2020 Diversity in Arts Leadership Program Interns

In 2020, the Diversity in Arts Leadership internship program (DIAL) celebrates 28 years of promoting diversity in the arts administration field and providing college students who have a career interest in arts sector with a hands-on introduction to working in the arts and culture field.

Interns are paired with an arts host organization and a mentor to guide them in their pursuits. Students participate in cultural activities, professional development, site visits and more throughout the summer and stay connected through our alumni network. This program highlights pathways to leadership for a diverse class of future arts and culture decision-makers.

Allie Li (she/her) will be interning with Eyebeam this summer. She is a junior at the University of Texas at Austin, double majoring in Advertising and Studio Art along with a minor in Asian American Studies. Passionate about design, research and data, she seeks to combine these areas to empower and engage communities. Allie was an intern for the Asian Desi Pacific Islander American Coalition (ADPAC) and a designer for Tandem Studio, leading her to see how design affects people and communities with its use and implementation. She currently works with UT Austin’s Center for Asian American Studies as the Digital Media & Marketing intern. Allie’s excited to explore the non-profit arts sector through DIAL and live in New York City, especially all of New York’s museums, food, and bodega cats!

Arlene Arevalo (she/her) will be interning with Americans for the Arts this summer. She is a junior majoring in Literature and minoring in Creative Writing at Duke University. As a musician and writer, she is aware of the power that artistic expression can provide to individuals and is passionate about art accessibility and outreach. At Duke, she plays cello, participates in Duke’s theater company, and is a books editorial intern at Duke University Press, where she is able to work on projects surrounding postcolonial theory, which inform and influence the creative work she produces. The art of storytelling is closest to her because it can manifest itself in different ways; it can not only be expressed through different art forms, but is a collaborative work that brings added value to a product and can empower both those involved and those consuming it. Arlene is incredibly excited to participate in DIAL and gain skills that help her learn how to improve arts accessibility and its potential to further effect change.
Carol Loja (she/her) will be interning with Opening Act this summer. She is a sophomore at The State University of New York at Fredonia majoring in Business Administration-Management with a minor in Arts administration. A proud Ecuadorian-American student, she discovered her passion for the arts in high school and hopes to help expand the representation of traditionally marginalized groups in the arts, particularly in musical theater. When she isn’t working in her school’s ticket office as a ticket agent or volunteering as an usher, she serves as the Treasurer for her school’s brand of Colleges Against Cancer, and is an Executive Board member for her sorority, Sigma Gamma Phi. Carol is beyond thrilled to be participating in DIAL this summer and can’t wait to learn more about the arts and explore the social change the arts can create.

Chayna Yoshida (she/her) will be interning with Creative Time this summer. She is a junior pursuing a degree in Art at the University of Hawaii at Hilo, located in her hometown. Her involvement at the East Hawaii Cultural Center, a local nonprofit arts and cultural center, nurtured her interest in using art within a museum setting to create an inclusive gathering place for communities. She is a member of the Student Art Association, which allows her to encourage creativity in students through her involvement with the Big Island’s annual Young at Art Exhibition. As a member of the Students of Sustainability Club, she participates in sustainable initiatives on campus, which include reducing food waste through composting and minimizing waste at community events. She is inspired by utilizing art activism as a way to create action. Through printmaking, drawing, and painting, Chayna incorporates themes of climate change and other ecological issues to spark conversations for change. She is excited to explore more about what it means to be an activist in a nonprofit arts organization setting through DIAL.
Isaiah Shaw (he/his) will be interning with Sing for Hope this year. He is a sophomore at Oberlin College and Conservatory of Music as a Flute Performance major with a concentration in Arts Administration. He found the value of arts administration while working as an intern for the National Flute Association. His passion for the field grew while working as a library intern with the Richmond Symphony Orchestra. Additionally, he earned fellowships with the Imani Winds and the Sphinx Organization where he learned how imperative it is to establish one’s artistic endeavor as a legacy or a business. At Oberlin, Isaiah is treasurer of two vibrantly active student organizations: Oberlin Flute Association (OFA) and Oberlin College Black Musicians’ Guild (OCBMG). Both organizations are responsible for bringing guest artists, funding campus events, and providing a sense of community. OCBMG is also responsible for various annual Black History Month events that supports a campus-wide initiative to make Black History Month an institutionalized celebration at Oberlin. The ultimate goal of Isaiah’s career is to establish an organization (or a program initiative) that helps underrepresented students create their own career in music and provide them with the skills to succeed in any professional music setting. The goal of the organization is to shift American culture to value art as an integral part of the human experience. Isaiah is excited to learn and grow from AFTA, the host organization, and his mentor this summer.

