



TEEN ART COOPERATIVE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE TEEN ART COOPERATIVE?

The Teen ART COOPERATIVE is a free program for high school students focused on real-world skills in how to support a creative practice, exposure to local artists, resources, mentorship, behind-the-scenes experiences at the Mattress Factory, and being part of a committee that plans all things awesome and fun at the museum!

Teens are given the support and space they need to develop new ideas, experiment with new materials, and collaborate with each other. They work closely with local artists and Mattress Factory staff to learn about contemporary art in a direct, hands on way; developing new skills, exploring creative resources, building future pathways and planning events for your peers.

WHEN AND WHERE AND HOW MUCH?

The TEEN ART COOPERATIVE meets at the Mattress Factory (500 Sampsonia Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15212, Parking at 505 Jacksonia Street) every Thursday from 4-6pm. We may plan some off-site field trips and adventures, but most of these will be on the Northside and walkable from the Mattress Factory.

There are a limited number of spaces in the program and applications are due on Friday, September 30th.

This program is FREE of charge but a commitment to consistent attendance is expected. The program is a year-long, October to May and meets once per week and extra time during planned teen programming.

I DON'T MAKE ART, CAN I STILL BE INVOLVED?

Yes! An interest in contemporary art and media is required but a personal studio practice is not. The Mattress Factory is dedicated to creating a cohort of teens who have a wide range of talents, interests, and skills.

I LOVE MAKING ART, IS THIS THE PROGRAM FOR ME?

Yes, of course! Be warned, however, that the TEEN ART COOPERATIVE aims to provide a much more comprehensive approach to art than a traditional studio-based art program. THIS PROGRAM IS NOT STUDIO-BASED. While we will spend some time making and experimenting with new materials, the focus will be decided by the individual student on a larger, career-focused project, examples might include: creating a website, resume or connecting with professionals in your field of interest. Students will meet artists, participate in workshops, learn how creative folks support their art-making, connect with arts-based institutions on the Northside and plan events for your peers at the Mattress Factory. If all you want to do is make art in the studio, this is not the program for you.

This program is for self-motivated students who are looking to expand their knowledge of different processes, concepts, and ideas; who are interested in how museums work and how to make a living as a creative person in contemporary society, and who are interested in shaping the way the Mattress Factory can be a space for teens.

Students will spend time in the galleries and the studio producing work and exploring new materials through a series of workshops led by local artists, but those seeking technique focused art instruction or portfolio development are advised to look elsewhere.

WHAT ARE THE PROGRAM DEADLINES?

Applications are due Friday, September 30th, 2016.

I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS, WHOM DO I CALL?

For any additional questions regarding the TEEN ART COOPERATIVE at the Mattress Factory, please e-mail stephanie@mattress.org or call 412-231-3169.