Join a dynamic group of emerging arts professionals and explore how the next generation of arts leaders can transform the future of cultural institutions. Organized and led by interns from our team, this series of four workshops asks how interns can drive the field forward with respect to criminal justice reform, immigrant communities, and public health. Critically engage these topics through panel discussions and small group workshops with a team of interdisciplinary leaders from artists, curators, and educators to policy makers, community leaders, and mental health professionals. Participate in one or all sessions, and return for the culminating event where participants’ ideas will be documented into a final publication, a digital “Handbook for Our Future.”

This program is free. Register in advance here to receive the Zoom link. This series is made possible by generous support from the Citi Foundation.

Monday, August 2, 2021, 12:30–2:30 pm, Online

This session asks how cultural institutions contribute to positive public health initiatives by examining their existing resources, and building with community-based organizations.

Karon Davis (American, born 1977). Nicotine, 2016. Plaster, cloth, oil paint, synthetic hair, clothing, wire, shredded bills, coffee cup, wood, mirror, cigarette, 50 1/2 × 50 1/4 × 31 in. (128.3 × 127.6 × 78.7 cm). Brooklyn Museum; Purchase gift of Beth Rudin DeWoody, 2018.2.

Tuesday, August 3, 2021, 12:30–2:30 pm, Online

This session asks how museums and cultural institutions can best support those who have been affected by the criminal justice system in the United States, and what role we can play in systemic intervention as well as individual support. Our panel features Nicole Fleetwood, author and curator of Marking Time: Art in the Age of Mass Incarceration; Emmanuelle St. Jean, Director of NYC Programs, Bard Prison Initiative; Mahogany L. Browne, author, organizer, educator, and Executive Director, Bowery Poetry Club; and Elsie Flores, Court Advocate (Lower East Side), Avenues for Justice.

Wednesday, August 4, 2021, 12:30–2:30 pm, Online

This session asks how cultural institutions act as, and can become, advocates for immigration justice, and how those institutions can earn the trust needed to create strong partnerships with local immigrant communities. Our panel features Pepón Osorio, installation artist and professor, Tyler School of the Arts, Temple University; Catherine Grau, Community Partnership Manager, Queens Museum; Sandra Choi, Civic Participation Manager, MinKwon Center for Community Action; Cecilia Garibay, researcher and consultant, Garibay Group; and Joanne Hyppolite, African Diaspora Curator, National Museum of African American History and Culture.


Thursday, August 5, 2021, 12:30–2:30 pm, Online

This session asks how cultural institutions can create greater equity and inclusion to effectively address historical barriers to Black, Indigenous, and People of Color across all levels of our organizations. Our panel features Babelito, curator and visiting professor, University of Illinois at Chicago; Cassandra Cavness, Development Assistant, Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts; Lauren Zalut, Director of Education and Tour Programs, Eastern State Penitentiary; Sierra Van Ryck deGroot, Assistant Director of Education, Poster House; and J.A. Forde, Director of Strategic Partnerships and Community Support, Qatar Museums.


Friday, August 6, 2021, 12:30–2:30 pm, Online

Our final session will be an opportunity for all participants to share and reflect on their ideas generated from first four days of programming. All ideas will be documented into a final digital publication, “Handbook for Our Future.” All of those who share their ideas will be credited as contributors in the final publication.