I Am Art. I Am Change. Apprenticeship

2022 Application

The I Am Art. I Am Change. Apprenticeship is open to high school sophomores, juniors and seniors in the Merrimack Valley. We are looking for dedicated, hardworking artists and thinkers with a passion for social change. Apprentices will gain experience through working closely with our teaching artists to build their professional skills and artistic and social entrepreneurship.

We look forward to getting to know you!
About Us

Elevated Thought is an art and social justice 501(c)(3) organization based in Lawrence, MA. We develop spaces for BIPOC youth and communities to engage and understand art's liberating power. Through creative youth development, beautification projects, public outreach, and paid opportunities for BIPOC creatives, ET actively addresses forms of systemic injustice.

Application Overview

Apprentice Information + Guidelines ................................................................. Page 3
Apprenticeship Timeline ..................................................................................... Page 4
Apprentice Application ...................................................................................... Page 5
Artist/Thinker Statement .................................................................................... Page 6

Application Deadline: Please submit completed applications via our Google form, email, drop off, or mail by Saturday, May 21st, 2021. A printed version of this application can be requested as well. We’ll be notifying all applicants of decisions by email in May. If you have any questions or need help filling out the application, please reach out to our program coordinator, Michelle Garcia Fresco at: michelle@elevatedthought.org.

Checklist for Application:

- Apprentice Application
- Artist/Thinker Statement
- 3 examples of your strongest work
Apprentices will work with organizational leaders and teaching artists to build upon their creative foundation and develop community-focused public art projects. All accepted applicants will go through a week of onboarding where they will learn the ins and outs of Elevated Thought, a detailed overview of the full scope and purpose of the apprenticeship, and fill out all necessary forms and documents. Following onboarding, youth will be introduced to their teaching artists for the year. Apprenticeships will take place Mondays through Thursdays—from 4-6 pm.

The I am Art. I am Change. Apprenticeship aims to:

- Provide artistic and financial opportunities for youth to explore and expand their creative skills.
- Foster collaboration and support for and within the community through public art projects.

We are offering apprenticeships in the following tracks:

- Visual Arts (including painting, illustration, mural production, mixed media...)
- Photography + Digital Design (manual, digital, film, video, graphic design...)
- Creative Writing (poetry, spoken word performance, freestyle, essay, journalism...)

Apprenticeship Offerings:

- Apprentices start off at $15/hr for 12 hours per week with opportunities for additional commission and project stipends.
- Transportation will be provided (pickup from Lawrence High).
- Full access to our art supplies, equipment, and workspace.
- Professional mentorship

Applicant Criteria:

- In order to apply for the apprenticeship, the applicant should be entering 10th, 11th, or 12th grade or a graduating senior.
- Must live and/or attend a high school in the Merrimack Valley.
- The apprenticeships are a significant time commitment; applicants should be willing to reduce or postpone other extracurricular activities and employment if accepted.
- Must be able to attend the week-long onboarding and prep (dates TBA)

*Elevated Thought is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to supporting individuals from marginalized communities— including but not limited to BIPOC, LGBTQA+ people, and immigrants. As such, we strongly encourage applications from individuals who identify with these groups and/or other marginalized communities.
Elevated Thought Apprenticeship Timeline

March 2022 — Apprenticeship applications open

April 22, 2022 — Virtual Apprenticeship Info Session + Application Support; applicants, parents, and teachers are welcomed

April 28, 2022 — Open House @ Elevated Thought; applicants, parents, and teachers are welcomed

May 21st, 2022 — Application submissions close

May to June 2022 — Interviews & application reviews (our program coordinator, Michelle, will schedule interviews)

Early July 2022 — Apprentices are notified of application status

Mid-July 2022 — The 2022 Apprenticeship Cohort is publicly announced

Late August 2022 — Week of onboarding and Apprenticeship Prep with Elevated Thought Staff

Early September 2022 — Apprenticeship start date
Apprentice Application

First Name: __________________________ Last Name: ________________________________

Preferred Name / Pronouns: _________________________________

Email Address: ________________________________ Address: ___________________________

City: ______________________ State: __________ Zip: ______________

Emergency Contact Info

Primary Contact Name: __________________________________________________________

Relationship to Applicant: ________________ Emergency Contact Number: ____________

Educational Information:

School: _______________________________________________________________________

Grade:  ☐ entering 10th  ☐ entering 11th  ☐ entering 12th  ☐ graduating 12th

Art Experience (please check all that apply):

☐ Design  ☐ Visual Arts  ☐ Production, Composition, Vocals
☐ Theater/Dance  ☐ Video/Photography  ☐ Writing, Poetry, Spoken Word

Which track would you like to explore? (please check one)

☐ Visual Arts (painting, illustration, mural production, mixed media...)
☐ Photography + Digital Design (manual, digital, film, video, graphic design...)
☐ Creative Writing (poetry, spoken word, freestyle, essays, journalism...)

Media Release Form (please check one):

I ☐ do authorize ☐ do not authorize Elevated Thought® to use photographs, video
footage, and any likeness of myself and other artwork created during or for
programming, events, and community outreach for promotional purposes only. Please
speak to our staff if you ever change your mind; we understand and respect your

Applicant Signature ____________________________________            Date _________________

Parent/Guardian Signature _______________________________        Date _________________
Artist/Thinker Statement - Feel free to write or type your responses. Along with this statement please submit 3 examples of your strongest work (ex. a painting, poem, essay, song, etc. that best represent your artistry). If you would like to video record your answers instead, please keep your responses to all three questions under 7 minutes in total and email them to amaryllis@elevatedthought.org.

Why are you interested in the I am Art. I am Change. Apprenticeship and what do you hope to contribute to/gain from this experience?

_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________

Please list your experience with art and/or community work. Note: you do not need experience in every area; we are aiming to build a team with diverse interests and experiences.

_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________

Extracurricular Activities / Community Involvement / Employment:

_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________