2022 DIAL NYC INTERNS

Tyler Anderson (he/him/any in good faith) is a current third-year student at Slippery Rock University in Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania. As a first-generation student, he began his academic career at the Community College of Allegheny County where he acquired both an associate degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences and a certificate in Digital Design. After matriculating to SRU, Tyler rekindled his life-long passion for dance at the collegiate level, pursuing a double major in Dance and Modern Languages and Cultures (concentration: Professional Spanish). Tyler further explored his queer identity studying Gender Studies, his declared minor, and investigates the ways these three disciplines intersect in both historic and contemporary times. As a member of the Honors College, Tyler is committed to community engagement and most recently translated the entirety of their internal documents from English to Spanish for bilingual students, faculty, and staff to utilize. He also was a member of both the Planning Committee and the Publicity Subcommittee for Art All Night in Pittsburgh last spring, creating digital assets to be distributed on various social media platforms. Tyler thrives off of personal connections and therefore is elated and honored to be part of the 2022 DIAL cohort. He plans on utilizing all skills learned from this summer internship to gain further competency in a career in the arts. Tyler is certain that this opportunity will greatly enhance his professionalism and artistry as well as connect him with likeminded individuals. Tyler will be interning at the School of American Ballet: https://sab.org/

Antonio De La Vega (He/Him) is thrilled to be interning with The New Group (https://thenewgroup.org/) this summer. He is entering his senior year at The New School’s College of Performing Arts where he plans to receive a BFA in Drama, alongside a Master’s in Arts Management in 2024. In his time at The New School thus far, Antonio has directed several student productions, worked alongside the schools Cultural Change Task Force and Equity Inclusion and Social Justice Committee, and is in the process of developing WERQ theatre company, a theatrical collective that will center the narratives of queer and trans artists of color. Prior to moving to New York, Antonio opened his own student-run theatre company, Contra Theatre Company, at the age of 16 in his hometown of Minnetonka, Minnesota. Antonio was impacted by the profound power of theatrical storytelling from an early age and was set on becoming an actor for many years. But he found that his passion for leadership and commitment to making space for marginalized voices would be best serviced by pursuing a career in arts management and creative leadership. He cannot wait to continue to develop and hone his skills as a leader and change-maker with DIAL and The New Group this summer and would like to thank his family for their support throughout all his artistic endeavors.
Daisy Friedman (she/her) is a freshman at the University of California, Los Angeles majoring in Film and Television with a minor in Disability Studies. As a medically-complex filmmaker, playwright, actor, and poet, Daisy uses her artistry to explore the complex relationship between embodiment, disfigurement, and desirability of sick and disabled communities. Daisy is working with the Representation Project to conduct research for an upcoming feature-length documentary film about the vulnerability of the transmasculine youth community in the United States. At UCLA, Daisy serves as a staff writer for Ha’am, UCLA’s Jewish Newsmagazine, conducts independent research about the representations of disabled female sexuality in both foreign and domestic film and serves as the Film Production Manager for her film fraternity, Delta Kappa Alpha. She is a 2020 National Scholastic Award and American Voices Award winner in Poetry. Currently, Daisy is in pre-production for her first short film, Come As You Are, about an interabled queer couple who come to terms with their fears of intimacy when they spend the night together for the first time. Through her arts and advocacy, Daisy wants to create work that not only offers diverse representations of different communities but helps people imagine transgressive possibilities for the formulation of their identity. She’s thrilled to get to further her knowledge of artistic non-profits and administrative work with the other members of her cohort through DIAL this summer. Daisy will be interning at Arts Business Collaborative this summer: https://www.artsbusinesscollaborative.org/.

Sumin Hwang (she/her) is a recent graduate from Rice University with degrees in Art History and Visual Art. As an artist and a learner, she is centrally interested in the relationship between personal and collective memory - what survives and what falls to the margins, how these two archives are informed by sociopolitics and histories of both joy and violence. She is interested in cultural diversity and accessibility because of the potential art has to serve as a crucial site of interpersonal and communal acknowledgment, reckoning, and healing. Since 2018, she has been involved in a variety of curatorial, programmatic, and administrative initiatives at institutions such as the Sleepy Cyborg Gallery, Lawndale Art Center, the Moody Center for the Arts, The Houston Printing Museum, and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. She is deeply rooted in all the places she has known home: Houston, TX, San Diego, CA, and the Korean peninsula. Her collective approach to arts organizing and artmaking is largely influenced by each site’s specific rhythms and community structures. Sumin is excited to work with everyone involved with DIAL in New York City this summer and to witness how immersion in New York’s arts communities influences both her approaches to arts organizing and studio practice. Sumin will be interning with the Harlem Arts Foundation this summer.
Brandon Karagozian (he/they) will be interning with Creative Time this summer (https://creativetime.org/) . He is a sophomore at Pomona College majoring in Public Policy Analysis with a concentration in Gender and Women’s Studies with a minor in Dance Performance. Coming from a first-generation, low-income, and latine community, Brandon’s passion for arts began at the age of 15 when he enrolled in his first ballet class— an experience that would inspire Brandon to end the barriers marginalized communities face when pursuing an arts-focused field. At Pomona, Brandon serves as the treasurer for the Latinx Association, Executive Assistant for the First-Generation Low-Income Student Organization, and serves on the Equity and Inclusion chair committee. Brandon previously combined his interests in arts advocacy by working with CONTRA-TIEMPO, a Los Angeles-based activist dance theater, to remain possibilities through movement. Brandon strives to one day eradicate the barriers that inhibit marginalized communities from pursuing the arts in an equitable and inclusive manner, and to work within the legal sector to promote art policy.

