

TEEN PROGRAMS

Year in Review 2019-2020



By the numbers:

- The **Art Center Teen Leadership group** currently has **17 active members**. These teens meet monthly to plan “teen-only” events, participate in hands-on workshops with practicing artists, exhibit their artwork at the Art Center, and develop leadership skills.
- Art Center Teen Leadership members gain professional experience by operating as a board of trustees with teens serving as President, Curator, Marketing Manager, Event Manager, and Communications Manager.
- Teen-only events at the Art Center, including movie nights, art workshops, and a virtual trivia night held via Zoom during the Shelter-in-Place, engaged **137 teens** this past year.
- More than **279 teen** participants take fine art classes, workshops, and camps year-round in ceramics, digital photography, drawing and painting, jewelry and metalworking.
- **114 teens** volunteered in our counselor-in-training summer program, at Family Days, and middle and high school service days.

Quotes from Art Center Teen Leadership members:

“I’m really grateful for this opportunity to not only explore art with other teens and practice leadership and collaboration skills, but also to get to know people who go to other schools in the area.”

“The program made me realize that there is a broad range of opportunities that can be related to art through learning about the behind the scenes of events and hearing about the different kinds of jobs people have such as creating the art, curating the art, teaching the art and more.”

“I think I look more into what the piece is trying to tell me rather than just appreciating the aesthetic.”

“It has allowed me to enjoy being in museums more. I’ve also started taking more time and putting in more thoughts when looking at art. I actually used to dislike going to museums as I thought it was boring and useless; now I’m able to absorb little details and get inspiration for my own art.”

“The Art Center is a great place for people who love art, love to volunteer, or just want an opportunity to meet people and/or explore teamwork and leadership.”

Teen programs at the Palo Alto Art Center provide teens with opportunities to have a voice and be heard, expose teens to practicing artists, introduce teens to professional opportunities in the art world, showcase creativity as a tool for expression and relaxation, and create satisfying volunteer experiences.