



## Diversity in Arts Leadership Internship Program 2017 Overview

For 25 years, the Diversity in Arts Leadership internship program (DIAL) has been training and mentoring college students from underrepresented backgrounds to become arts leaders. One of the only programs of its kind in the nation, DIAL's aim is to strengthen and advance diversity in the arts management field and provide the newest members of the workforce with real-world career experience in the arts and business sectors in New York City.

### Site Visits

Interns went on their first site visits in June to the **Green-Wood Historic Fund** to learn about their growing set of cultural programming on the cemetery grounds where many notable artists reside. We made art supply bags for homeless youth with **Free Arts NYC** by and learned what it takes to produce shows at **The Moth** then stayed for a live StorySLAM.

July was the busiest month: at **Lincoln Center** we heard about the opportunities and challenges in engaging more New Yorkers in their world-class offerings. We chatted with the leaders of **TADA! Youth Theater** to witness and learn what it takes to put on an amazing youth performance. At **American Federation of Arts** we considered the historical record of women in the art world through the lens of their newest exhibition and at **WNYC** we took a tour of their incredible studio and probed their diversity and inclusion initiatives. We talked development and danced our hearts out at the **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre**, and considered the intersection of disability, dance, and artistry at **Dance/NYC**.

In August interns were welcomed to a staff panel and dress rehearsal of a youth musical at **Kaufman Music Center** and to a private tour and artists/arts administrator panel at **The Bronx Museum of the Arts**. Interns attended the **Asian American Arts Alliance's** and stereotype-defying comedic panel.



### Professional Development

The first professional development session was led by **Justin Kerr**, Executive Officer at **Uniqlo** who gave practical tips on how to hack the corporate world as a creative person. **Dina Pugh**, National Curator at **Facebook** led us on an exploratory tour of Facebook's art-infused workspace and discussed their internal equity, diversity, and inclusion practices. We sat on the roof of **Kickstarter** with **Stephanie Pereira**, Director of Creator Engagement, and **Glory Edim**, Publishing Outreach Specialist and Founder of **Well Read Black Girl** who talked





about “kickstarting” and navigating creative careers in arts administration. **Kiersten Fellrath**, Art Program Associate at **JP Morgan Chase** led a private art tour for interns and intern alumni while sharing her experience as a curator for a private bank. **Jennifer Yang**, DIAL '08 and **NYU Stern Business School** student, offered personalized resume reviews – giving interns a tangible step towards a strong future in the business of the arts.

### Mentorship

Mentors and interns came together early in the summer to “speed network” - all learning a little something about each other at the very start. Mentors introduced their mentees to the city’s best arts experiences, had one-on-one meals and coffees, exchanged countless correspondence and career and life advice.

### Cultural Activities

Interns attended the opening exhibition of Frank Lloyd Wright at 150 at **MoMA**, took a private walking tour of the Lower East Side with the **Tenement Museum**, and doubled over at a hilarious rendition of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* at **The Public Theater’s Shakespeare in the Park!**



### Celebrations

The summer was bookended by opening and closing ceremonies where **DeVon Prioleau**, DIAL '02, ABC/NY Board Member, and Associate Director at **Turner & Townsend**, welcomed interns with his impressive story and the influence of the DIAL program on his career. At the closing, **Tom Finkelpearl**, Commissioner of the **NYC Department of Cultural Affairs** and **Robert L. Lynch**, CEO of **Americans for the Arts** underscored the importance of programs like DIAL and celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> year of DIAL programming. Each intern gave a closing speech, articulating personal and professional growth throughout the program and clarity around their next steps as emerging leaders in the arts. Interns self-organized a pop up exhibition and artist’s salon at Barnard College where they presented and discussed personal works in drawing, fiber art, performance art, video, photography, spoken word, rap, contemporary dance, improv dance, poetry, and a reading from an original play.

If you would like to learn more about the Diversity in Arts Leadership Internship Program, visit [www.artsandbusiness-nyc.org](http://www.artsandbusiness-nyc.org) or contact Emma Osore at [eosore@artsandbusiness-nyc.org](mailto:eosore@artsandbusiness-nyc.org).

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