Bring EVC’s Culturally-Responsive Media Arts and Digital Inclusion Programming to your Students and Schools!

Make Up For Lost Time and Address Disproportionate Learning Loss through Documentary Filmmaking with BIPOC Youth.

About EVC:
The Educational Video Center began with a simple idea: put video cameras in the hands of teenagers and teach them to go out into the city and craft stories about the world as they see it – with all its problems and possibilities. Our media arts programs are a platform where young people take the lead on their own learning and leadership, and where they create documentaries as part of their civic engagement with issues they care about.

EVC’s Educational Philosophy:
EVC combines almost four decades of pioneering work at the intersection of student-centered education and social justice documentary arts with a commitment to learning with and from our students. Grounded in progressive educational movements and practices,¹ EVC’s educational philosophy helps young people to critically analyze the systems that oppress them and create new possibilities for social justice. Connecting the personal and the political through their documentary inquiries, young people can find renewed purpose in their learning and develop stronger habits of reading, critical research, and creative expression.

Bringing EVC’s External Education/Professional Development Programs to Your School:
EVC offers both in-school and after school programs that can be customized to best meet your needs. Please refer to the FAQ’s below.

For further information or to schedule a meeting to discuss your needs:
Please contact Mary Grueser, Deputy Director of Programs at EVC: mgrueser@evc.org or 212-465-9366

¹ Including critical pedagogy and popular education; Frierian problem-posing education and dialogical learning; social emotional learning/equity; project-based learning; culturally responsive/sustaining pedagogy; real-world and experiential learning; work-based learning; horizontal-learning environments; and youth participatory action research.
PARTNER SCHOOL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Are you a NYC DOE approved vendor?
Yes, EVC is an approved NYC DOE vendor. (Our DOE Contract Number is QR929CE and EVC’s Vendor Number is EDU190000.)

Do you work with certain schools?
EVC is open to working with all public middle and high schools. We specialize in working with students from transfer schools, consortium schools, international schools, and other alternative schools such as vocational schools, school suspension sites, and equivalency programs.

Can you bring EVC workshops to my school or do students travel to your location?
EVC offers both options. Through our External Education/Professional Development Program we bring EVC workshops to our partner school locations and teach their students exclusively. Different EVC programs, with students from multiple schools, are offered at our location.

Do you offer in-person, hybrid or virtual workshops?
Yes, EVC offers all of these options. We can customize an EVC program that best meets the needs of your students and teachers, while prioritizing safety and compliance with all COVID-19 guidelines.

Do you offer after school or school-time workshops?
Both. We can customize a program that best meets the needs of your students and teachers.

Do you offer workshops for ELLs or bilingual workshops?
Both. EVC’s curriculum and instructional methods (including scaffolding and differentiated learning) support ELLs and they generally thrive in our workshops. We also have a limited number of bilingual English/Spanish instructors and we do our best to accommodate such requests as our capacity allows.

Is your curriculum aligned with NYS educational standards?
Yes. EVC students typically earn credits in ELA, Social Studies, Art and more. We design our programs to best meet the needs of your students and teachers.

Do you work alongside teachers integrating media arts into their classes or do you offer direct instruction of students?
EVC offers both. Our preferred approach is to work alongside teachers so that EVC’s evidence-based practice takes root in each classroom and spreads from there. All participants in our workshops are learners and teachers at the same time, including teachers, students, and our staff. Typically direct instruction happens in after school programs where there is no teacher of record. We are flexible.

How many students do you serve at a time?
We are flexible. Some schools contract us to work with multiple classes at the same time and we have worked with 90 students at once! Others contract us to run two back-to-back workshops with different classes. Small group work, approximately 15 - 20 students per cohort, generally works best with our pedagogy. However, we can customize our programming to best meet your classroom size and can offer a few different options for your consideration after an initial consultation with our team.

What is the recommended duration and frequency of an EVC program?
We can customize a program to best meet the needs of your students and budget size. We have partnered with schools for two week intensives, semester-long programs and everything in
between! For in-school programming we generally recommend two class periods (1.5 hours minimum) for each of our sessions and ideally for two sessions per week to optimize the learning for the students. We are flexible.

What kinds of films do students produce?
All EVC film topics are about social justice issues that the students collaboratively decide upon. Depending on the length of the workshop, students can produce short 2-3 minute public service announcements, 5 - 10 minute community inquiry films, or longer 15 - 20 minute documentary short films.

Who edits the films?
Through EVC’s project-based learning approach, students collaboratively edit their own films. Our workshops are organized just as professional documentary crews are: a pre-production phase for picking a topic, developing a line of inquiry, storyboarding, and conducting research; a production phase for filming expert interviews, street interviews, verité footage, and b-roll; and a post-production phase for editing, adding graphics, color and sound correction, etc.

Do we need any special equipment or software?
Ideally students should have access to Mac computers so they have access to iMovie, but we have access to several online editing platforms that work on ChromeBooks, tablets, and cell phones for virtual workshops. For in-person workshops we can recommend affordable camera kits for schools to purchase, and we also have some equipment available for rent should schools not be able to buy equipment. Students can also use their tablet or cell phone cameras to record video.

Do students each create their own films or do they produce one film?
Generally students collaborate on one film that a group of about 12 - 15 students produce together. For larger classes, we can break into smaller groups so each group collaboratively produces their own film. Students generally do not produce individual films in our project-based learning model.

Do you organize film screenings for our students?
The last session in each program is dedicated to a culminating event where students premiere their films, reflect on their learning, and engage in a live Q&A session with their peers, teachers, administrators, and other invited guests. These films are also considered for EVC’s Youth-Powered Video Film Festival which typically happens annually at AMC Theater in midtown Manhattan.

Who owns the films once they are completed?
The films are jointly owned by the partner school and EVC. We encourage partner schools to screen their films widely, use them in other classes, include them on your website and social media, etc.

What other learning and career-exploration opportunities do you offer students?
EVC encourages students who have been through at least one school-based workshop program to sign up for other after school workshops that we offer in our West Village location. Find out more at www.evc.org.

How much does it cost to have EVC programming at my school?
Please contact us to let us know what your needs are and we can put together a customized proposal for you.

EVC IS SUPPORTED IN PART BY THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL