

Venice Arts Post Program Survey Report

Executive Summary

"I am currently pursuing film as a major, with a specialization in editing, and I want to thank Venice Arts for giving me the opportunity to really develop that interest, and to help me pursue it as a major, and potentially a career."

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Background

For 25 years, *Venice Arts'* Art Mentoring & Education program has provided thousands of low-income youth with a free, year-round media-based arts education, using a teaching model that couples substantive, sequenced arts learning with close mentoring and support. *Venice Arts* also has a long history of offering a rigorous *Advanced Studies* program and college and creative career development activities that are now organized through its *Creative Pathways* program.

With funding support from the California Arts Council, in 2017 *Venice Arts* engaged Gary Bess Associates to design and analyze a retrospective survey. The survey asked respondents about participation in *Venice Arts*, educational attainment goals, volunteerism, quality of life, and reflections from respondents on how *Venice Arts* may have impacted their lives. A survey link was sent to over 516 former participant or parent/guardian emails and embedded in social media messaging, and was completed by 38 former participants ages 18 to 35.

While the number of respondents was low, their demographic and participation profiles closely mirror the larger pool to whom the survey was sent. Most were multi-ethnic, predominantly Latino (65.8%). Almost 70% of respondents were a first-generation American citizen/resident. More than one-half (54.3%) of respondents were living with their mother only when they first started at *Venice Arts* and 51.5% with at least one (1) parent who did not graduate high school.

Respondents' participation at *Venice Arts* ranged from one (1) month to 15 years, with approximately one-third participating for at least five (5) years. Most (91.4%) participated in one or more advanced activities, approximately two-thirds (68.6%) received 1:1 mentoring, and approximately one-half received college preparatory support (48.6%) or support for competitions, festivals, and awards (54.3%).

In undertaking this study, *Venice Arts* had two (2) key questions about impact: (1) *Do its programs result in participants going to college, or in other, post-secondary educational outcomes?*; and (2) *Are former participants more engaged in creative sector work than peers from similar backgrounds?* Data highlights include:

College Participation

⇒ All but one (1) of the respondents (97.3%) anticipated attending college, had attended college, was in college, or had attained a degree.



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- ⇒ Of respondents 21 years of age or older, 84.6% have a bachelor's degree. By comparison, a meta-analysis conducted by Catterall¹ found that only 17% of youth with a similar profile had earned a bachelor's degree.
- ⇒ Of respondents 21 years of age or older who had been living with one (1) parent when they first starting coming to *Venice Arts*, all (100%) had at least a bachelor's degree. This is of interest because research shows college completion rates are less than 15% for children from single parent families, as compared with nearing 40% for children from two (2) parent families.²

College Participation

- ⇒ Of respondents with a four-year degree: 1) 41.7% had a degree related to the arts; and 2) 83.3 % planned to attend graduate school in the near future, with 100% of current attendees (that were also recent bachelor's degree graduates) planning to graduate within four (4) years. This is of note because Baum and Steele (2017)³ found that 39% of individuals attaining a bachelor's degree enrolled in graduate school within four years of attaining their bachelor's degree.

Interning/Working in Creative Sectors

- ⇒ More than one-third of respondents reported they had interned or worked in creative sectors, and of the current working respondents (18, or 56.3% in all), just over half were in a career position or in a job that would allow them to explore a career path.

Respondents Perceptions of Impact

- ⇒ Respondents were asked to share their perceptions of how Venice Arts had impacted their life. Their written responses reflected across three, primary themes: (1) Venice Arts provided the opportunity to learn/gain knowledge in the arts: "*VA encouraged me to make work, as well as supported healthy creative expression.*" (2) Participation led to a future in the arts (art school, art careers): "*I discovered my love for animation, and I've met great people who have supported my goals, and who still continue to support me.*" (3) Relationships formed at Venice Arts were important to their overall experience: "*Amazing mentors. I felt seen and heard.*" Many of these findings are also similar to data from *Venice Arts'* two-year impact study (2004-06) that looked at arts learning and self-efficacy, sense of community, and the impact of the mentoring relationship.

The full report that follows elaborates on this summary, and provides a more detailed demographic profile of respondents and their families.

