

## TEEN PROGRAMS STUDY

In 2011, a monumental collaborative study between the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Walker Art Center, the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, and The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, with support from a National Leadership Grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services found that program participants reported that their experiences as teens in museums were transformational, shaping their adult lives in significant ways. This study traces a relationship between high impact engagement strategies, short-term outcomes, and long-lasting impacts for alumni, including: personal identity and self-knowledge, lifelong relationship to museums and culture, expanded career horizons, a worldview grounded in art, community engagement and influence

## MOCAD SOLUTION

In 2014, Elysia Borowy-Reeder, Executive Director started her leadership of Detroit's most cutting-edge spaces for contemporary art - MOCAD. Envisioned from past experiences with art education, she started the first teen arts council in Michigan for the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit. The Council is a multi-year program focused on long term impact and achieving short term goals. The Teen Council consists of 18 to 20 Detroit area youth that are selected to receive a honorarium in exchange for their service to the Museum. The program is designed for and by teens as a means to inspire and empower our local youth, as well as explore and develop their verbal, visual, kinesthetic, teamwork, and critical thinking skills to provide a good introduction to careers

## RESULTS

Since January 2014, the Council has served and provided youth development to over 3000 of their peers, and 100% of the graduating seniors have gone on to college. Over a one-year period, there will be approximately 48 weekly Council meetings, 12 Open Studio sessions, 12 Teen-led events for their peers, 2-3 college visits, and 1 travel tour to a major metropolitan museum.

## FUNDERS

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**Press:** <http://www.modeldmedia.com/features/mocad-teen-council-111114.aspx>

**Learn more at** <https://mocadetroit.org/events-and-education/teen-council/> - should we include this?



## THE MUSEUM'S KEY YOUTH PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- MOCAD's ESB/SKS JUNIOR DOCENT PROGRAM: high school students learn about exhibitions through an inquiry-based learning model;
- MOCAD's K-12 TEACHER ADVISORY COUNCIL: 8-12 educators with various backgrounds who volunteer their time to help with oversight of the MOCAD Teen Council and assist with designing youth centered programming;
- OPEN STUDIO PROGRAM: asks creative professionals to offer their time and feedback to young creatives on their work, answer questions about creative careers and art school, improve technical skills, portfolio reviews, talks and lectures;
- FAMILY DAY: art and music activities that are built around themes that are related to some aspect of our current exhibitions, and is free for all, with supplies and snacks provided;
- OUTTA HERE: MOCAD's field trip program to key cultural venues to meet with arts professionals and engage with artists, designers, and other cultural producers.