



## **SAY Sí [San Antonio Youth, YES!] Fast Facts**

### **SAY Sí Promotes & Provides Arts-Based Youth Development:**

#### **Mission:**

Serving San Antonio's youth, SAY Sí is a year round, long-term, non-profit multidisciplinary creative youth development program that provides students opportunities to advance artistic and social skills in preparation for higher educational advancement and professional careers.

#### **Vision:**

SAY Sí is committed to creating a premier, dynamic and nurturing educational environment for San Antonio's artistic youth, recognizing that the arts reshape the way young people learn, communicate and prepare for their work and civic future. SAY Sí also strives to develop each individual student artist by enhancing their social, academic, cognitive and vocational competencies; improving their self-esteem and self-identity; and enhancing their character so that they will possess all the tools and motivation necessary to become productive, thoughtful citizens of our community.

#### **A History of Excellence:**

- For 14+ years, 100% of SAY Sí students have graduated high school.
- SAY Sí's tuition-free programs serve over 200 middle and high school students, ranging in age from 10-19, attending schools in all 12 districts of San Antonio.
- SAY Sí is committed to serving San Antonio's inner-city youth, with a majority of current students coming from low-income households.
- SAY Sí's Artists Building Communities [ABC] program reaches over 4,000 San Antonio youth annually through community programming.
- SAY Sí is the Regional Affiliate for the San Antonio Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, working with students, teachers, schools, and nonprofit arts organizations in Bexar County to identify, motivate and validate the next generation of artists.
- SAY Sí alumni are accepted into some of the nation's most prestigious universities and arts-programs. In 2016, 20 high school seniors [SAY Sí's largest graduating class] attained over \$500,000 in combined scholarships and financial aid awards. Schools include: Emerson in Boston, School of Visual Art - New York, Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design, UT Austin as well as local colleges and universities.

- SAY Sí is a nationally recognized organization, held up as a model out-of-school-time arts program that, according to The Wallace Foundation, contains quality principles that should be replicated nationwide. [*Something to Say* white paper, 2013]
- SAY Sí was one of seven international youth arts organizations chosen to receive an inaugural **Creative Catalyst Award** by **Adobe Project 1324** on Tuesday, February 8, 2016. Creative Catalyst Awards are given to organizations across the globe that support and inspire the next generation of creative youth.
- **Adobe Project 1324** also awarded SAY Sí with an Innovation Grant to fund a new SAY Sí-led initiative called **Project Papalote**. Through Project Papalote, SAY Sí staff and youth will travel to Boston, Massachusetts; Salt Lake City, Utah; Mexico City, Mexico and Kolkata, India to work with other youth development organizations to collaboratively create media projects that focus on the theme of identifying borders and breaking boundaries.

#### **Core Values:**

- Dedication to Quality Arts Education
- Encouraging High Standards of Achievement
- Fostering Excellence and Leadership
- Contributing to a Community of Reciprocal Learning
- Providing a Culture of Support, Creativity and Purpose.

#### **How Students Join SAY Sí:**

SAY Sí recruits new students two times a year during the spring and fall - in January and September. Students are eligible to join SAY Sí at **NO COST** as long as they have parental/guardian permission, reliable transportation, are in middle school or high school [public, private or home school] and maintain a minimum C average in school. Students must also commit to attending the program regularly [at least 8 hours per week for high school students & Saturdays for middle school students] and long-term, complete projects in a timely manner while acting as a positive influence in the studios.

While SAY Sí accepts a diverse array of students from all areas of town, **first priority is given to students from San Antonio's inner city and from lower economic households.**

#### **To apply to SAY Sí, a student needs to:**

1. Read ALL SAY Sí Student Requirements on SAY Sí website at [saysi.org](http://saysi.org)
2. Choose a program area from the following:  
 MAS: Media Arts [Filmmaking & Photography] High School Program  
 VA: Visual Arts High School Program  
 ALAS: Theatre Arts High School Program  
 HIVE: New Media [Digital Art, Animation & Creative Coding] High School Program  
 WAM: Multidisciplinary Middle School Program
3. Visit the application page on the SAY Sí website and fill out the SAY Sí Application Form.
4. Schedule an interview by calling 210.212.8666. **Interviews will not be scheduled before the online application has been filled out completely and submitted.**

## **Where to See SAY Sí:**

### **SAY Sí Student Artwork is Featured Around San Antonio**

Several organizations throughout San Antonio have partnered with SAY Sí to display original student artwork in their facilities. These include:

- Page Barteau's Street Level Café at the Weston Centre
- University Health System: Robert B. Green Campus
- KWEX 41 Univision San Antonio Headquarters
- Alteza Residences above the Grand Hyatt San Antonio

## **Funding Sources:**

- Private Foundations: 60%
- Public dollars [city, state & federal]: 20%
- Corporations: 5%
- Individuals: 5%
- Earned Income: 10%

## **How to Support:**

- Attend our events!  
There are many ways you can support SAY Sí, but the biggest way is by attending our many student exhibitions, theatre performances and film screenings throughout the year.
- Connect with SAY Sí Online  
Find the most up-to-date information about our exhibits, film screenings, theatre productions and events on our website and through social media on Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr and Instagram. Get engaged by sharing our posts with your friends!
- Make a monetary donation to SAY Sí!  
Financial contributions keep SAY Sí Tuition FREE. You can make donation on our website or give a donation in person. Make a monthly contribution to SAY Sí and receive one-of-a-kind SAY Sí swag! If you know anybody who would like to support, share our donation pages online or via email.