



Breaking Down Barriers through Creativity in Community

Do you want to take graduate level courses with MICA students?

Are you interested in how art can impact community?

Do you have a passion for teaching?

Are you curious about what it means to be part of a youth-led nonprofit?

The **Youth Dreamers, Inc.** and **MICA's MFA in Community Arts Program** have partnered to bring high school students together with graduate students in a year-long course called *Breaking Down Barriers through Creativity in Community*. Together these students take twelve classes in the Fall of 2017 and nine classes in the Spring of 2018 which result in programs at the Dream House and jobs for the 2018-19 school year. High school 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 research in community, focus groups with students from the nearby schools, and their own lived experiences. In the Spring semester, teams create a logic model for their programs, fundraise to make them happen, determine how to evaluate them, and ultimately create jobs for themselves teaching the programs the following year.

NOW do you want to participate? **Has your school agreed to partner to support the program?

If you answered YES! to both of these questions, then apply online TODAY

(<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NGHW7K9>) or email us at youthdreamer@hotmail.com for a hard copy of the application.

****If your school is not partnered, reach out to us to find out how they can! youthdreamer@hotmail.com**

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.