¹Catterall, J.S., Dumais, S.A., & Hampden-Thompson, G. (2012). The arts and achievement in at-risk youth: Findings from four longitudinal Studies. National Endowment of the Arts. Research Report, 55.

²Ziol-Guest, K.M., Duncan, G.J., & Kalil, A. (2015). One-parent students leave school earlier: educational attainment gap widens. *Education Next*, Spring 2015.

³Baum, S. & Steele, P. (2017). Who goes to graduate school and who succeeds? *Access Group* and *Urban Institute*.



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"Through Venice Arts, I learned how much I love to take photographs. I mostly did film photography, and I practice it every day. I learned how to work with groups, and develop themed projects that truly reflected how I see the world."

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This report presents findings from a on-line survey completed by 38 former *Venice Arts* program participants.¹ The survey, developed in tandem between Venice Arts and the evaluator, Gary Bess Associates, and based upon lines of inquiry of other studies assessing the impacts of arts programs² queried respondents about their participation in *Venice Arts*' programs, educational attainment, educational attainment goals, employment, volunteerism and community service experiences, quality of life, and the impact of *Venice Arts* on their life. Descriptive data on respondents were also obtained.

Profiling Respondents

Two-thirds (65.8%) of respondents were 21 years of age or younger, with 7.9% being over the age of 30 (N=38). Sixty percent (60.5%) of respondents were female and 39.5% were male (N=38). Almost 70% (68.4%) of respondents reported that they were a first-generation American citizen/resident (N=38). Respondent's race/ethnicity is reported in Figure 1.³ Almost two-thirds (65.8%) of respondents reported at least one (1) of their races/ethnicities as Hispanic/Latino (N=38).

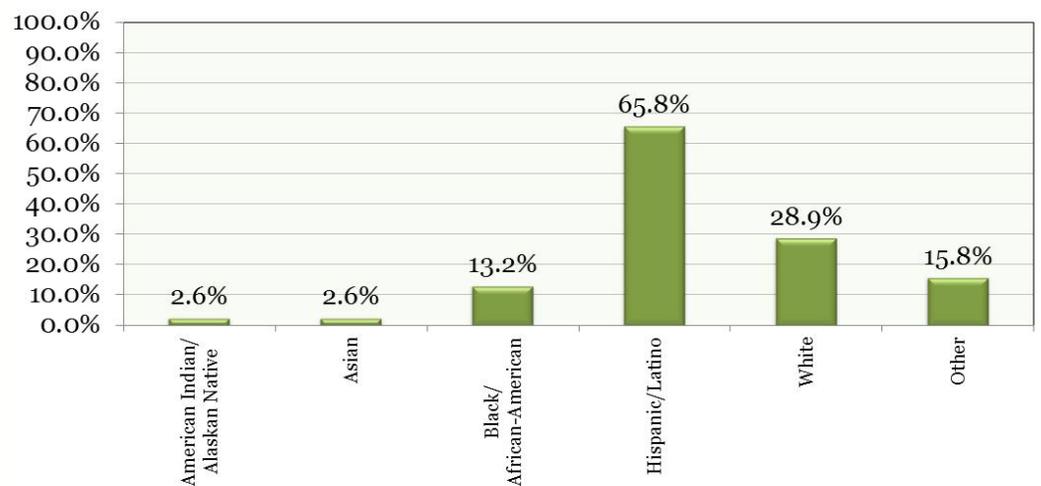


Figure 1: Race/Ethnicity of Respondents

¹Links to the on-line survey were sent to 516 emails of former *Venice Arts* participants and parents/guardians of Venice Arts program participants over the age of 18.

²Studies: Education Longitudinal Study of 2002; National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997; National Education Longitudinal Study of 1998.

³Total is more than 100% because respondents could chose more than one (1) race/ethnicity.



Respondents were asked to reflect on whom they lived with when they first started participating in *Venice Arts*. The percentage of respondents for each household member(s) they lived with is reported in Table 1 (N=35). More than 90% of respondents reported that when they first started participating in *Venice Arts*, they lived with their mother. Forty-six percent (45.7%) of respondents reported that they lived with their mother and father.⁴ The total percentage in the table is greater than 100% because respondents could select more than relative/non-relative. On average (mean), respondents were living with almost three (3) other relatives (2.74) they first started participating in *Venice Arts*.

