



ONTRAC MENTORS

Spring 2026
Guide

TO LEARN MORE VISIT TEENS.ARTSCONNECTION.ORG OR
EMAIL BRANA AT THOMASB@ARTSCONNECTION.ORG

SCHEDULE

MENTOR ORIENTATION

VIRTUAL

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

6:45PM-7:45PM

MENTOR EVENT 1: FIRST IMPRESSIONS, INTERVIEW SKILLS

IN PERSON

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

6:00PM-7:30PM

MENTOR EVENT 2: IMMERSION DAY

IN PERSON

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

12:00PM-4:00PM

MENTOR EVENT 3: TBA

IN PERSON

THURSDAY, MAY 7

6:00PM-7:30PM

FINALE CELEBRATION

IN PERSON

SATURDAY, MAY 16

1:00PM-3:30PM

LOCATIONS

MENTOR EVENTS

AC OFFICE 45 W 34th St. #1210,
New York, NY 10001

FINALE CELEBRATION

Address TBA

WHO ARE THE MENTORS?

Professionals in the arts and creative industry eager to share their experiences and support a new generation of creatives. We are looking for caring adults with the time & consistency to help our young people towards their goals.

Past mentors have included:

- Arts Educators & Administrators
- Actor turned Social Worker
- Visual Artists turned Ad Designer
- Musician turned Sound Engineer
- Dancer & Choreographer

Selection Process:

Mentors are paired after we get to know the mentees so we can find the best fit.



WHO ARE THE MENTEES?

Teens aged 15-19 (10th-12th grade) interested in entering the creative field.

Mentees meet twice a week for 18 sessions.

Workshops include:

- Career exploration field trips
- College campus tour
- College application prep
- Scholarship and financial aid information

Program is completely free for teens and comes with a stipend of \$200.

MENTOR EVENTS

Lead by Teaching Artist, Caitlin Gaspar who brings together all mentors and mentees.



Typical session:

- group activity that encourages community, confidence building, and networking
- group workshop where mentors share their industry knowledge based on the day's theme
- one-on-one work time to review resumes and portfolios

MENTEE PORTFOLIO SUPPORT

ASYNCHRONOUS SUPPORT FOR MENTEES

Throughout the semester, mentors will plug in to support mentees as they build their portfolios. This support happens with email and Google Docs. Occasionally mentors will be asked to be a reference or provide a recommendation letter for the mentee.

Mentors are supported by OnTrac instructor, Caitlin Gaspar, and Program Manager, Briana Thomas

CLEMENTINE HANTON

ARTIST / PHOTOGRAPHER



PROFILE

Creative and motivated artist and photographer. I work with both digital and traditional art.

SKILLS

- Painting
- Illustration
- Ceramics
- Candid Photography

EXPERIENCE

- ARTS CONNECTION ONTRAC - 2023
- VOLUNTEER AT ANIMAL SHELTER
- CHESS CLUB CAPTAIN

Portfolio support can include:

- Editing resumes
- Reading and editing cover letters
- Reviewing college application essays

OUTINGS

OPTIONAL ONE-ON-ONE OUTINGS

Mentors take their mentee on one-on-one outings during the semester. It is a great way to bond with the mentee and educate them further on the industry of interest.

Possible outings:

- mentor office or studio visit
- art experience like a visit to a museum, movie, or performance
- networking event
- chat over ice cream or coffee

The outing can take place any time after the Mentor Orientation based around the schedules of the mentor and mentee. ArtsConnection will provide a supportive framework for these outings.



CONTINUED RELATIONSHIP

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN ONTRAC ENDS?

Mentors can stay in touch with the mentees long after the semester ends. Mentees continue to tap into their mentor as a resource for advice, opportunities, and guidance.



Ways to stay in touch:

- connect on LinkedIn
- check in via email, especially during big dates like college acceptance time or around exams
- send along opportunities like internships, or networking events

Come back again next year! Mentor alumni are always invited back to mentor another OnTrac teen!