

CUNY Arts Initiatives for the [CreateNYC Cultural Plan](#)

Scaling the Cultural Corps Program (CreateNYC Goals – Equity, Access, & Social + Economic Impact)

- **What:** CUNY in partnership with the NYC Cultural Affairs and The Rockefeller Foundation launched the Cultural Corps internship program to help expand and diversify the candidate pool for internships at local cultural institutions. This program was initiated as a pipeline development effort of Cultural Affairs based on data in the 2016 report “Diversity in the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs Community”.
- **Current Program Model:**
 - Year round programming (Academic Year/Part-time and Summer/Full-time programs)
 - Recruitment, selection, and placement for partners and corps members handled by Cultural Corps
 - Wages and payroll handled by Cultural Corps
 - Orientation and trainings developed + HR support for partners by Cultural Corps
 - Mandatory pre-service training and regular enrichment programming, including visits to cultural institutions, a speaker series, and more for corps members developed by Cultural Corps
- **Program Goals:**
 - For students, improving their transferable workplace skills, building their knowledge of career opportunities in arts and cultural organizations in NYC, increasing their comfort / sense of belonging in arts and cultural organizations in NYC, and increasing their professional networks in and engagement with the cultural sector
 - For partners, increasing their organizational capacity, increasing their understanding of inclusive practices in the workplace, and increasing their access to CUNY students as viable candidates for long-term employment
- **Program Sustainability Issue & Solution:** For 2016-17 the CUNY Cultural Corps launched with one program manager in CUNY’s central office responsible for recruiting, selecting, training, and managing Cultural Corps members; recruiting and supporting partners; and completing human resources administrative tasks. To accommodate any projected growth in Corps members and to further build a robust support system for staff and partners, the program should grow the team administering the program so that partners and Corps members receive exceptional support. In the following years the Cultural Corps would like to build out a team to oversee some of the Cultural Corps responsibilities mentioned above. This hiring would include bringing on full-time professional development/events coordinator and full-time administrative assistant.
- **Budget Scenarios:**
 - Current team model with 85 students in PT academic year program and 35 students in FT summer program is \$605,000 per year
 - Expanded team model with 150 students in PT academic year program and 35 students in FT summer program is \$1,100,000 per year
 - Expanded team model with 150 students in PT academic year program and 70 students in FT summer program is \$1,150,000 per year

CUNY Teaching Artist Program/Corps (CreateNYC Goals – Increase Education, Equity & Access)

- **What:** The CUNY Teaching Artist Corps would be an experiential learning program for students in the arts (visual, music, etc.) at CUNY that seeks to address the decline and/or non-existence of arts professionals in NYC public schools. The program would be a partnership between CUNY and the NYC Department of Education. According to the NYC DOE Annual Arts in Schools Report cited in *State of the Arts: A Plan to Boost Arts Education in New York City Schools* (April 2014) by the Office of the New York City Comptroller Scott M. Stringer, there was a “47% decline in spending to hire arts and cultural organizations to provide education services for students”. At the time of the report “419 schools in NYC (28%) lack(ed) even one full-time, certified arts teacher” and this percentage increases in the South Bronx and Central Brooklyn where “more than 42% of schools lack either full-time or part-time certified arts teachers.”
- **Program Model:**
 - Run during DOE Academic Year, September-June
 - Recruitment, selection, and placement for school partners and Corps members handled by CUNY & DOE
 - Mandatory pre-service and mid-year training in pedagogy for Corps members
 - Wages and payroll handled by Teaching Artist Corps
 - Mandatory Corps member participation in and orchestration of end of year conference on arts education in public schools
- **Solution:** CUNY’s 2017 Strategic Framework calls for the launch of the CUNY Arts initiative, which connects students with experiences, curriculum, internships and jobs in New York’s arts and culture sector. In addition, the Framework prioritizes making experiential learning a signature component of a CUNY education by increasing opportunities for community service, tied to academic programs, through partnerships with state and city agencies and communities. Modeled after DOE-CUNY partnerships such as the CUNY Tutor Corps, the CUNY Teaching Artist Corps would aim to place CUNY students in teaching artist roles in K-12 DOE institutions, helping to address the deficit in arts education in New York City Schools, particularly in underserved areas such as the South Bronx and Central Brooklyn. This approach also increases professional opportunities for students and helps them become contributors to the knowledge base concerning arts and culture education in public schools.
- **Budget Scenarios:**
 - 85 students in PT academic year program is \$547,000 per year
 - 150 students in PT academic year program is \$1,000,000 per year