Julia Lee (she/her) will be interning with MoMA PS1 this summer. She is a junior at the University of California-Berkeley, majoring in Data Science with a concentration in Environment, Resource Management, and Society. She is passionate about sustainable impact and its integration with big data and tech to create social change and movements. Overall, she is constantly driven to open up more doors of accessibility for her local underdeveloped and underserved communities as she works with the Student Environmental Resource Center and volunteers for her university’s not-for-profit, student-run thrift store. On campus, Julia is deeply embedded in the urban dance community, a violinist in her chamber music group, a photographer specialized in portraits and street photography, Yelp Elite member, and a skydiving-certified trainer in the making. As a Connecticut native, she is thrilled to be returning to the East Coast to use her creative outlets, to learn more about leadership in the nonprofit sector, and give back to the city that has pushed, motivated, and shaped her to be the woman she is today.
Kayla Colon (she/her) will be interning with ArtPride New Jersey this summer. She is a sophomore at Vanderbilt University majoring in Sociology, and minoring in Art and Business. Kayla is a proud Afro-Latina Puerto Rican, born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. She has a passion for various modes of visual arts, particularly painting and drawing, and is interested in studying the therapeutic effects of artistic expression. On campus, she is a scholar of the Posse Foundation, which encourages unique leadership and bringing underrepresented groups into socio-political discussions. Kayla, who has danced her whole life, admires the ways in which music has brought people together throughout history. She has interned with the Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy, witnessing the importance of free public programming within this city. In addition, she has enjoyed working with children through having worked for a preschool as well as volunteering for community health activist non-profit organization, Trap Garden in Nashville. Kayla is dedicated to giving back to the families in her home city of New York as well as places around the world, involvement with the arts and nonprofit sector.

Noa Weiss (they/them) will be interning with Dance/NYC this summer. They are junior at Barnard College majoring in Dance and Architecture. They are a dance maker, cultural critic, and unlicensed archivist. Maya has worked with the Trisha Brown Company Archive and the Jerome Robbins Dance Division of New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, and has also written articles for Culturebot and The Brooklyn Rail. On campus, they serve on the board of CoLab, an interdisciplinary performing arts group. In their time at Barnard, Maya has performed works by Doug Varone, chameckilerner, Lucinda Childs, and Adrienne Truscott, among many others. They are thrilled to participate in DIAL this summer.
Nailah Williams (she/her) is interning with MoMA PS1 this summer. She is a senior at Brown University, where she is majoring in Literary Arts. On campus, she is the Musical Director of Brown University’s Brown’sTones a Capella. At the Music Conservatory of Westchester, Nailah guided beginner-intermediate level music theory, vocal lessons, and dance classes during the Summer Music and Arts Program. She also studied abroad at King’s College London, where she gained an appreciation for Jacobean theatre. Being a writer herself, she is passionate about increasing the accessibility of arts enrichment programs. Nailah is excited to be part of the DIAL program and is eager to learn more about nonprofit arts leadership.

Noemi Mangual-Rosa (she/her) is interning with National Academy of Design this summer. She is a senior at Rutgers University - Newark, where she is majoring in Fine Arts with a minor in Art History. A first-generation college student born in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, she completed her Associates of Art at Essex County College with honors and transferred to RU - Newark buoyed by a scholarship funded by the Honors Learning Living Community. In addition to her studies, Noemi is a freelance photographer and early childhood art educator for children ages 3-5 years. Art education has been a prevalent part of her interest in teaching and creating to make the arts more accessible for all. Additionally, she holds positions of leadership on campus as a photographer for her University’s publication Scarlet Magazine as well as the treasurer of her chapter with Omega Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated. As a woman of color, she hopes to be able to be able to inspire other men and women to pursue art careers and diversify the industry. Noemi looks forward to interning with DIAL this summer to expand her network and learn from professionals in her field of interest that can guide her on the path to success in the arts.
Rebekah Boggs (she/her) is interning with NEW INC this summer. She is a senior at University of Virginia where she studies Art History. Originally from Orlando, FL, she is the director of her school’s radio station, WXTJ, and works as a docent at our school’s museum, the Fralin Museum of Art. Last summer, she interned at Franklin Furnace, an avant-garde arts organization committed to supporting and creating a safe space for nontraditional art forms, more specifically, performance art. While there, Rebekah was honored to work alongside artist and founder, Martha Wilson. She is intrigued by most art forms and movements but more recently have been interested in Internet Art and New Media. She is thrilled to have the opportunity to expand her knowledge of the way non-profit artistic organizations operate and to be exposed to a new, diverse body of artists and works. She is also very passionate about fashion and is excited for another summer in New York, where she is constantly inspired by everyone’s style.

Truth Murray Cole (she/her) is interning with Americans for the Arts this summer. She is a senior at Amherst College, where she majors in English. Truth, a Los Angeles native, is a writer who is deeply passionate about creating cultural equity in the arts through education. Her interest in non-profit arts administration stems from her past summer internship at Madison Square Art, a non-profit arts organization that commissions public sculpture. At Madison Square Art, Truth learned about the profound impacts that accessible art can have on communities. Through her experiences as a tutor, Truth understands equitable access to quality education to be both necessary and empowering. As a senior, she worked with an educational institution in western Massachusetts to increase accessibility for students with disabilities. Truth is grateful for the opportunity to intern with DIAL and is excited to explore her passions for youth education, accessibility, and arts administration this summer.