Table 1: Respondents' Household Make-up While At *Venice Arts*

Household Member	Percentage of Respondents	Household Member	Percentage of Respondents
Mother(s)	94.3%	Sister(s) (including stepsister(s) or half-sister(s))	57.1%
Other female guardian(s) (stepmother or foster mother)	2.9%	Brother(s) (including stepbrother(s) or half-brother(s))	48.6%
Father(s)	45.7%	Grandparent(s)	11.4%
Other male guardian(s) (stepfather or foster	8.6%	Other relative(s) (children or adults)	5.7%

Respondents were asked to reflect on how far their parent(s)/guardian(s) had gone in school when they first started participating in *Venice Arts*. The percentage of respondents for each level of educational attained by respondents' parent(s)/guardian(s) is reported in Table 2 (N=33). One-half (51.5%) of respondents reported that at least one (1) parent had NOT finished high school.⁵

Table 2: Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Highest Level of Education While Respondent Was At *Venice Arts*

Highest Level of Attained By Parent(s)/Guardian(s)	Percentage of Respondents	Highest Level of Attained By Parent(s)/Guardian(s)	Percentage of Respondents
At Least One (1) Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Highest Level of Education Was Attending Vocational School, Community College, or Another Type of Two-Year School	24.2%	At Least One (1) Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Highest Level of Education Was Graduating From a Four-Year College	18.2%
At Least One (1) Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Highest Level of Education Was Attending College AND NOT Graduating	39.4%	At Least One (1) Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Highest Level of Education Was Graduating With a Master's Degree or Equivalent	9.1%
At Least One (1) Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Highest Level of Education Was NOT Finishing High School	51.5%	At Least One (1) Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Highest Level of Education Was Graduating With a Ph.D., M.D., or Other Advanced Professional	9.1%
At Least One (1) Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Highest Level of Education Was Graduating High School or Equivalent (GED)	42.4%	At Least One (1) Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Highest Level of Education Was Attending a Four-Year College AND NOT Graduating	18.2%

⁴This is of interest because research has shown that the gap in rates of college completion is much higher for children from two (2) parent families (nearing 40% in 2008) compared with children from single parent families (less than 15% in 2008). It should be noted, of the participants that were at least 21 years of age and who had been living with one (1) natural parent when they first starting coming to *Venice Arts*, all seven (7) had at least graduated with a bachelor's degree.

Source: Ziol-Guest, K.M. , Duncan, G.J., & Kalil, A. (2015). One-parent students leave school earlier: educational attainment gap widens. *Education Next*, Spring 2015.

⁵This is of interest because research has shown that about one-third of children of parents that have less than a high school education enroll in college immediately after finishing high school.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Students Whose Parents Did Not Go to College: Postsecondary Access, Persistence, and Attainment*, NCES 2001-126, by Susan Choy. Washington, DC: 2001.

Survey Findings

The mean (average) age of respondents when they first started participating in *Venice Arts* was 13.47, with the youngest being six (6) and the oldest, 18 (N=36). Almost 60% (58.3%) of respondents were between 14 to 18 years of age when they started attending *Venice Arts*. The length of time respondents reported participating in *Venice Arts* ranged from approximately one (1) month to approximately 15 years, with one-third (34.2%) of respondents having participated for at least five (5) years (N=38). One-half (50.0%) of respondents participated in *Venice Arts* prior to 2012 (N=36).

Respondents were asked to identify the programs/activities/opportunities in which they participated while at *Venice Arts*. The percentage of respondents for each program/activity/opportunity is reported in Table 3 (N=35) . The total percentage in the table is greater than 100% because respondents could select more than one program/activity/opportunity. The mean number of programs/activities/opportunities in which respondents participated while at *Venice Arts* was 4.40, with the maximum number, eight (8).

