

2021 AEP Virtual Gathering

Investing in Creativity, Authenticity, and Professionalism:
Building an Expanded Definition of Arts Education through BAI

Presenters

- Kristina Berdan, Education Director-Baltimore City Initiatives, Young Audiences/Arts for Learning Maryland ([LinkedIn](#))
- Kathleen Hill, Senior Associate for Research and Outreach, WolfBrown ([LinkedIn](#))
- Jennifer Zheng, BAI 2020 Alumna, Young Audiences/Arts for Learning Maryland

Session Description

What were your first arts internships or jobs like? How old were you when they happened? What have you carried with you from those experiences - as a best practice or as something from which to learn and grow?

Over the course of this session, participants will actively reflect upon, brainstorm about, and discuss the role that pre-professional training has in supporting a well-rounded arts education through a case study of the Bloomberg Arts Internship (BAI) Program in Baltimore. They will hear from a member of the evaluation team at WolfBrown, a staff member from Baltimore's program office at Young Audiences/Arts for Learning Maryland, and an alum from the program to learn about the lived experiences, successes, and learnings from BAI. More specifically, listeners will learn about the value of investing early and regularly in diverse talent and the need to amplify school year teachings with workplace experiences to ground and celebrate professional aspirations in the arts and culture field. Ultimately, the session will encourage all participants to commit to expanding their understanding of arts education.

Learning Objectives

Our learning objectives align with those of AEP's Virtual Gathering. They are:

- To be knowledgeable about the work of others in the field — specifically Bloomberg Philanthropies and the Bloomberg Arts Internship program;
- To be motivated to connect with AEP and other arts orgs;
- To be inspired to go back to context and apply learning — specifically in the hopes of supporting and/or creating pre-professional training opportunities as essential parts of arts education in your communities.

Session Outline and Summary

Over the course of the session, the perspectives of an educator, an evaluator, and a program alumni will guide an active, participatory discussion surrounding the potentials of incorporating pre-professional training into arts education.

First and foremost, you will hear from Jennifer and Kristina about the BAI program in Baltimore. Second, you will hear from Kathleen about the evaluation of the BAI program, specifically some of its measures and outcomes. Third, you will hear from Jennifer about her BAI journey and her internship experience. Fourth, Kristina will guide the audience through our activity “Playbill Postings”, encouraging everyone to remember their teenage self and explore which type of position or opportunity would have most resonated with and perhaps even sparked something within them. Fifth, Kristina will invite everyone to reflect upon what they heard today and commit to taking a lesson or action with them. Last, Jennifer will close us out and offer words of gratitude.

Supplemental Materials

- **Links from the Sessions:**
 - To tune back into the BAI Baltimore 2017 Video, please visit (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PAnnoHq8fNI>).
 - To peruse the Playbill of Job Postings one more time, please visit (<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZXgMWOSKoZEx38HjumQggJXDy399ON8-/view?usp=sharing>).
- **Bloomberg Philanthropies and BAI:**
 - To learn more about Bloomberg Philanthropies, please visit (<https://www.bloomberg.org/>).
 - To learn more about the Bloomberg Arts Internship (BAI), please visit (<https://www.bloomberg.org/arts/strengthening-local-arts-organizations/bloomberg-arts-internship/>).
- **BAI Host Organizations – City to City:**
 - To learn more about Young Audiences/Arts for Learning Maryland in Baltimore, please visit (<https://www.yamd.org/>).
 - To learn more about EdVestors in Boston, please visit (<https://www.edvestors.org/>).
 - To learn more about Studio Institute in New York, please visit (<https://studioinstitute.org/>).
 - To learn more about the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance in Philadelphia, please visit (<https://www.philaculture.org/>).
- **BAI Program Information – City to City:**
 - To learn more about BAI in Baltimore, please visit (<https://www.yamd.org/bloomberg-arts-internship/>).
 - To learn more about BAI in Boston, visit (<https://artsinternshipboston.weebly.com/>).
 - To learn more about BAI in New York, visit (<https://studioinstitute.org/program/bloomberg-arts-internship/>).
 - To learn more about BAI in Philadelphia, visit (<https://philaculture.org/bloomberg-arts-internship>).
- **WolfBrown:**
 - To learn more about WolfBrown and its other work, please visit (www.wolfbrown.com).