



Breaking Down Barriers through Creativity in Community

An opportunity for Baltimore City Public School high school students to work alongside graduate students in the Master of Fine Arts in Community Arts Program to develop innovative arts and social justice based programs with and for community at the Dream House.

These students become part of the new generation of Youth Dreamers, mentored by current Youth Dreamers in college and beyond.

Are you a high school that wants to partner with us?

What do you get?

Up to 14 high school students can be a part of twelve classes in the Fall of 2017 and nine classes in the Spring of 2018. Students can earn service-learning hours for these classes which include:

- Social Justice Curriculum
- Program Planning and Fundraising
- Grantwriting, Evaluation and Sustainability

Classes take place at the Dream House (1430 Carswell Street, Baltimore, MD 21218) on select Mondays (FALL: Sept. 18, 25, Oct. 2, 9, 23, 30, Nov. 13, 20, 27, Dec. 4, 11) from 1:30 to 4:30 (except for Nov. 13th which will be all day). Through the course of the year, students work collaboratively in small teams to come up with a program that can take place at the Dream House the following year based on a needs assessment, research in community, focus groups with students from the nearby schools, and their own lived experiences. Plans are presented to the Board of Directors at the end of the Fall semester, revised, and then finalized. In the Spring semester (DATES TBD), teams create a logic model for their program, write at least one grant, create a diversified funding plan, determine how to evaluate the program, and ultimately create jobs for themselves in the program for the following year.

What do you give?

Partnering high schools must commit to:

- Allowing the students to be released early on the class dates;
- Assisting students in finding a way to get to the Dream House;
- Helping students with their applications to be a part of the program;
- Paying for each student to have a copy of I Am Not a Test Score: Lessons Learned from Dreaming (\$30.00) which is one of the course textbooks.

Interested? Reach out to
Kristina Berdan
youthdreamer@hotmail.com
410-952-7003

THE FINE PRINT ABOUT BOTH PROGRAMS

The **M.F.A in Community Arts (MFACA)** prepares artists to define their art practices as a means of civic engagement, community organizing and development, activism, education and more. Students experience how art and artists help communities articulate their own history, cultural identity, interests and needs---and how community in turn inspires the artist's own creative potential.
Real work with real consequences!

The **Youth Dreamers, Inc.** is a non-profit organization that created the Dream House, the only youth-run youth center in Baltimore. Founded in a middle-school Community Action class fifteen years ago, the Youth Dreamers and their community partners worked tirelessly to find, purchase, and completely renovate an abandoned house at 1430 Carswell St. in the Coldstream-Homestead-Montebello neighborhood. These students had a dream to decrease violence after school among young people by establishing a youth-led space for community, service, and constructive activities. In 2010, the Dream House opened. In 2014, seven Youth Dreamers in high school and college published *I Am Not a Test Score: Lessons Learned from Dreaming*, a nonfiction, how-to book that provides a model for other youth, youth workers and non-profit organizations.