Table 3: Programs/Activities/Opportunities Respondents Participated In While At *Venice Arts*

Program/Activity/Opportunity	Percentage	Program/Activity/Opportunity	Percentage
Advanced programs in photography or film	91.4%	Received 1:1 Mentoring or Support	68.6%
Interned at <i>Venice Arts</i>	57.1%	Attended College Prep Workshops	48.6%
Interned Outside of <i>Venice Arts</i>	20.0%	Attended "Creative Career" Panels	22.9%
Exhibited or Screened Art Outside of <i>Venice Arts</i>	57.1%	Participated In National Portfolio Days	20.0%
Received Support to Submit Art to Competitions, Festivals, or Awards	54.3%		

Respondents were asked to indicate how far they had gone in school. The percentage of respondents for each level of education is reported in Table 4 (N=33). Controlling for age, all (100%) respondents over the age of 21 have attended college, with 76.9% having graduated from a four-year college and 7.7% having graduated with a Ph.D., M.D., or other advanced professional degree. This is of note, because in a meta-analysis conducted by Catterall et al. (2012), 71% of high schoolers with low socioeconomic status who had an intensive arts background attended college and 27% of high schoolers with low socioeconomic status who had an intensive arts background earned a bachelor's degree.⁶ Additionally, all but one (1) of the respondents (97.3%) anticipated attending college, had attended college, was in college, or had attained a degree.

Table 4: Highest Level of Education

Level of Education	Percentage	Level of Education	Percentage
Did NOT Finish High School (includes respondents still in high school)	9.1%	Graduated From Two-Year College	3.0%
Graduated From High School or Equivalent	24.2%	Graduated From Four-Year College	36.4%
Attended a Vocational School, Community	9.1%	Master's Degree or Equivalent	0.0%
Went to College AND Did NOT Complete a Four-Year Degree	15.2%	Ph.D., M.D., or Other Advanced Professional Degree	3.0%

⁶Catterall, J.S., Dumais, S.A., & Hampden-Thompson, G. (2012). *The Arts and Achievement in At-Risk Youth: Findings From Four Longitudinal Studies*. National Endowment for the Arts.

Of the 16 respondents whose highest level of education was a high school diploma or equivalent (GED), 62.5% were currently enrolled in college. Of respondents with a four-year degree, 41.7% had a degree related to the arts. Additionally, of the respondents with a four-year degree, 83.3% planned to attend graduate school in the near future, with 100% of current attendees (that were also recent bachelor’s degree graduates) planning to graduate within four (4) years. This is of note because Baum and Steele (2017)⁷ found that 39% of individuals attaining a bachelor’s degree enrolled in graduate school within four years of attaining their bachelor’s degree.

More than one-half (56.3%) of respondents reported that they were currently working for pay (N=32).⁸ Of the respondents that were NOT currently in school, 85.7% of the respondents were working for pay, and for the respondents that were currently in school, 44.4% of the respondents were working for pay (N=25). Respondents’ description of their current employment position is reported in Figure 2.

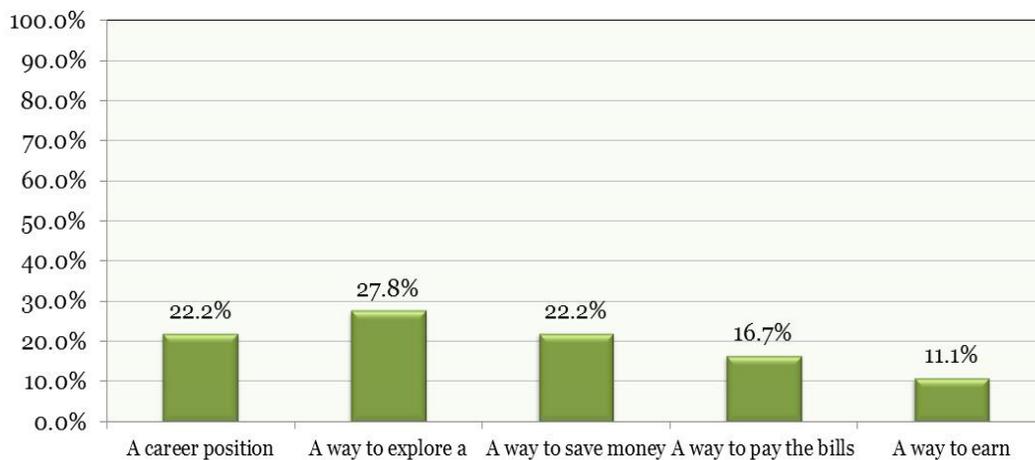


Figure 2: Perception of Current Employment Position

More than one-third (37.5%) of respondents reported that they had worked/are working in a creative industry (N=32). Respondents that had worked/are working in a creative industry were asked to describe their work experience(s). Ninety-two percent (91.7%) of respondents provided a written response, with the majority referencing photography and/or the visual arts.

