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## Movement & Visual Art Gap Year Program – New York City

### Program Overview:

Pizarts, in partnership with Harlem Art Collective, offers a unique 3-Month Movement & Visual Art Gap Year Program for young adults eager to shape their own artistic journey. This flexible program allows you to decide whether to focus more on dance or visual art—or explore a balance of both.

Whether you're a dancer curious about visual arts or a visual artist looking to deepen your dance skills, you'll have countless opportunities to develop your craft and design a portfolio that reflects your personal path. Collaborating with Harlem Art Collective and local art organizations, we provide a tailored experience within the support of a group setting.

Our program also includes an option for international travel through the Dance Company Project, where you can immerse yourself in new cultures, gain artistic inspiration, and make a meaningful impact.

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### Program Highlights

- **Discover Life in NYC**  
Experience the magic of New York City's cultural scene, iconic landmarks, and diverse neighborhoods. Gain firsthand insight into life in the city that never sleeps.
- **Transition to Independence**  
Learn essential life skills for thriving independently, including managing responsibilities and navigating NYC's public transportation.
- **Construct Your Dance & Art Portfolio**  
Document your artistic journey, creating a polished portfolio that reflects your growth and artistic evolution, ready to impress admission committees.
- **Navigate the Audition Process**  
Get personalized guidance on preparing audition pieces, presenting yourself confidently, and showcasing your unique artistry.

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- **Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Mentorship**

Unlock your creative potential through SEL mentorship, helping you manage emotions, harness energy, and take a holistic approach to growth.

- **Cultural Enrichment**

Immerse yourself in NYC's artistic scene with curated events, exhibitions, and performances, broadening your horizons and deepening your connection to art.

- **Forge Lifelong Connections**

Build a network with like-minded artists who share your passions and ambitions, fostering relationships that will support your artistic career.

- **Dance and Art in NYC**

Engage in dance classes, workshops, rehearsals, and various artistic fields, exploring a world of opportunities beyond traditional training.

- **Internship Experience**

Take part in an internship aligned with your interests, whether within or outside the dance field, to gain professional experience and valuable skills.

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## Q & A

### Q: When does the program start?

A: The program begins three times each year, in **March, June, September**.

### Q: What is the cost of the program?

A:

- **Program Only:** \$17,500 (includes city transportation, mentorship, portfolio design, and pre/post-entry support)
- **With Housing:** \$22,500

### Q: Are scholarships available?

A: Yes! Scholarships are available based on merit and financial need. Contact our admissions team for more information on how to apply.

### Q: What is included in the program?

A: The program fee covers all core elements, including mentorship, professional development, portfolio design, NYC city travel costs, and internship opportunities. If you opt for housing, dormitory accommodations are also included.

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**Q: Who is eligible for this program?**

**A:** This program is designed for young artists **ages 17-25** who have a background in dance or visual arts and are looking to develop their skills, build a portfolio, and gain experience in a city environment.

**Q: Do I need prior experience in dance or visual arts?**

**A:** Yes, the program is intended for individuals with some background in dance or visual arts who want explore their skills alongside working with Pizarts artist mentors.

**Q: What will I gain from participating?**

**A:** You'll leave with a polished portfolio, hands-on experience in auditions, professional mentorship, cultural enrichment, and connections within NYC's arts scene. You'll also gain independence and essential life skills for living in a major city.

**Q: What kind of mentorship will I receive?**

**A:** You'll receive **Social Emotional Learning (SEL)** mentorship, artistic guidance, and practical advice on transitioning to city life, developing as an artist, and building a professional network.

**Q: Does the program include an internship?**

**A:** Yes, the program includes an **internship opportunity** in a field related to your interests, giving you real-world experience and professional connections.

**Q: How do I apply?**

**A:** Visit our website to complete the [application](#). Our admissions team will review applications and reach out with further instructions.

**Q: Are there cultural activities included?**

**A:** Definitely! The program includes a range of cultural events, exhibitions, and performances to enrich your artistic journey and give you a deeper understanding of NYC's cultural landscape.

