



## Youth Cultural Ambassadors Program

### GOALS

- To foster a love of arts as a vehicle for self-expression and civic engagement among young people in San Mateo County.
- To build community through arts and culture with the goal of greater youth involvement in the community.
- To highlight the role of arts and culture in STEAM and other public discourse.

### ELIGIBILITY

- Open to artists aged 15 to 19.
- Specializing in one or more art disciplines (ex. literary, visual arts, theater, music, digital, etc.).
- Experience in community events, projects, or outreach (desired).
- Able to serve as Youth Cultural Ambassador for one year beginning July 2023.
- Be a San Mateo County resident.
- Up to five (5) Youth Cultural Ambassadors will be appointed, including a Youth Poetry Ambassador.

### HOW TO APPLY

- Visit <https://tinyurl.com/smcyc-a-arts> to complete an online application form. Deadline to submit your application is **May 31, 2023**. (You will be asked to attach an Artist Statement and 3-5 work samples. An Artist Statement is a description of your work, i.e., how you create art and why you do what you do.)

### TIMELINE

- **Application open May 1 – May 31, 2023.**
- Panel review in early June.
- Appointment of Youth Cultural Ambassadors in June for a term to start July 1, 2023, and end June 30, 2024.
- One of the Youth Cultural Ambassadors will assume the role of San Mateo County Youth Poetry Ambassador.
- Each Ambassador will receive an honorarium of \$500.

### RESPONSIBILITIES OF YOUTH CULTURAL AMBASSADORS

- Develop and execute an arts/culture-related project that will engage the community on any of the following themes: identity and belonging; mental health and healing; environment and sustainability; education and learning. Can work in collaboration with a library, school, or other organizations.
- Participate in organizing an *Ambassador's Convening* event for middle and high school students during Spring Break 2024.
- For Youth Poetry Ambassador: Twice yearly readings at Board of Supervisors meetings and assist with the promotion of the San Mateo County Poetry Out Loud competition.

*This program will be implemented by San Mateo County Poet Laureate Emerita Aileen Cassineto in its inaugural year. For more information, please email [artsandculture@smcgov.org](mailto:artsandculture@smcgov.org).*