More than two-thirds (68.8%) of respondents reported that during the past two (2) years they had performed unpaid volunteer or community service work through such organizations as youth groups, service clubs, religious clubs, school groups, or social action groups (N=32). This percentage is substantially higher than found in a meta-analysis conducted by Catterall et al. (2012), where 47 percent of study participants with low socioeconomic status and an intensive arts background had volunteered in the previous two (2) years (post high school graduation).

⁷Baum, S. & Steele, P. (2017). Who goes to graduate school and who succeeds? *Access Group and Urban Institute*.

⁸The top three (3) reasons for not working were: 1) have NOT found a job they want; 2) do NOT need to work; and 3) family responsibilities.

Respondents were asked to respond to four (4) quality of life questions using the following response set: mixed, mostly satisfied, and pleased. The percentage of respondents for each satisfaction level is reported in Table 5. Based upon response patterns, it appears the majority of respondents are satisfied with their quality of life.

Table 5: Quality of Life (N=31)

Question	Mixed	Mostly Satis-	Pleased
How do you feel about your life in general?	29.0%	48.4%	22.6%
How do you feel about the direction your life is heading?	22.6%	38.7%	38.7%
How do you feel about the opportunities that you have to attend cultural events (for example, theater, music, visual art, film, etc.)?	25.8%	22.6%	51.6%
How do you feel about the important relationships in your life (for example, your relationship with family or friends)?	19.4%	32.3%	48.4%

Respondents were asked to provide a written response to the question “Can you explain how Venice Arts has impacted your life (for example, was there a particular program or staff that was influential, OR perhaps were there skills you learned while at Venice Arts that you still use today)?” Sixty-three percent (63.2%) of respondents provided a written response to the question. Responses were distilled into six (6) themes, which can be categorized under two (2) broader overarching themes: *arts learning/engagement* and *community* (e.g., friends, mentors). Approximately 60% (61.3%) of comments referenced *arts learning/engagement* and 38.7% referenced *community*. Some comments contained more than one theme. Table 6 presents the themes, the percentage of comments referencing each theme, and a representative comment for each theme. Overall, written comments suggest that respondents reflected positively about their experiences with Venice Arts and that Venice Arts has positively impacted their lives.

Table 6: Impact of Venice Arts

	Theme	Percentage of Comments Referencing Theme	Representative Comment
Arts Learning/Engagement	Provided the Opportunity to Learn/Gain Knowledge About Art	29.1%	“... Venice Arts offered me opportunities to learn about the photography and the technical aspects of it.”
	Led to a Future in the Arts (e.g. going to art school, career in arts)	16.1%	“Today, I'm majoring in User Design and I use the skills that I learned here nearly every day to make my work a grade above my peers.”
	Developed a Deeper Appreciation of Arts	16.1%	“Venice Arts opened my eyes to the art world...”
Community	Participants Were Positively Impacted by Staff/Program	16.1%	“At Venice Arts I learned that a good teacher is also a friend, who you look up to, and who respects you.”
	Staff/Program Was Influential In Preparing Participants for the Future	8.1%	“I learned the basics of photography and filmmaking, which has provided a good basis for the new skill set I'm learning now as an upperclassman in college.”
	Made a Close Friend(s)	8.1%	“I have met some really amazing people and I am proud to call them my friends.”
	Participants Were Appreciative of the Welcoming/Nurturing Environment	6.4%	“Venice Arts was truly a great experience and a safe space where I was able to express myself through photography.”

Written Comments

Written responses to open-ended questions on the survey are presented below.

