



GREATER HARTFORD
ARTS COUNCIL

2020 Neighborhood Studios Apprentice Guidelines & Application

ABOUT NEIGHBORHOOD STUDIOS

Neighborhood Studios, the Greater Hartford Arts Council's award-winning summer arts apprenticeship program, offers a one-of-a-kind learning experience in the arts, providing Greater Hartford teens with paid, hands-on artistic training and valuable career skills essential to today's workforce. For six weeks each summer, the program sends participating teens to art studios at cultural organizations throughout Hartford, uniting both students and their families to the city's diverse arts and cultural community.

Each studio provides specific training in a different art form and students work as paid apprentices alongside Master Teaching Artists. Apprentices also participate in weekly career skills workshops on resume building, financial literacy, interviewing and networking skills. Apprentices receive a weekly stipend of \$100 per week for six weeks. This program takes place from **June 29 – August 7, 2020**.

Space is limited so not all applicants will be accepted. Since this is a competitive process, in order to be considered you must fully complete the application. Studios may require interviews; samples of creative or visual art work or an audition (See Studio Requirements and Next Steps on [Page 6](#)). Incomplete, illegible and/or late applications may not be accepted.

2020 NEIGHBORHOOD STUDIOS

All studios take place **Monday – Friday from June 29 – August 7, 2020**.

- **The Amistad Center for Art & Culture – *Snap! Photography***

Time: Monday – Friday, 9:30 AM – 4 PM

Under the guidance of a master teaching artist and *SNAP! Photography* studio team, apprentices will improve their skills and knowledge of photography. Apprentices will learn about the history of photography, how to operate a camera, and how to design and install a photography exhibit. Apprentices will learn how to use digital cameras and edit digital images. In 2020, *SNAP! Photography* will integrate the theme of power building upon The Amistad Center's exhibition, *Freedom and Fragility*.

- **Artists Collective – Youth Jazz Orchestra**

Time: Monday – Friday, 9 AM – 4 PM

Youth Jazz Orchestra apprentices will gain improvisational and solo performance skills, and exposure to traditional African-American music including jazz, blues, gospel and R & B. Studio work includes the study of music theory, sight-reading, Western classical technique, modern concepts, listen to classic compositions performed by jazz greats, and study the history of Pan-African Music. Under the direction of multi-instrumentalist and YJO Director, René McLean, apprentices in the *Youth Jazz Orchestra* will increase their improvisational proficiency and abilities to perform as an orchestra and solo. The apprentices will gain arranging skills by working together, with Studio Coordinators and instructors to choose jazz compositions and music for the Showcase event; and they will perform at a high-level of proficiency in the YJO Music Showcase and in the final production (2 performances in the final week of the Summer Program). The YJO Studio Coordinators and instructors provide interested students with guidance in applying to college-level studies in music programs.

- **Hartford Stage Company – Breakdancing Shakespeare**

Time: Monday – Friday, 10 AM – 4 PM

Breakdancing Shakespeare apprentices work toward performing an abridged Shakespearean play infused with hip-hop dance. Apprentices will learn breakdancing techniques, physical and vocal characterization, and interpretation and recitation of a Shakespearean text. Under the direction of a master teaching artist, apprentices will utilize their new skills to collaborate and mount a 90-minute production. The program concludes with three public performances at Hartford Stage. Over six weeks, apprentices participate in all-day rehearsals and workshops. The public performances that conclude the program are high-energy and accessible for all ages.

- **The Mark Twain House & Museum – Write to the Point!**

Time: Monday – Friday, 9AM – 2:30PM

How does your community have the power to shape who you are as a writer? And how can our writing have the power to shape our communities? Through poetry and creative nonfiction writing, as well as through the development of an exhibition, apprentices will explore the power that place has on a writer's work, as well as the power of the written word. Working with a Master Teaching Artist and museum staff, and through study in The Mark Twain House & Museum and writing exercises, apprentices will compose and perform pieces exploring the power of place and identity. They will produce two main projects: a portfolio of six individual poems and one group poem, and a museum exhibition.

