

NHIA

NEW HAMPSHIRE
INSTITUTE OF ART



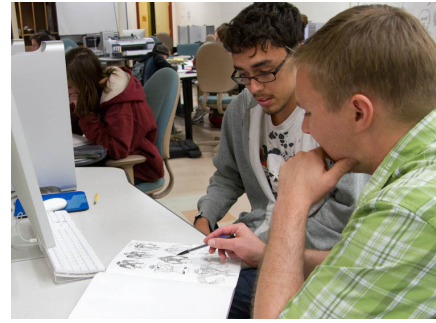
YouthArts

A LABORATORY FOR CREATIVE EXPLORATION

This exciting new initiative of the New Hampshire Institute of Art aims to challenge and inspire teens through active engagement with art, design, and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) activities designed to foster collaboration and develop a student's creative sensibilities.

ROOTS

The New Hampshire Institute of Art's Youth Arts Lab is an evolution of the Student Enrichment Program in the Arts (SEPIA), a partnership of the New Hampshire Institute of Art (NHIA), the Boys & Girls Club of Manchester, and Bring IT! with funding from Granite United Way and Lincoln Financial Foundation. SEPIA's goal was to expand access to after-school arts programming for under-served populations (specifically immigrant, refugee, and low-income families) by placing NHIA's undergraduate and graduate art education students into Manchester School District classrooms.



WHY HERE? WHY NOW?

NHIA's experience with the SEPIA pilot program provided us with valuable insights and experience. It also provided us with the catalyst to develop a much more robust, community-based youth arts experience focused on the needs of Manchester's most at-risk youth population: teens aged 12-18. This is a culturally diverse population with over 57 different languages spoken in the home. It is also a population most vulnerable to the opioid epidemic ravaging our state at an alarming rate.

Given its current budget, the Manchester School District is unable to offer a comprehensive, integrated arts education curriculum to all students at all grade levels. Meanwhile, isolated programs like STEAM Ahead New Hampshire have demonstrated improvements in student academic achievement, but their success has been limited to a handful of schools. In contrast, NHIA's Youth Arts Lab will provide teens throughout Manchester and the surrounding communities we serve the chance to benefit from a hands-on arts education experience. However, it's not just students who will benefit. The Youth Arts Lab will inspire and empower the next generation of teachers by providing them with an opportunity to marry experiential, project-based pedagogical approaches with Common Core and National Core Arts Standards.

WHAT IS YOUTH ARTS?

At NHIA we believe that today's schools require a shift to project-based, collaborative, student-centered models. Moreover, we know that sparking young people's creativity and facilitating experiential learning in the arts has a positive impact in other subject areas, helping teens become better learners and providing them with a broad range of skills. Past studies bear this out, demonstrating that high arts involvement among students from disadvantaged neighborhoods can lead to as much as a 20% increase in college matriculation rates and corresponding increases in employment. (*Catterall, 2009)

NHIA's Youth Arts Lab will provide New Hampshire teens with new creative opportunities in three ways:

- NHIA will offer a diverse array of affordable one- and two-week-long **Youth Arts summer day camps** for New Hampshire teens, with generous scholarship support for those students whose families are unable to pay;
- NHIA will also offer robust **Youth Arts after-school programs** designed for teens and their families in the communities we serve, regardless of ability to pay;
- Finally, NHIA will place undergraduate and graduate art education students as **Youth Arts teaching assistants** in local elementary, junior high, and senior high schools, at no cost to the school district.

SUMMER DAY CAMPS

NHIA's Youth Arts summer program will consist of one- and two-week all-day camps offering discipline-specific (for example: painting, photography, animation, ceramics, printmaking, etc.), project-based (community murals, culinary arts, etc.), and exploratory (3D printing, robotics, game development, etc.) learning. Tuition will be affordably priced, with generous scholarships available to ensure that the camps remain accessible to all students regardless of ability to pay. Camps will emphasize interdisciplinary collaboration, experimentation, and pushing the boundaries of creative exploration.

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

NHIA's Youth Arts after-school program will launch at our new Youth Arts Lab as a two-day per week program in 2017 with plans to expand to five-days per week by the following year. In a unique collaboration with the Boys & Girls Club of Manchester and Granite YMCA, teens who participate in programs at either organization will also have the option of exploring the Youth Arts Lab one or two days per week. The Lab's four fully-equipped teaching studios will allow us to run multiple, concurrent workshops that explore 2D, 3D, and 4D art-making in traditional and digital media.



IN-SCHOOL TEACHING ASSISTANTS

NHIA's Youth Arts Lab takes advantage of the increased number of undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in our new dual-degree Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA)/Master of Arts in Teaching Visual Arts (MAT) program to expand our in-school teaching assistant placement throughout the Manchester School District. NHIA will place art education students with mentors in schools of all types and at all grade levels, so lessons learned in our summer and after-school programs can also be applied in a traditional public school setting.



THE YOUTH ARTS LAB

Everyone needs a home, and NHIA's Youth Arts Lab is no different. In 2012, the New Hampshire Institute of Art acquired the former St. Anne's Church at the corner of Union and Merrimack streets in Manchester to serve as the home of our new Youth Arts Lab. In 2015 NHIA secured \$376,000 from the New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority (CDFFA) that along with additional donations ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000 yielded from appeals to the local corporate and philanthropic community have allowed us to proceed with renovating the 16,500 square-foot facility into our new Youth Arts Lab. We have already upgraded the plumbing, electrical, fire-safety, and heating and cooling systems for the building, however much work remains to be done.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Currently we are raising the final \$300,000 we need to complete the first phase of renovations in time to open the new Youth Arts Lab this summer. We have already received generous donations to support creation of two maker-space studios; during this first phase, other naming opportunities remain available to donors wishing to participate at a leadership level. These include the following opportunities at the \$100,000 level:

- One remaining maker-space studio
- One digital arts studio
- One professional-grade teaching kitchen

Additionally, there are opportunities to name each floor (at \$500,000) as well as the entire Youth Arts Lab (\$1,000,000), that would assure completion of the first and second phases of renovations and transform the former St. Anne's church into a vibrant hub for creative expression in downtown Manchester.

NHIA's Youth Arts Lab is a concrete expression of our belief in the power of the arts to transform lives. It also represents a bold new commitment by the college to the city it calls home. For over 118 years, NHIA has been at the center of Manchester. Today, we believe more passionately than ever that the college's mission—to educate, engage, and empower through the arts—calls on us to actively connect with our community to create a more vibrant, creative, healthy, and economically sustainable Manchester. We ask you to join with us in making that vision a reality.

The New Hampshire Institute of Art (NHIA) is the oldest and largest non-profit arts institution in New Hampshire, founded in 1898 and today offering undergraduate (BFA, Dual Degree BFA/MAT), graduate (MFA, MAAE, MAT), and community education programs (Youth Arts, Pre-College, Community Education, and Professional Development) serving over 2,000 students annually on two campuses in Manchester and Sharon/Peterborough, New Hampshire.

We are a tight-knit community of creative thinkers, artists, designers, writers, and art educators who use the power of our creativity to transform the community around us. We are a haven for students at every stage of their artistic journey, a place where artists can explore possibilities without fear and engage with people and experiences that will shape them and their future.

NHIA is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). NHIA is also a member of the Association of Independent Colleges of Art and Design (AICAD).



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