QUESTION: Can you explain how Venice Arts has impacted your life (for example, was there a particular program or staff that was influential, OR perhaps were there skills you learned while at Venice Arts that you still use today)?

- ⇒ *Amazing mentors. I felt seen and heard.*
- ⇒ *At Venice arts I made some of my closest friends. At Venice Arts I learned that a good teacher is also a friend, who you look up to, and who respects you.*
- ⇒ *“Girl's Lives Through Girls Eyes.” This program was very influential because it provided me with a visual voice and incredible photography mentors.*
- ⇒ *I dabbled into the arts thanks to Venice Arts. They were the only outlet that I had found that helped me learn more about the arts when I was in high school. I was always passionate about the creative spheres of cinema and photography but I could never find a program that was free or inexpensive until I found Venice Arts. Issa, Carly, and Scott have helped me learn different things in their field of expertise and beyond. Issa and Scott have helped me with learning about photography and the camera and how to create compelling stories using the photograph as the medium. Carly helped me to learn the early basics of cinema and animation. Through one of her classes, I was able to further explore this field which directly influenced me to learn more about animation, which is why I am taking a class in learning how to use Maya to create short animations.*
- ⇒ *I discovered my love for animation, and I've met great people who have supported my goals, and who still continue to support me.*
- ⇒ *I have gotten many opportunities in a lot of things involving photography and film due to classes I take at Venice [Arts].*
- ⇒ *I have met some really amazing people and I am proud to call them my friends. Also, Venice Arts offered me opportunities to learn about t photography and the technical aspects of it.*
- ⇒ *I received support and a community I would not have had otherwise. I had the opportunity to nurture my creative desires. I'm still friends with some people that I met though VA, and in fact close friends with one.*
- ⇒ *I've connected with many in my involvement with Venice Arts. So many teachers/mentors such as Christian, Issa, Carley, and Scott. Through all of these wonderful people I've gained skills and knowledge of equipment, language and procedure of film/video pre/production/and post.*
- ⇒ *It was great to learn about creative arts at Venice Arts and also to intern for a while to give back.*

Written Comments

- ⇒ *Learned skills I otherwise wouldn't have had the time to learn and gave me a new perspective to learn with.*
- ⇒ *The skills I've learned over the years in Venice Arts including drawing, telling stories through various media, technical skills with things like photoshop and final cut pro, and much much more have been invaluable to me. Today, I'm majoring in User Design and I use the skills that I learned here nearly every day to make my work a grade above my peers.*
- ⇒ *Through Venice Arts, I learned how much I love to take photographs. I mostly did Film photography, and I practice it every day. I learned how to work with groups, and develop themed projects that truly reflected how I see the world.*
- ⇒ *VA encouraged me to make work as well as supported healthy creative expression. Issa and Scott in particular were immensely inspirational. Technically, I learned more about the darkroom and digital printing. VA also supported me in applying to YoungArts where I actually placed as a finalist and eventually apply and get accepted to NYU for photography.*
- ⇒ *Venice Arts has impacted my life a lot. I have learned how to use a camera the correct way when people are having trouble. I have even recommend it to my friends who are homeschooled.*
- ⇒ *Venice Arts allowed me to develop my creative vision and gave me the fundamentals tools that I still continue to build on today. (for example, from taking a picture to creating a finish product (book)). The dedication the staff at Venice Arts bring everyday truly makes for a conducive creative space. Their care for education in the arts really resonated with me and continues to inspire me when I look back at my time there.*
- ⇒ *Venice Arts gave me the confidence, skills, and tools to pursue a creative career. It allowed me to hear and learn from people in creative industries that allowed me to see that it was possible to be successful. Because I started in photography...through Venice Arts, I was able to pursue everything I did after.*
- ⇒ *Venice Arts has allowed me to explore a field I was interested in and practice my talents so now I feel more prepared in what I want to do in college. It's opened me to many opportunities and experiences like attending Idyllwild's film camp, working a booth at photo lab, and the internship at Venice Arts. I met a lot of really helpful teachers and artists who wanted to help me personally in my journey. I now have a really good understanding of how to work different jobs in a film crew, but mostly I've discovered my love for editing in practicing it often at Venice Arts in both C and Adobe premiere.*

