

OnTRaC Spring 2020 Application Preview

Applying to become an **OnTRaC participant** takes only a few simple steps outlined below. This Spring (February – May) ArtsConnection is working in partnership with Futures and Options to provide FREE college and career readiness workshops to all teens participating in ArtsConnection Teen Programs this school year. If you have additional questions about OnTRaC or about the application process, contact Teen Programs Manager, Kristina Gonzalez at GonzalezK@artsconnection.org PH: (212) 302-7433 ext. 456.

1. **Eligibility.** Priority is given to high school students (10-12 graders only) in New York City who have participated in any ArtsConnection Teen Programs or applying to Spring 2020 Teen Programs. This includes current TAC members, participants in Teens Curate Teens, Interns and participants in any of our Teen Programs at New York City High Schools. A stipend of \$140 is available for all teens who complete the program successfully. Participants **must attend** a minimum of 12 events, including the final event on Saturday May 9th to successfully complete the program.
2. **Schedule.** Dates and times for each class are listed below.

OnTRaC

Day of the Week: Tuesdays from 4:30 - 6:30 PM (including 4 mentorship dates running until 7:30 pm)
Date range: Tuesday, February 4 through Tuesday, May 5 (skipping mid-winter recess and spring break)
Closing Ceremony: Saturday May 9 (attendance mandatory)

OnTRaC is a program, facilitated by ArtsConnection Teen Program Managers and Futures + Options Coordinators, that help students interested in the arts get ready for college and careers. You can find more about the specific OnTRaC workshops [here](#).

The program includes:

- College Guidance workshops on *Components of the College Application, Writing Strong Applications, and Financial Aid.*
 - Two tours of arts programs at local colleges, to learn best practices for applying to arts programs after high school.
 - Career-Readiness workshops on *Resume Writing, Interview Skills, and Effective Communication and Networking.*
 - Two field trips to companies with a focus on the arts, to learn about different career options at arts organizations.
 - Connection to a mentor who works in the arts and can help you apply for colleges and internships.
3. **Click on Log-In and Apply.** For new registrants this will allow you to set up a profile and see other open applications in Teen Programs. Be sure to include your most accurate contact information in the bio so we can communicate with you. Do not include email addresses or phone numbers that you rarely use.

Check the *Open Applications list* and start the *OnTRaC Application*. The application asks you a few questions about your availability to attend workshops, your interest in the program, and your experience working in groups. All applicants will be called in for an interview at ArtsConnection at 4:30 pm or 5:30 pm on Tuesday January 21st, 28th, or Thursday January 30th. Please make sure you are available on at least one of those dates and times. We also strongly recommend that you read over your answers before submitting your application to ensure they are clear. Here are the questions we ask you to answer on the application:

- a. OnTRaC is an amazing opportunity and a serious commitment that depends on each participant's punctuality and communication. Will you be able to be ON TIME for and ATTEND ALL weekly workshops from 4:30-6:30pm?

Yes, definitely!

No, my school gets out too late.

Maybe, it depends on my schedule

Most of the time, although I have few conflicts that I can tell you about

- b. Will you be able to check your email for weekly schedule updates from Teen Programs Manager Kristina Gonzalez?

Yes, definitely! I'm always online and in the know.

No, I do not have regular access to email.

I don't usually check my email that often, but I will make an exception for On TRaC.

- c. In addition to weekly workshops, OnTRaC participants are also required to attend 4 mentor events and mandatory field trips with their OnTRaC group. Events will go later than 6:30pm. Will you be able to attend these events until 7:30pm?

Yes, definitely!

No, not at all. I have no extra free time.

Only a few.

Probably, I'd just have to check my schedule.

- d. Why do you want to participate in OnTRaC?
- e. Do you have plans after high school graduation? If so, what are they?
- f. Share with us three skills you are hoping to gain through this program and why. (example: resume writing, interviewing, networking, etc.)
- g. What arts-related careers are you most interested in?
- h. Which specific arts-related organizations or companies would you most like to visit during this program?
- i. Have you participated or are you applying to participate in any ArtsConnection Teen Programs? If so, please specify which ones.

Pizza and a Movie Night (PaaM)

Art2Art-Dear Evan Hansen
Teens Curate Teens-curator (TCT)
Teens Curate Teens-artist (TCT)
Student Art Program – Exhibitions
Teen Reviewers and Critics (TRaC)
ArtsConnection Internship
Teen Advisory Council Member (TAC)

I attend one of the following schools:

Bayside High School
Bronx HS of Visual Arts
Bronx Lab School
Epic HS North
High School of Fashion Industries
International High School at Prospect Heights
MACS
McKinney Secondary School for the Arts
Stuyvesant High School

- j. Are you currently employed or in an internship program? If so, what are you doing?
 - k. Is there anything else you would like to share with us? i.e. How do you plan to use this program to prepare you for your future? Is there any other program or activity outside of school you do with your time?
4. **Save and submit your application.** You can save your application and work on it later if you need to by clicking the **SAVE** button at the bottom of the screen. This is a great tool if you need more time to think about your answers. Just keep in mind that you will have to log in to the Teen Application Portal to complete and submit your application in order for it to be reviewed for the program. Once you submit the application, you'll receive a confirmation email telling you that we have your application.
 5. **Participate in a group interview.** Once we receive your application, we will reach out to schedule a time for you to come in for a group interview on Tuesday January 21st, 28th, or Thursday January 30th. Please make sure your schedule allows you to attend one date and time. Group interviews are about 30 minutes long and offer a chance for you to meet the leaders of the program and the other students who have applied.
 6. **Application Timeline.** Applications must be submitted no later than **deadline: Sunday, January 19**. Select applicants will be invited to interview for the program. All applicants will be notified of their application status by Monday, January 27th. The first workshop will be held at ArtsConnection on Tuesday February 4th.