- **Real Art Ways** – *Eye on Video*

Time: Monday – Friday, 9 AM – 3 PM

Eye on Video is a unique opportunity for apprentices to learn the art of filmmaking under the guidance of a Master Teaching Artist and other film professionals. *Eye on Video*'s apprentice-focused curriculum includes: fundamentals of screenwriting, storytelling, composition, operation of professional cameras and filming equipment, and post-production using DaVinci Resolve. Apprentice will gain an understanding of film history, the intricacies of filmmaking, and the creative process. Each apprentice will develop an independent project, investigating the language of film and its potential for storytelling. Apprentices will be asked to reflect on their own cultural backgrounds as it relates to this year's theme of "Power". *Eye on Video* emphasizes apprentices' creation of original work, backed by a strong foundation in film studies highlighting cultural film landmarks, contemporary standouts, and exemplary samples produced by past *Eye on Video* apprentices. If selected, apprentices will be tasked with creating and submitting three ideas for film subjects.

- **TheaterWorks** – Making a Scene

Time: Monday – Friday, 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Making a Scene will prepare teens for careers in theater production through hands-on artistic training that will take place in a variety of venues: classroom to shop, shop to stage. Apprentices will participate in the design process by witnessing the production team at TheaterWorks and at The Wadsworth Atheneum. They will also imagine and realize their own visions while learning about different tools used in scenic construction. *Making a Scene* requires creative energy and willingness to try new things, as apprentices work with Master Teaching Artist Michael Lenaghan and theater production professionals, learning the process of designing and building scenery for the stage.

TIMELINE

- April 3, 2020:** **Apprentice Application deadline.** Complete the application that begins on [Page 9](#). Please send completed applications and required materials to **each Studio** where you would like to be considered for an apprenticeship (See Studio Contact Information on [Page 5](#)).
- April - May 2020:** **Interviews and Auditions.** Studios may require interviews, samples of creative work or an audition. (See Studio Requirements and Next Steps on [Pages 6](#)).
- May 18, 2020:** **Notification.** If you are accepted into a studio, you will be contacted no later than this date.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- No younger than 14 (as of June 29, 2020) and no older than 18 (as of August 7, 2020).
- Reside in the 34-town region served by the Greater Hartford Arts Council (See Service Area Map on [Page 8](#)).
- Participated in Neighborhood Studios for NO MORE THAN 1 summer prior to 2020.
- Provide a completed application to **each Studio where you would like to be considered** for apprenticeship **by April 3, 2020**.

HOW TO APPLY

- Fill out the apprentice application below and save it to your computer. The application begins on [Page 9](#).
- To fill in your answers, use the TAB key to move from question to question. **Double check that all questions are answered and save your work before you send it.**
- Typed applications are preferred. If you are unable to type the application you may print the document and complete the information by hand. Please use your best handwriting!
- Fully complete the application. Incomplete applications may not be accepted.
- Applications may be sent by email, US Postal Service, or dropped off in person.
- **If you are sending the application in the mail**, you only need to print and send the pages you fill in.
- **If you are sending the application by email**, email addresses are found in the “[Where To Send Your Application](#)” section of this document.
- **If you are dropping off your application in person**, it is a good idea to contact the organization to double check where you should deliver your application.
- **Do not send applications to the Greater Hartford Arts Council.**
- You may apply to more than one Studio. Rank the studios you would like to apply to with 1 being your top choice. **To apply to more than one Studio, send a separate, completed application to each Studio where you would like to be considered for apprenticeship.**
- Send the completed application and required materials to your selected Studio(s) **by April 3, 2020**.

WHERE TO SEND YOUR APPLICATION

Please send completed applications to **each Studio** where you would like to be considered for apprenticeship:

Studio Title	Email Address	Phone Number	US Postal Service Mailing Address
Snap! Photography	springle@amistadcenter.org (Stacy Pringle)	860-838- 4122	Attn: Neighborhood Studios The Amistad Center for Art & Culture 600 Main Street Hartford, CT 06103
Youth Jazz Orchestra	info@artistscollective.org (Cheryl Smith)	860-527- 3205	Attn: Neighborhood Studios Artists Collective 1200 Albany Avenue Hartford, CT 06112
Breakdancing Shakespeare	rreader@hartfordstage.org (Robert Reader)	860-520- 7263	Attn: Neighborhood Studios Hartford Stage Company 50 Church Street Hartford, CT 06105
Write to the Point!	bridget.mcgrath@marktwainhouse.org (Bridget McGrath)	860-280- 3151	Attn: Neighborhood Studios The Mark Twain House & Museum 351 Farmington Avenue Hartford, CT 06105
Eye on Video	tparziale@realartways.org (Tina Parziale)	860-232- 1006 x129	Attn: Neighborhood Studios Real Art Ways 56 Arbor Street Hartford, CT 06106
Making a Scene	bridget@theaterworkshartford.org (Bridget Sullivan)	860-986- 7450	Attn: Neighborhood Studios TheaterWorks 233 Pearl Street Hartford, CT 06103

STUDIO REQUIREMENTS AND NEXT STEPS

Each Studio may require interviews, samples of creative or visual art work or an audition. Please see the specific Studio requirements and next steps below.

