

Top Tips:

How to be a Youth Arts Advocate



Own your practice: Be confident in your role as a youth arts advocate by recognising the value of your work and its impact on the young people you engage with.

Consider the value of your work: Reflect on how your work benefits the wider community, not just the participants, and how it contributes to a positive cultural shift.

Embrace adaptability: Be open to changing your approach to meet the needs of different groups, ensuring your programmes remain relevant and inclusive.

Leverage peer advocacy: Recognise the power of young people's friends as advocates. Peer influence can be more impactful in encouraging others to join.

Use representatives: Engage youth advocates or representatives to encourage participation, particularly by connecting with families and community members.

Be genuinely interested: Advocate because you care, not for recognition. Authentic advocacy comes from a genuine desire to make a difference, not just for visibility or "photo opportunities."

Create change through meaningful representation:

Encourage young people to ask their friends to join, which will foster a sense of community and inclusivity. Advocate for programmes that reflect the diverse backgrounds and interests of participants.

Identify opportunities for arts: Constantly look for areas where artistic practices can benefit young people or serve a broader purpose in addressing social or personal issues.

Anyone can be a youth advocate!