



Evaluation Summary 2020-21

On March 17, 2020, we shutdown our physical campus, began working remotely, and our program staff immediately pivoted to design and deliver online workshops. We expanded our ancillary social services in response to the crisis: loaning computers, software, cameras, and art materials; assisting families in accessing free Internet; providing food to families who no longer had a working adult in the household; and linking youth to free mental health services.

Early on, we could see zoom-fatigue growing and recognized that it was a pale substitute for in-person learning and creating. After very careful consideration we opened our Summer Media Arts Camp (that included both remote and in-person workshops) in July 2020, creating classrooms by reconfiguring our gallery and tenting our parking lot to accommodate social distancing. In the fall we offered a hybrid schedule—half remote/half in-person for all students. We offered a fully in-person workshop schedule in Spring and Summer 2021, and are planning the same for Fall 2021. We continue to use zoom for our creative career panels and college mentoring activities.

Given the abrupt shutdown in March 2020, and cancellation of some workshops, we were not able to administer the survey for 2019-20. Our 2020-21 data showed just how much the students valued their classes and the learning experience, despite pandemic restrictions. Creativity and Artistic Knowledge greatly exceeded previous years.

Evaluation Results:

Creativity: 90% of our students learned how to creatively express personal ideas/feelings.

Storytelling: 82% of students learned how to tell a story through media.

Artistic Knowledge: 92% of students learned design, composition and style; 84% of students learned how to present their work and respectfully critique others.

Technical Skills: 84% mastered the majority of the technical skills required for their medium. (All the skills for each medium are tracked individually for each class.)

Media Literacy: 81% learned about the historic and current artists within their discipline.

Mentoring plays a key role in our workshops, and is critical to their success. 99% of students said that all Venice Arts students treat each other with respect, and 100% said that they felt supported and respected by their Teaching Artists and Mentors.

In Our Students' Own Words:

"Venice Arts has affected both my life and the way I create art. I have learned new skills that I can use in my art and I have overall grown more confident in my work." – Katherine, 16

"The tools we use in the class not a lot of people get to use ever in their lives so I think that it is really cool that we have a chance to experience that." – Evon, 16

"I can now use a camera and this could also be part of my career if I choose... It has affected me to the point where I can see myself teaching other people how to use cameras." – Isaac, 13

"Being at Venice Arts has allowed me to expand my creative mindset and helped me step out of my comfort zone through photography. I was granted trips to the Grand Canyon and Miami for YoungArts because of Venice Arts. I was able to have my work displayed at galleries such as PhotoVille and PhotoLA." – Kayla, 17

How We Evaluate:

To measure arts learning impact, we annually conduct a formal survey based on learning objectives in relation to our core curriculum customized (age & subject) for each workshop series. Results are tabulated and summarized first by workshop, providing meaningful data on the success of each Teaching Artist and their curriculum.

The learning objectives in our sequential arts education workshops are underpinned by **5 Learning Pillars: Creativity, Storytelling, Artistic Knowledge, Technical Skills, and Media Literacy**. Each Pillar supports proficient to advanced learning, and directly aligns with Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Media Arts Standards and California Visual and Performance Arts Content Standards. We also track our students' accomplishments, including college scholarships, awards, and internships.

Annually, we implement a formal survey based on learning objectives in relation to our core curriculum, customized (age & subject) for each workshop series. Quantitative data is obtained using a 6-point Likert scale evaluation instrument: **1: No learning, 2: A Little Bit, 3: Some, 4: Quite A Bit, 5: A Lot, 6: Not Sure**. "Learning" was established based on answering **Quite A Bit** or **A Lot**, and was further considered proficient or advanced.

The Art Mentoring program evaluations were administered in spring 2021 on the final class of each 24-week workshop via Google Forms, online. Results were tabulated and summarized first by workshop, providing meaningful data on the success of each Teaching Artist and their curriculum. Program-wide results were then combined and tabulated by each learning pillar.