

Arts in Youth and Community Development Organizational Leadership Track (beginning Fall 2008)

The AYCD Organizational Leadership Track would support AYCD students who are already employed as community arts and/or youth arts workers by exempting them from the practicum requirement with the understanding that they would continue their current jobs and enroll with the support and participation of their current employer.

Students who are interested in keeping their current employment while enrolling in AYCD would need to complete the same application form as all other AYCD candidates. In order to qualify for the Organizational Leadership Track and be exempted from the practicum requirement, candidates would need to articulate:

- 1) how their current employment relates to the AYCD program in terms of the kinds of organizations with whom we work
- 2) how completing the MAM with a concentration in AYCD could benefit them in their current or future career

In addition, one of the 2 required letters of recommendation for admission would need to be from the student's current employer. The employer should demonstrate in the letter some understanding of the AYCD program and articulate support for the employee in their graduate studies. Before a student is admitted to AYCD in the Organizational Leadership Track, AYCD staff will conduct a site visit to the candidate's organization of employment. Both AYCD staff and the staff of the employer will sign a letter of agreement.

Students will be required to arrange their work schedules so that they can attend all classes in the AYCD program. In some cases, this may require flexibility on the part of the employer. The student's employment supervisor will be given the opportunity to participate in all AYCD mentor events.