Studio Title	Organization	Requirements and Next Steps
Snap! Photography	The Amistad Center for Art & Culture	Applicants will receive a confirmation via email that we have received your application. If you are selected to move forward in the application process you will be contacted by email or telephone to come to the museum for an interview. You will be asked to bring at least two samples of your original creative work in the visual arts to the interview. (Paintings, sculpture, drawings and graphic designs are acceptable. At least one example of your photography, digital or printed, is required.)
Youth Jazz Orchestra	Artists Collective	Teens 14-18 years old, who have basic skills in playing an instrument are encouraged to apply for the Artists Collective's Youth Jazz Orchestra. The Artists Collective will provide applications. Youth who apply for the YJO will be contacted by phone for interviews and auditions. A parent/apprentice orientation session will be held prior to the interviews and eligible applicants will be invited to interviews and auditions. The orientation provides parents and apprentices with information on the YJO - Neighborhood Studios program, timeline and schedule and the YJO as part of the regular Summer Program. In the audition, applicants may perform a piece they have selected. Additionally, the hiring staff will provide pieces to be performed as an ensemble, in sections, and as an entire orchestra.
Breakdancing Shakespeare	Hartford Stage Company	Eligible students who complete an online application will be contacted by the Program Coordinator to schedule a dance and acting audition which will take place at the Hartford Stage rehearsal studios at 942 Main Street. Students are also able to drop-in on the audition date, fill out an application, and complete the dance and acting audition on-site at Hartford Stage. At auditions, students will be asked to learn and perform a dance combination with a group and read from the script. Students do not need to have anything prepared for the audition, but they will be given the opportunity to demonstrate any special talents if desired. These may include physical skills (such as gymnastics or juggling), vocal skills (singing), or acting ability (monologue). Some students may be called back for a second audition will be communicated to them the day of their audition through

		their preferred form of communication. Preferred form of communication will be identified on their application.
Write to the Point!	The Mark Twain House & Museum	Applications should be submitted by email to bridget.mcgrath@marktwainhouse.org . Any documents accompanying the application should be in Word format. After applications are reviewed, applicants may be invited for an interview. If so, they will be notified by email. If an applicant is invited for an interview, they will be asked to submit a short piece of their writing that answers the question: What is your superpower? This piece can be in the form of poetry, prose, or any other form of creative writing, but should be no more than 500 words, and should be submitted, in Word format, via email prior to the interview.
Eye on Video	Real Art Ways	All applicants will receive an email acknowledging the receipt of their application. A select number of applicants will be invited for an interview. In preparation for this interview, students will be asked to create a 1-minute or less creative film (can be low-tech, made on a phone or whatever device student has access to) about what super power they have. They will be asked to bring this 1-minute film to an in-person interview on either a disc or a USB drive.
Making a Scene	TheaterWorks, Inc.	All applications will be reviewed for interest in Making a Scene, and any prior backstage theater experience. Potential candidates will be contacted via email to schedule an interview, which will be conducted in person or by phone. References may also be contacted. Pictures of art projects, set or prop pieces or other items the applicant has built are helpful but not required.

SERVICE AREA MAP



CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions should be directed to:

Amanda Roy, Community Programs Manager, Greater Hartford Arts Council

860-525-8629 x252, aroy@letsgoarts.org



2020 APPRENTICE APPLICATION FORM

INSTRUCTIONS

- Please read the guidelines above to learn more about how to apply to Neighborhood Studios.
- Visit www.LetsGoArts.org/Neighborhood-Studios for more information about Neighborhood Studios.
- Download this document to your desktop and save. Use TAB key to move to each field and type in answers. When completed, re-save document. Applicants that are unable to type the application may print the document and legibly handwrite the information.
- Applications must be sent to the studios you wish to apply for by **APRIL 3, 2020**.
- Information on where to send your information is listed on [Page 5](#).

