

VCUarts Adjuncts Organizing for Fair Pay
vcu.aofp@gmail.com

President Rao
Office of the President
910 West Franklin Street
Box 842512
Richmond, VA 23284-2512

October 16, 2017

Dear President Rao,

We are writing to you as the VCUarts Adjuncts Organizing for Fair Pay to bring to your attention the inadequate working conditions of the contingent faculty at VCUarts. Adjuncts at VCU are paid significantly lower than a living wage and salaries have not been reevaluated in the past 5 years. We are requesting that VCU administration increase the wages of all VCUarts adjuncts from an average of \$800 per credit hour to \$2,000 per credit hour effective January 2018.

VCUarts is nationally ranked as the number one public art school and continues to attract talented students. Adjunct faculty currently account for the majority of instructors in the VCUarts departments, yet are still paid significantly lower than other top rated public universities in Virginia. The University is sending a clear message to us, and the public about the value of its educators by underpaying adjuncts despite consistently increasing tuition.

We are passionate about our work and we believe in the mission of higher education and VCUarts. We simply want to ensure that we are able to survive on the pay that we receive in return for our delivery of quality instruction to VCUarts students. Most VCUarts adjuncts work multiple jobs while commuting to different institutions to barely make ends meet, stretching time and resources thin.

Please respond with your decision to vcu.aofp@gmail.com by October 30. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

VCUarts Adjuncts Organizing for Fair Pay