

THE ALLIANCE

FOR MEDIA ARTS + CULTURE

YOUTH MEDIA INITIATIVE 2019

FAQ

What do we mean when we say “youth media”?

We draw our definition of youth media from [“State of the Youth Media Field Report” by Ingrid Hu Dahl, 2009](#). While much has changed in media over the decade since its publication, Dahl’s report outlines a responsive and adaptive framework for understanding youth media. This includes an articulation that youth media

- uses media as a tool and strategy to examine ourselves / our communities / our world,
- tackles sensitive and authentic personal and political issues,
- engages youth and their intersecting communities, and
- provides youth with practical, hands-on experience in media and technology.

This expansive definition still holds today.

What do we mean when we say “youth media practitioner”?

We define youth media practitioners as anyone who studies, teaches, creates, and / or makes using the tenants of youth media outlined above. This includes young people, teaching artists, program managers, and executive directors from settings such as community media centers, libraries, radio stations, newsrooms, schools and universities, youth centers, public housing, and museums on topics including (but not limited to) film production, media / digital literacy, music making, spoken word / poetry, cartooning / illustration, storytelling, photography, app development / coding, and journalism.

What do we mean when we say “intergenerational co-creation”?

Intergenerational co-creating is creating something together with people of different ages in a manner that treats everyone as peers. It includes setting aside pride, ego, and/or lack of confidence in order to work together. It is a constant cycle of building ideas together, teaching and learning from each other, and producing art / work that has pieces of all creators sewn into it. Finally, it requires a certain amount of self-awareness and self-consciousness to not get trapped in old patterns of age hierarchy.

A key nuance between intergenerational collaboration and intergenerational co-creation is co-creation centers the creative process with a focus on making something. Not all intergenerational collaboration is co-creative, but all intergenerational co-creation is collaborative.

For more information, please read "[The Issue of Creating Across Generations](#)" by Myah Overstreet + Jason Wyman.

What do we mean when we say "emerging practice"?

An emerging practice is a self-reported state of being or action taken by a practitioner that has not been independently tested or evaluated. Emerging practices help identify and articulate the processes coming into being and indicate where else to look for further study or investigation.

An example of an emerging practice is to "use objects to tell collective, expansive, silly stories that push imagination and comfort".

What do we mean when we say "Video Roundtable"?

At the Alliance for Media Arts + Culture, a Video Roundtable is a gathering of people online, using the [zoom.us](#) platform. We use Video Roundtables to bring people together to share ideas, stories and projects, and collaborate on pressing issues in Media Arts + Culture.

For our Youth Media program, Senior Producer Jason Wyman has developed a specific 90-minute format that engages youth media practitioners across geography, identity, and age in sharing personal stories that deepen understanding and increase synergy among members / member organizations.

What do we mean when we say "Collective Action"?

Inspired by the Collective Impact movement, we see Youth Media Collective Action as a pathway to an inclusive, peer-driven national youth media community with diverse practices and a set of shared goals and values. The Youth Media Collective Action Initiative works to align a network of youth media organizations across the country to identify shared goals, pedagogy, practices, and new approaches to creating art, change and impact.

What is *The Issue*?

The Issue is an arts + culture magazine from The Alliance Youth Media Initiative, designed to inspire a future where we all belong. It is a model of intergenerational co-creation and mutual reciprocity, where diverse voices are artfully represented and joyfully celebrated.

For more information, please read, "[What is The Issue?](#)" by Myah Overstreet and Jason Wyman.

How did all of this start?

Please read "[Youth Media, Collective Action, and the Future](#)" by Wendy Levy, Myah Overstreet, Jason Wyman