Jazzmin Imani Cox-Cáceres (she/her) will be interning with NEW INC this summer (https://www.newinc.org/) . She is a rising senior at Brown University studying Visual Arts and Psychology. Jazzmin is especially interested in the connection between these two fields and their potential to improve quality of life and mental well-being. Jazzmin’s artwork focuses on uplifting women of the African and LatinX diasporas by illustrating their experiences and honoring their heritage. Her work has amassed several regional and national awards, most recently as a finalist for the 2021 AXA Art prize. In 2019, she wrote, illustrated, and self-published a children’s book, When Art is Loved, teaches children about the importance of museums, representation, and love in the arts. After teaching a painting class, leading workshops centered around her book, and working with the RISD Museum, Jazzmin is looking forward to further exploring the intersection of her interests with the help of AFTA and DIAL this summer.
Gladys Mbugua (she/her) will be interning with Independent Curators International this summer (https://curatorsintl.org/). She is a recent graduate of Mount Holyoke College where she majored in Architectural Studies and minored in Human Geography with a focus in city processes. Prior to the DIAL summer program, she has taken on a variety of arts roles ranging from curatorial, programs, and gallery positions as well. She is most passionate about work that centers around diversity and community. Her specific interests in arts administration lies in civic engagement and public art. Focusing on the activating public art in Easthampton, Massachusetts, her research understands public art as urban planning. Gladys hopes to work with communities and municipalities to promote public art initiatives that define and represent city landscapes. She is thrilled to be participating in DIAL this summer and hopes to gain more experience engaging with diverse communities through public art.

Melanie Millo (she/her) will be interning with the Jazz Foundation of America this summer (https://jazzfoundation.org/). She is a junior at Florida State University studying Music Therapy with a minor in Music Entrepreneurship. Raised in the heart of Miami in Little Havana, Melanie’s passion for the arts originated from witnessing the transformative role music played in breaking generational cycles within her community. Through her music therapy studies, Melanie regularly engages with the Tallahassee community in schools and senior-living centers. On campus, her musical contributions include performing with the University Wind Ensemble, World-Renowned Marching Chiefs, and Balinese Gamelan Ensemble. Melanie is a proud member of Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity, Alpha Mu Alpha Music Therapy Organization, and the College of Music Board of Advisors. Currently, Melanie serves as a Marketing Associate at the FSU College of Music and as a college representative for Universal Music Group’s creative solutions team, °1824. Melanie has previously interned for Interlochen Center for the Arts as well as the Boulanger Initiative, where she advocated for music composed by women and all gender marginalized composers. On her own time, she can be found trying new vegan foods, traveling, running, and listening to reggaetón. Melanie is eager to continue exploring solutions for increasing cultural equity in the arts sector with her DIAL cohort in New York City.
Rosa Schembari (she/her) is a senior at Fordham University Lincoln Center, in Manhattan, studying New Media Digital Design, with double minors in Visual Arts and Marketing. She has loved living in New York for the past four years and being immersed in such a diverse community of artists. She is interested in exploring the positive effects art can have in our lives as well as the promotion of accessible art and arts education. In the fall, Rosa interned with Art on the Ave, a nonprofit arts organization which puts the work of local underrepresented artists in storefronts vacated from the pandemic. She is currently interning with The Whitney Museum for the spring semester. She is involved on campus as a part of the orientation and senior week committees and was a work study student in the Student Involvement and Affairs Office. She is a member of Fordham’s ballet club, The Fordham Jetes, and enjoys tap, jazz, modern, and contemporary dance. Rosa is very excited to be a part of DIAL’s 2022 cohort and cannot wait to learn from both her arts host organization and the DIAL community. Rosa will be interning with the Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation this summer: https://www.alvinailey.org/.

Erin Simmonds (she/they) is a sophomore Women’s Studies Major at Spelman College. She is a writer, dancer and aspiring musician from Brooklyn, New York. Through her experiences as an intern at the Yes She Can Campaign and watching the experiences of other black women, including her peers, she found a passion for activism and community building. Well versed in several art forms, she hopes to use her unique point of view to create more diverse and inclusive spaces. Erin will be interning with DANCE/NYC this summer: https://www.dance.nyc/.
Victoria Thomas (she/her) will be interning with the National Academy of Design this summer (https://nationalacademy.org/). She is a freshman at Amherst College majoring in Film and Media Studies. In her academics, she centers Blackness, queerness, and womanhood, constantly searching for innovative ways to connect different fields and mediums to each other. Victoria has prioritized artistic expression since her childhood and continues to share her creative endeavors publicly through social media. She is especially interested in creative writing, as well as photography and digital media. As a writer, Victoria’s work centers the experience of Black, queer adolescence. She hopes to use her voice to advocate for equity and equality for marginalized people, specifically in creative spaces. As a Black lesbian woman Victoria is dedicated to achieving social justice through the arts, organizational work, and productive action within her smaller communities. In June of 2020 she co-founded Black Students Demanding Change, an organization through which she deepened her passion for activism and developed her skills in advocacy and organizational management. In her future, Victoria hopes to uplift voices of marginalized creatives and help them spread their message to a wider audience. She is eager to apply her skills to the DIAL program this summer and expand her knowledge on arts management as a tool for activism and creativity.