Written Comments

- ⇒ *Venice Arts helped me expand my art interests and career opportunities during high school. A lot of the mentors such as Cathy, Deanna, Joanne, Scott, and others provided a lot of support during and after high school, and even to the present day. I learned the basics of photography and filmmaking, which has provided a good basis for the new skill set I'm learning now as an upperclassman in college.*
- ⇒ *Venice Arts helped me make friends and learn things that have helped me in the future. Final Cut Pro and Film helped me with many school projects. Photoshop and Photography helped me when I took Web Development at a vocational college.*
- ⇒ *Venice Arts impacted my life by providing a safe space that allowed my siblings and myself an opportunity to participate in various art activities. The program allowed us to conjugate at the space after school or on the weekends, distracting us from the streets and negative environments. The classes provided by Venice Arts such as dance and clay workshops gave me a hands on experience with a mentor teaching the skills. As I went through the program during my adolescent and teen years, I was able to communicate my feelings or emotions through my photography. I developed an intimate relationship with photography and the mentorship I was given allowed me to share my experience to others.*
- ⇒ *Venice Arts opened my eyes to the art world and the possibility of making art my career, not just a hobby. The Advanced Photo class in particular gave me the skills I needed to create a cohesive body of work, which I used not only in photography but also in drawing and painting. From this I was able to create a professional portfolio which I used to apply to college, and which I will use in the future when applying for jobs.*
- ⇒ *Venice Arts was truly a great experience and a safe space where I was able to express myself through photography. I enjoyed learning and practicing photography, but the best part was going on photo shoots. I was able to interact with people and listen to their stories. That has definitely made me a better photographer and the most important part is to be truthful about your own work.*

QUESTION: Is there anything you would like to share with Venice Arts?

- ⇒ *Any and everything I've learned on a technical and level.*
- ⇒ *For young students, the opportunity they are receiving at Venice Arts may be difficult for them to always recognize; however, this should continuously be a challenge for educators to work around and to foster the growth of the students... to appreciate the possibilities in front of them and to ensure they not only take advantage of the present but also the future opportunities that come their way as well.*

Written Comments

- ⇒ *Great experiences come from great mentors and Venice arts has excellent mentors.*
- ⇒ *I am currently pursuing film as a major, with a specialization in editing, and I want to thank Venice Arts for giving me the opportunity to really develop that interest, and to help me pursue it as a major, and potentially a career.*
- ⇒ *I am extremely grateful for everyone that saw something in my talents and all the support I've been given. I hope Venice Arts prospers for many more years.*
- ⇒ *I think the programs that Venice Arts has are truly great and foster so much creativity and enthusiasm for the arts.*
- ⇒ *I want to thank Venice Arts for not only educating me in the arts but for also helping to provide me with real world experience in the art world, such as being able to meet working artists and photographers, conducting interviews, getting to know people's stories in a relatively short period of time, and allowing me to show my work in public spaces and in competitions. I am also grateful for the many resources for applying to college that were made known to me because of VA, such as 826LA, College Day, and National Portfolio Day.*
- ⇒ *I would not be the young man I am now without Venice Arts. You have been such a huge part of my life. Thank you for everything.*
- ⇒ *I wrote a post a long time ago mentioning how Venice Arts influenced my position as a Creative Director for a print publication. Here is the link:
<http://www.asiamdav.com/blog/faq-creative-director>*
- ⇒ *Thank you! When people ask me who influenced my life, I always mention the amazing people at Venice Arts.*
- ⇒ *Thanks so much! I'll visit you guys again soon!*
- ⇒ *There should always be darkroom classes, I feel like it has a special touch to the overall learning experience.*
- ⇒ *VAM is a great organization and I wish it was in the Bay Area for other youth to enjoy and grow in the program.*
- ⇒ *Venice Arts is essential and crucial for young adults, especially students that are coming from marginalized and low income communities. Those communities lack knowledge and guidance on developing artistic skills not only at a personal level but also making it a career opportunity. The program itself created a path of possibility in a nontraditional academic or professional career.*
- ⇒ *Venice Arts is the best place for young people who are interested in all kinds of art, to foster their growth in these creative fields!*