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Full Name (Last, First)

Street Address

City, State, Zip

Home Phone Number

Cell Phone Number

Applicant Email Address

Birthdate (Month/Day/Year)

Age as of June 24, 2020

Parent or Guardian Name (Last, First)

APPLICANT INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

Gender: Male Female Other: _____

Unisex T-shirt Size: S M L XL XXL

Please check your current educational status:

- Full-Time High School Student
- Part-Time High School Student
- High School Graduate or GED recipient
- Not currently enrolled in a school or education program
- Other (please describe)

If you are currently enrolled in school, please provide the following:

Current grade level (Spring 2020)

Current School Name and Town (Spring 2020)

Expected Grade level (Fall 2020)

Expected School Name and Town (Fall 2020)

Neighborhood Studios is open to teens with all different backgrounds. In 2020, half of the apprentices chosen will be teens who qualify for free or reduced lunch.

Do you qualify for free or reduced lunch at school?

Yes No

Have you been hired as a Neighborhood Studios apprentice before?

Yes No

If yes, please provide year(s) and Studio name:

Have you held other jobs in the past? (It is not a requirement to have previous work experience)

Yes No

If yes, please be sure to provide the name of employer(s) and your position in the space provided below:

ABSENCE POLICY

Neighborhood Studios requires a commitment of six weeks (June 29 – August 7). Apprentice schedules are generally, Monday through Friday from 9:00am – 4:00pm (check the guidelines above for the times of each studio). This is a paid apprenticeship that should be treated like a job. **Apprentices are allowed ONE excused absence during the six week program, unless there is an emergency.**

Will you be able to attend all scheduled sessions?

Yes No

If no, please describe reason(s) why:

STUDIO SELECTION

Which Studio(s) you are interested in applying for?

If you are only applying to one Studio, please indicate that Studio with an “X” in the box.

If you are applying to more than one Studio, please rank your preferences from #1 to #5 with #1 being your first choice studio.

The Amistad Center for Art & Culture – Snap! Photography

The Artists Collective – Youth Jazz Orchestra

Hartford Stage Company – Breakdancing Shakespeare

The Mark Twain House & Museum – Write to the Point!

Real Art Ways – Eye on Video

TheaterWorks – Making a Scene

TELL US ABOUT YOU!

1) Why do you want to be a Neighborhood Studios apprentice? How does participating in this program fit into your personal interests and goals? **300 words MAXIMUM**

2) What inspires you to create art? **300 words MAXIMUM**

3) List any honors or awards you have received:

4) List extracurricular activities you participate in:

5) List any community service or volunteering you have done:

How did you hear about Neighborhood Studios? Please check all that apply.

- Parent or guardian
- Friend who participated in Neighborhood Studios
- Music, dance, art, theater, English or other school teacher
- School guidance office or career center
- Greater Hartford Arts Council (website, email or social media)
- Internet search
- One of the Neighborhood Studio partners (please check which Studio)
 - The Amistad Center for Art & Culture
 - Artists Collective
 - Hartford Stage Company
 - The Mark Twain House & Museum
 - Real Art Ways
 - TheaterWorks
- Other – Please describe:

REFERENCE

Please provide the name, phone number and email address of one adult, non-family member reference. This can be a teacher, coach, mentor, or another adult who knows your skills and qualities. Be sure to let this adult know you are providing us with their information for a reference.

Name:

Phone Number:

E-mail Address:

How do you know this adult?

ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE

I hereby certify that the statements made by me on this application and the information I have provided in support of such statements are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if I knowingly make any false statements of fact, I am subject to disqualification or dismissal. I hereby authorize the release of information relating to my participation in this program to Neighborhood Studios and its Studio Partners. I also authorize the use of my name, photographs of me/or my artwork, and personal quotes for the purpose of promoting the program and reporting the project to funders. I understand that all work produced at Neighborhood Studios is the property of Neighborhood Studios' Partners and the Greater Hartford Arts Council. Proceeds from the sale of any artwork will go to support the Neighborhood Studios program.

Please type name and date. Applicants invited to audition or interview will be asked to provide signature.

Applicant's Name

Date

Parent or Guardian's Name

Date