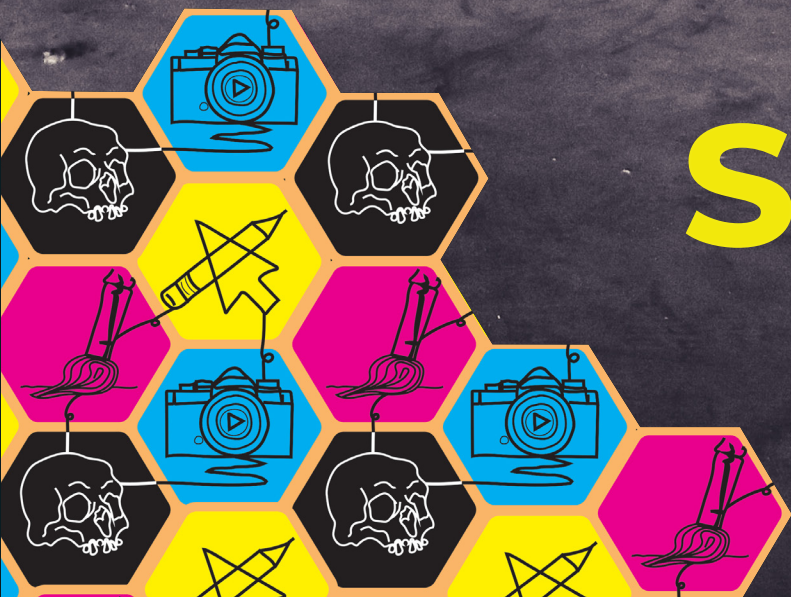


SAY/SÍ



SUMMER at SAY Sí 2024





Growing as Artists in Our **SUMMER STUDIO INTENSIVES**



SAY SÍ STUDENTS SPENT OVER 50 HOURS in our studios intensives in June — a new model piloted in 2024 to allow for deeper engagement and uninterrupted studio time. Students spent five hours a day, Monday-Friday, in one of our four studios: Visual Arts, Media Arts, HIVE New Media, and ALAS Theater. Each studio worked with visiting artists, attended site visits to relevant organizations and cultural spaces, and spent considerable time developing their own body of work under the guidance of our experienced teaching staff. The summer program culminated with an open studio exhibition and film screening attended by over 100 audience members.



The **Visual Arts** studio focused on fiber arts and three-dimensional forms using a felting method taught by visiting artist Leticia Rocha, a Mexican-born fiber artist based in San Antonio. Their finished works demonstrated an advanced understanding of natural forms and deft approach to the material.



HIVE **New Media** students took their skills in creative coding to a new level. Working in small groups, students conceived and produced short illustrated adventure games using the Inky interactive fiction editor used by many professional games to handle the complexities of interactive narrative.

Our **Media Arts** 2-week intensive focused on the horror genre, which allows for a unique experimentation with lighting, make-up, set design, and special-effects. Visiting artists included SAY Sí alum and local filmmaker Grace Goen and James Rodriguez of Austin arts non-profit St. Primo. Students wrote, produced, cast actors, and edited fully realized horror shorts to showcase at a public screening.





Photograph by **Hector Garza**

PROMOTING YOUTH THEATER IN THE WESTSIDE CULTURAL DISTRICT

YOUTH THEATRE COMPANIES from the **Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center** and **SAY SÍ** worked together over four weeks to write and produce original plays. **The Theater Studio Intensive** served 40 students from SAY SÍ's ALAS Theater Company and The Guadalupe's Grupo Ánimo - our largest theatre cohort to date!

Students worked with renowned Chicano actors **Tony Plana** (Ugly Betty) and **Jesse Borrego** (Blood In, Blood Out), and learned about the challenges and successes of professional actors in film and TV. The culminating performance opened to a standing-room only audience in SAY SÍ's black box theater.



ABOUT THE WESTSIDE CULTURAL DISTRICT: EL MERO WESO

EL MERO WESO is home to thriving cultural organizations recognized nationally for their impact on the arts and community; investment in neighborhood infrastructure guided by equitable community development; and a growing number of small businesses catering to lifelong residents and first time visitors.

Through support from the Texas Commission on the Arts, cultural organizations in El Mero Weso collaborate to celebrate our neighborhood's cultural legacy and sustain the Westside as a place where arts and culture flourish.



Welcoming neighbors to SUMMER SATURDAYS

SAY SÍ KICKED OFF OUR FREE SUMMER COMMUNITY PROGRAMS with a Block Party where our families and Neighbors enjoyed art-making by **SAY Sí** and **San Anto Cultural Arts**, danced to the young DJs of **The AM Project**, and shopped at our art market featuring vendors from SAY Sí's alumni and **The Maestro Entrepreneur Center**. The Block Party fostered connections between our neighbors and cultural community, launching a season of free artmaking programs on Saturdays at SAY Sí.



Expanding workshop to EASTSIDE NEIGHBORHOODS

IN JULY, OUR TEACHING ARTISTS provided daily workshops in visual arts, photography, puppet theater and narrative game design to students ages 6-13 through a partnership with the **Ella Austin Community Center** and **Empower House**. Together, we shared resources including staff, materials and program space, to serve children and their families from the surrounding neighborhood - and had a lot of fun!



ABOUT US

SAY Sí began in 1994 with 12 students from Brackenridge High School. Since that time, SAY Sí has steadily grown to serve students of all ages through community and studio programs at our home on San Antonio's Westside. As San Antonio's leading creative youth development organization, SAY Sí is committed to ensuring that all young people have equitable access to opportunities to develop their creative potential and critical learning skills, empowering them to become active contributors to their communities.

OUR MISSION

SAY Sí ignites the creative power of young people as forces of positive change. We value artists, empower marginalized* communities and advance culture. **SAY Sí defines marginalized communities as people of color, women, LGBT+, and the economically disadvantaged.*

SAY SÍ BY THE NUMBERS

DURING SCHOOL YEAR

41 weeks a year x
2 days a week x
2.5 hours a day = **205 hours**



DURING SUMMER

up to 4 weeks a year x
5 days a week x
5 hours a day = **70 hours**



4 years



1,220 HOURS

30

2024 CELEBRATES **30** YEARS OF CREATIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND ART-MAKING



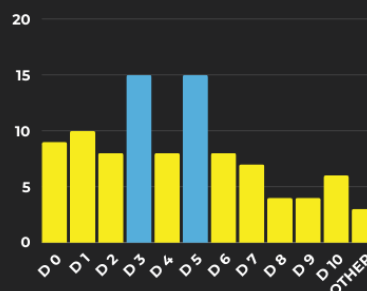
ACTIVE NETWORK OF OVER **500** SAY SÍ ALUMNI

100%

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE OF SAY SÍ STUDENTS

176 STUDENTS IN SESSION

99 HIGH SCHOOLERS
77 MIDDLE SCHOOLERS



WITH A MAJORITY OF OUR STUDENTS COMING FROM DISTRICTS 3 & 5

D5 STATS

INFO ABOUT OUR DISTRICT

141,149

POPULATION

32.8%

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

46.7%

AGE <18 IN POVERTY

92.5%

HISPANIC OR LATINO

\$17,234

PER CAPITA INCOME

WITH SPECIAL THANKS



&

147
INDIVIDUAL
DONORS
TO OUR SUMMER
CAMPAIGN