this class.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Lead 2.5-hour tool training workshops for beginner students (maximum 3 per session)
- Demonstrate safe setup, operation, and shutdown of the Nova Wood Lathe
- Introduce and guide students through spindle turning techniques using the spindle gouge, roughing gouge, and scraper
- Provide an introductory overview of bowl turning and advanced tools including the skew chisel and bowl gouge
- Instruct students on machine maintenance and tool sharpening
- Enforce studio safety protocols and ensure proper use of PPE
- Maintain a clean and organized studio space before, during, and after session

DESIRED SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE

Tools & Equipment

Candidates should have demonstrated experience with, or a willingness to learn:

- Nova Wood Lathe (operation, adjustment, and basic maintenance)
- Spindle gouge, roughing gouge, and scraper
- Skew chisel and bowl gouge (introductory familiarity)
- Tool sharpening equipment and techniques

Notice: Familiarity with all listed tools and techniques is preferred but not required. Training will be provided to bridge gaps in experience.

Techniques & Processes

- Spindle turning: roughing, shaping, smoothing, and finishing
- Safe tool presentation and cutting technique
- Bowl turning fundamentals (overview only)
- Tool sharpening and maintenance between sessions
- Measuring, marking, and workpiece preparation

Safety & Studio Knowledge

- Safe lathe operation: speed selection, tool rest positioning, secure workpiece mounting
- Proper PPE: eye protection, face shield, dust mask, secure clothing and hair
- Chip and dust management; cleanup procedures
- Familiarity with Generator's incident report and maintenance request process
- Ability to perform thorough cleanup and return the studio to a safe, ready condition after each session

***Interested applicants are invited to contact education@generatorvt.com.** Please share any relevant wood working and teaching experience and a phone number.

Generator is committed to building a work community that is inclusive and represents a vibrant diversity of background, experience, perspective and thought. Candidates across all markers of identity (age, race, gender, ability, communication styles, etc.) are highly encouraged to apply.