Virtual Program Peer Recommendations

Curriculum & Live Sessions

Learning virtually is very different. An overly long virtual live session can make it difficult to pay attention and be unmotivating. The suggested length for live online sessions between 60 to 90 minutes long with a mini-break in between.

The young creatives miss connecting with their peers. It is important to have “socializing” time during the LIVE sessions.

Ensure the curriculum has both asynchronous and synchronous learning opportunities. This can include learning a tool/skill during a LIVE session and having follow-up an assignment completed to between sessions.

Utilize the organization’s social media channels as a tool for learning. You can have young artists host “social media takeovers” to share their story and even inspire their peers to be creative.

Teaching Artists & Media Mentors

Learning virtually can require a lot more support and resources. Teaching Artists and Media Mentors play a big role in supporting virtual learning for young creatives. It is important to have a manageable ratio of Teaching Artists or Media Mentors to young creatives. The suggested ratio is to have 1 Teaching Artists/Media Mentors per 4 to 5 young creatives.

Teaching Artists and Media Mentors may utilize different tools, such as instant messaging, video chat, and phone calls, to support young creatives with their learning. However, these tools may portray the constant availability and instant answers. It is important to support Teaching Artists and Media Mentors with setting perimeters on their availability and virtual office hours.

When Possible ...

When possible, mail resource packages to participants. These packages can include notebooks, pens, snacks, and other materials they may require for learning.

When possible, set up an equipment “borrowing” program. This will allow trusted participants to “check-out” media equipment to learn and create. However, it is important to make sure local guidelines are being followed while checking-out equipment and all equipment are disinfected between check-out.