**Q: Who should I contact for more information?**

**A:** For more details, reach out to us at <https://www.dancegapyear.com/contact>. Our team is happy to help with any inquiries you have.

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## Sample Daily Schedule for 12-Week Visual Art & Movement Gap Year (Fall 2023)

This schedule emphasizes movement-based learning through consistent practice in various body movement techniques while integrating visual art, videography, cultural exploration, and personal development for a comprehensive creative experience.

**Days Off:** Mondays and Sundays

**Daily Hours:** 4–6 hours

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### Tuesdays: Fine Art Techniques & Visual Exploration

- **10:00 AM - 12:00 PM:** Drawing & Sketching Fundamentals
- **12:00 PM - 1:00 PM:** Break / Lunch
- **1:00 PM - 3:00 PM:** Photography & Videography Basics
- **4:00 PM - 6:00 PM:** Movement-Based Session

Activities include still-life drawing, perspective work, and sketching techniques, followed by color studies and blending shades, hues, and textures in art. Videography basics focus on framing, lighting, and storytelling through motion.

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### Wednesdays: Mixed Media, Personal Pathway, & Harlem Cultural History Experience

- **10:00 AM - 12:00 PM:** Mixed Media Art (collage, textiles, multimedia materials)
- **12:00 PM - 1:00 PM:** Break / Lunch
- **1:00 PM - 2:30 PM:** Personal Pathway Session (1-on-1 coaching to explore individual interests and goals in art, movement, or videography)
- **2:30 PM - 4:00 PM:** Harlem Cultural History Experience (exploring Harlem's rich cultural legacy through guided tours, guest speakers, creative workshops, or historical research)

This session deepens students' connection to their environment, celebrating Harlem's contributions to the arts, music, and cultural history.

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## Thursdays: Visual Storytelling & Portfolio Development

- **10:00 AM - 12:00 PM:** Visual Storytelling Techniques
- **12:00 PM - 1:00 PM:** Break / Lunch
- **1:00 PM - 3:00 PM:** Portfolio Building (refining sketches, adding final touches, documenting art)
- **4:00 PM - 6:00 PM:** Movement-Based Session

Mornings are dedicated to creating narrative art pieces and practicing visual storytelling. Movement sessions integrate creative exploration and body awareness.

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## Fridays: Aesthetic Art, Movement, & Video Production

- **10:00 AM - 12:00 PM:** Aesthetic Art & Design (digital art, character design, personal branding)
- **12:00 PM - 1:00 PM:** Break / Lunch
- **1:00 PM - 3:00 PM:** Improvisational Movement Workshop
- **4:00 PM - 6:00 PM:** Company Rehearsal with Videography (recording rehearsals and creating behind-the-scenes content)

The aesthetic art session includes digital drawing, branding, and character design. Videography focuses on capturing and editing movement sequences for personal portfolios.

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## Saturdays: Project Work, Cultural Activity, & Art Exhibit Preparation

- **10:00 AM - 1:00 PM:** Personal Art Project or Collaborative Work
- **1:00 PM - 2:00 PM:** Break / Lunch
- **2:00 PM - 3:30 PM:** Cultural Activity (e.g., museum visits, cultural workshops, or artist talks)
- **3:30 PM - 5:00 PM:** Gallery Setup & Exhibit Prep

Mornings focus on individual or group art projects, allowing students to work on personal or collaborative pieces. Cultural activities expose participants to diverse artistic traditions and histories. Videography is used to document the preparation process, culminating in a showcase video for the final exhibit.

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## Weekly Focus Highlights

- **Tuesdays:** Fine art techniques with drawing, sketching, photography, and videography basics.
- **Wednesdays:** Mixed media exploration, personal pathway sessions, and Harlem cultural history experiences.
- **Thursdays:** Storytelling in art with portfolio development and movement integration.
- **Fridays:** Digital art, improvisational movement, and company rehearsal captured on video.
- **Saturdays:** Hands-on project work, cultural exploration, and final art exhibit preparation with video documentation.