

A Queens College School of Arts Initiative

ARTS LEADERSHIP BOOTCAMP

Impact Report





PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Introduction

The Arts Leadership Bootcamp at the Queens College School of Arts equips students from the City University of New York (CUNY) system with essential skills to succeed in the arts and cultural sector. Launched in 2023, the program provides **free career training** to students citywide across all CUNY campuses.

Since its inception, the bootcamp has focused on **arts leadership** by equipping students with skills in **administration and entrepreneurship** to expand their artistry and build sustainable futures. Over the past four years, this program has **shaped careers, fostered industry connections,** and **expanded opportunities** for students, alumni, and the broader arts community.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The Arts Leadership Bootcamp aims to:

- Equip students with practical knowledge in arts administration, leadership, and entrepreneurship.
- Expand access to professional development for CUNY students across arts disciplines.
- Facilitate networking & mentorship with industry professionals.
- Promote diversity in arts leadership, ensuring equitable career opportunities.

Through hands-on learning, expert discussions, and peer collaboration, the bootcamp develops the next generation of cultural leaders, leading them to advance in NYC arts organizations, create businesses and nonprofits, and pursue graduate studies.



BY THE NUMBERS: 2023-2026 IMPACT

85+

Students trained, gaining direct insights into arts management and career development.

35+

Partner organizations engaged, providing mentorship, networking, and career opportunities.

90+

Industry professionals invited as speakers, panelists, and mentors.

45+

Workshops and activities, covering arts business, self-promotion, branding, and more.

96%

Of all bootcampers reported the program **met or surpassed their expectations.**

100%

Of all students want to **stay engaged with the School of Arts post-bootcamp.**



Arts Leadership Bootcamp Topics



Pitch Your Art

Crafting and delivering a compelling pitch.



Arts Business

Balancing creativity with strategic management.



Intro to Arts Administration

Exploring careers and creative paths.



Social Media & Branding

Maximizing online presence in the arts.



Focusing Your Career

Defining goals and accelerating professional growth.



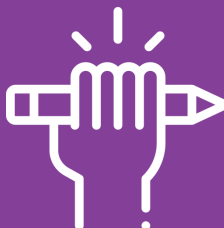
Selling Your Art

Strategies to market and monetize creativity.



Freelance Arts Careers

Building sustainable and independent creative work.



Storytelling in the Arts

Crafting narratives across artistic mediums.



There is a Portal

Art as a catalyst for inner transformation.



Multidisciplinary Arts

Creating across multiple artistic disciplines.



Arts and Advocacy

Driving social change through the arts.



Lessons in Arts Leadership

Leadership insights from arts executives.



Multihyphenate Arts Careers

Navigating cross-disciplinary creative careers.



DEI & Accessibility

Advancing equity and inclusion in the arts.

Strategic Relations and Partnerships

Our guest experts and partners have shared invaluable insight, shaped by their expertise in the arts, culture, and creative industries. These strategic partnerships span a wide range of organizations across New York's nonprofit and professional sectors, including:

- Alisan Fine Arts's New York Gallery
- Artivista Productions
- Asian-Polynesian Jazz Orchestra
- Beautymarked iLLy
- Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance.
- CarNYval Dancers
- Claudia Norman Management LLC
- CNM Management
- CUNY Arts
- CUNY Central
- CUNY Cultural Corps
- CUNY Dance Initiative
- CUNY Mexican Studies Institute
- Culture Lab LIC
- Dance/NYC
- Fat'n'Fancy Ensemble
- Find Your Light Foundation
- Godwin-Ternbach Museum
- Gritty Vibes Studios
- Hercules New York
- In.Corpus
- Jamaica Center for Arts and Learning
- Kupferberg Center for the Arts
- LaGuardia Community College
- Los Amigos Invisibles
- Louis Armstrong House Museum & Archives
- Mile Square Theatre
- MRM//McCann
- New York City Children's Theater
- New York Foundation for the Arts
- One Horizon
- Planet Bronx Productions
- Queens Borough Public Library
- Queens Museum
- Queens Rising
- Queens Theatre
- Queensboro Dance Festival
- Queensborough Community College
- Rhythm of the Arts
- Sonidorama
- SORI Artists
- Sotheby's Institute of Art
- Suzanne Randolph Fine Arts
- The Flea Theater
- The Garage Art Center
- The New School
- The Physical Plant
- Tienda
- WeLevitate
- York College



Success Stories & Testimonials



Silvia Mihai '25

Seized the opportunity to become the **Queens College Presidential Suite Art Competition winner** and an inaugural **Macquarie Group's Community Art Gallery artist**.



Dawn DeVito '23

Leveraged her experience to become the **Director of Events and Marketing** at the **Culture Lab LIC**.



Dexter Stanley-Tauvao '23

Founded the **Asia-Pacific Jazz Orchestra**.

Student Testimonials:

"This program helped ease many of my doubts about building a sustainable career in the arts. I left feeling inspired and with meaningful connections."

- Diamond Argei '26.

"My classmate always recommended the Arts Leadership Bootcamp, and now I understand the excitement. I am not the same artist and leader after this invaluable experience."

- Erlinda Castro '25.

"From the panelists and workshops to the amazing friends I made, the experience was all priceless! This bootcamp has drastically changed my life—deepening my connection to the arts and navigating my career."

- HE Mandiv '24.

"This weekend gave me powerful insight from artists doing the work I aspire to do. I'm leaving inspired to continue my own journey—alongside a new community of creative peers."

- Sergio Monterroso '23.

Presenter Testimonials:

"The School of Arts' dedication to furthering these students' lives is inspiring and fills me with hope. Gone are the days of the 'struggling artist' - cheers to the thriving arts leaders to come!"

- Allison Bedell, Choreographer and Creative Director.

"I am always impressed by the talent, dedication, and creativity of the Bootcamp students! Engaging with them was inspiring and humbling, and I thoroughly enjoyed the experience."

- Jane Cho, Director of Administration at Sotheby's Institute of Art.

"The Arts Leadership Bootcamp is truly a model for every arts institution- an extraordinary opportunity to engage, mentor, and be inspired by the next generation of creative leaders"

- Leonard Jacobs, Executive Director at Jamaica Center for Arts and Learning.

"It's amazing to see students engaging with leading experts and networking. This program isn't just about gaining knowledge—it empowers them to leave with invaluable connections."

- Whitney Browne, Arts and Culture Photographer.





NEXT STEPS

- **Expand reach** to engage **more CUNY students and institutions**.
- **Fundraise** to make this program **self-sustaining**.
- **Strengthen partnerships** with arts organizations.
- **Increase professional opportunities** for bootcamp participants and alumni.
- **Enhance resources** for career coaching, networking, and program materials.

The Arts Leadership Bootcamp cultivates visionary arts leaders, equipping them with the skills, connections, and confidence **to shape the cultural landscape of New York City and beyond**.