



## **ARTIST TALKS AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS**

*\*Artist talks and panel discussions are meant for all ages and can be booked throughout the year as one-off engagements with schools, youth centers, arts centers, companies, and other public venues.*

*\*Talks and discussions can range from 30 minutes to 2 hours, and can be paired with short performances or creative presentations of other kinds, such as the screening of a short film.*

### **HIP HOP AND AMERICAN HISTORY**

From the blues, jazz, and rock, to soul, funk, and disco, all of the traditions of American music are embedded in Hip Hop. Within this music is a history of struggle and triumph, race, identity, technology, economy, and self-expression. Kiran Vedula explores that history by dissecting and making connections between important/popular songs, artists, and cultural moments in America.

### **TRADITIONS OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA**

The African diaspora includes traditions from Africa that travelled and evolved over time in the Caribbean, North, South, and Central America, Asia and Europe. By understanding the African roots of music and dance and how the different cultures of the world developed, we gain a deeper understanding of our shared heritage.

### **CAREERS IN THE ARTS**

Professional artists share information, insights, and challenges related to making a living, building a brand, connecting with and growing an audience, promotion and marketing, professionalism, networking, and resources.

### **CREATIVITY AND MINDFULNESS**

Professional artists share thoughts, practices, and struggles related to creative process, inspiration, motivation, mental/physical health, and spirituality.

## **RESOURCES FOR INDEPENDENT ARTISTS**

\*60 Minute Talks/Workshops  
(Virtual and In-Person)

### **“DO SOMETHING FOR THE KIDS”**

- Ideas and techniques for independent artists to use in order to connect with community organizations and schools, and create contracted opportunities for themselves built on their own artistic strengths and passions.
- Project proposal writing basics for individual artists.
- Youth program curriculum creation techniques.

### **“IT TAKES A VILLAGE”**

- No artist exists in a vacuum; in order to succeed, an artist has to be part of an ecosystem. This workshop will provide insight into the process of finding your team or tribe, then building a community and culture around that tribe.
- The importance of building meaningful, vulnerable relationships with your creative collaborators, and ideas for how to go about doing this.
- Ideas and techniques for branching out of your bubble and finding new authentic connections.

### **“JACK OF ALL TRADES”**

- Ideas for how to expand your skills and creative tools, so that you don't limit yourself to "I'm a painter" or "I'm a rapper," but instead seeing yourself as a Creator.
- How to learn new software, like Logic Pro or Adobe Photoshop, on your own using YouTube and Google.
- Learn how to maximize all the creative capabilities of your computer, smart phone, or tablet. All you need is good WiFi and one or all of those three items to make thousands of dollars a month.