

# Intersectionality & Student-Centered Secondary Transition Planning

CADRE's 8th National Symposium, *RISE to the Challenge: Resolve, Innovate, Support, Engage*

Sarah Grime, Konshens The MC, Elijah Lee, Emily Lehman Miller

October 29, 2021





## All about SchoolTalk

Founded in 2008, SchoolTalk, Inc. is a DC based nonprofit whose mission is to create spaces that promote self-determination and a voice for youth with disabilities and their peers. SchoolTalk supports the DC education community in collaboratively addressing complex challenges and creating practical solutions for assisting youth of all abilities achieve success. SchoolTalk's programs actively work to improve postsecondary outcomes for youth through both **proactive initiatives** such as youth leadership and mentoring, skill-building, and workforce development; and **direct intervention** to resolve issues in productive ways, such as mediation and restorative justice. SchoolTalk has three **key program: Arts to Advocacy, Restorative Justice and College & Career Readiness.**



RestorativeDC





## **Edutainment Unlimited LLC**

<https://www.konshens.com/>

Tarik 'Konshens The MC' Davis is a hip-hop artist, songwriter, educator, youth advocate & Inspirational Speaker from Washington D.C. He is Founder & CEO of Edutainment Unlimited LLC (Arts Education/Entertainment Co.), currently a Governor on the Grammy Chapter Board, Voting Member of the Grammy Recording Academy, Grammy Museum Teaching Artist and U.S Cultural Ambassador (State Department). He is also the MC and founder of 'Classically Dope', a classical, hip-hop group which merges hip-hop lyrics with original classical arrangements. Along with being the MC for HipHop Band "Konshens & his State of Mind". He's recently performed at the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts and has been featured on Fox, ABC and CBS networks, the Washingtonian Magazine and more. As an artist and innovator, Konshens The MC stands at the forefront of the evolution of hip-hop.

# Agenda



Welcome & Facilitator Introductions



Agreements



Values Round



Finding the Words- Building Vocabulary



Deepening the Discussion



Closing & Commitments



***“There is no such thing as a single-issue struggle because we do not live single-issue lives.”***

Audre Lorde

# Community Agreements



Experience Discomfort



Accept and Expect Non-Closure



Grace with Yourself,  
Grace with Others



Intent vs. Impact





# Experience Discomfort

To deal with the reality of race in an honest and forthright way, we ask participants to agree to experience the discomfort that is to be expected due to the problematic state of racial conditions in our society. (If colleagues experience division as they deal with issues of race and equity, we suspect that they were already silently divided. Although discomfiting, giving voice and meaning to this divide can begin the process of healing and transformation.)



# Accept and Expect Non-closure

To engage in courageous conversations about race is to recognize that you/we will not reach closure in our racial understandings or in our racial interactions. There is no “quick fix” or solution to the challenge of our racial struggle as individuals, or as a society. Therefore, we must commit to ongoing dialogue as an essential component of our action plan.





# Grace with Yourself, Grace with Others

We agree that this work is difficult, and we acknowledge that each of us is approaching it from different points in our personal journey and education. As such, and in pursuit of authentic and meaningful courageous conversations, we must be open to discovering our own thoughts and beliefs and hearing those of others, even with those with which we disagree vehemently. It is also important to remember that in the many facets of our lives, we have all held beliefs that we no longer hold, articulated thoughts or opinions poorly, and underestimated the impact of our words. While we are all accountable for the things that we say and do, remember to give yourself and others the time and space to grow.



### Intent vs. Impact

When someone does something hurtful or offensive to another person, the perpetrator's intent is not what's most important when gauging the appropriateness of an action -- in fact, many would say that it is inherently privileged to redirect the focus of a conversation to the perpetrator's (presumably harmless) intentions, rather than focusing on the feelings and experiences of the person who has been harmed

(Melanie Tannenbaum, Scientific American.)

# Values Round



Share in the Home Base:  
What value are you  
bringing to our work  
together together?

# Finding the Words – Building Vocabulary

What is Intersectionality?



# Deepening the Conversation

Questions to explore within breakout groups:

- What came up for you when watching the videos?
- Is there anything that makes you anxious about this work and exploring these issues?
- How can applying an intersectional lens to secondary transition programs create more equitable and meaningful experiences for young people?

# Supporting DC Youth with Disabilities in Preparing for Creative Careers



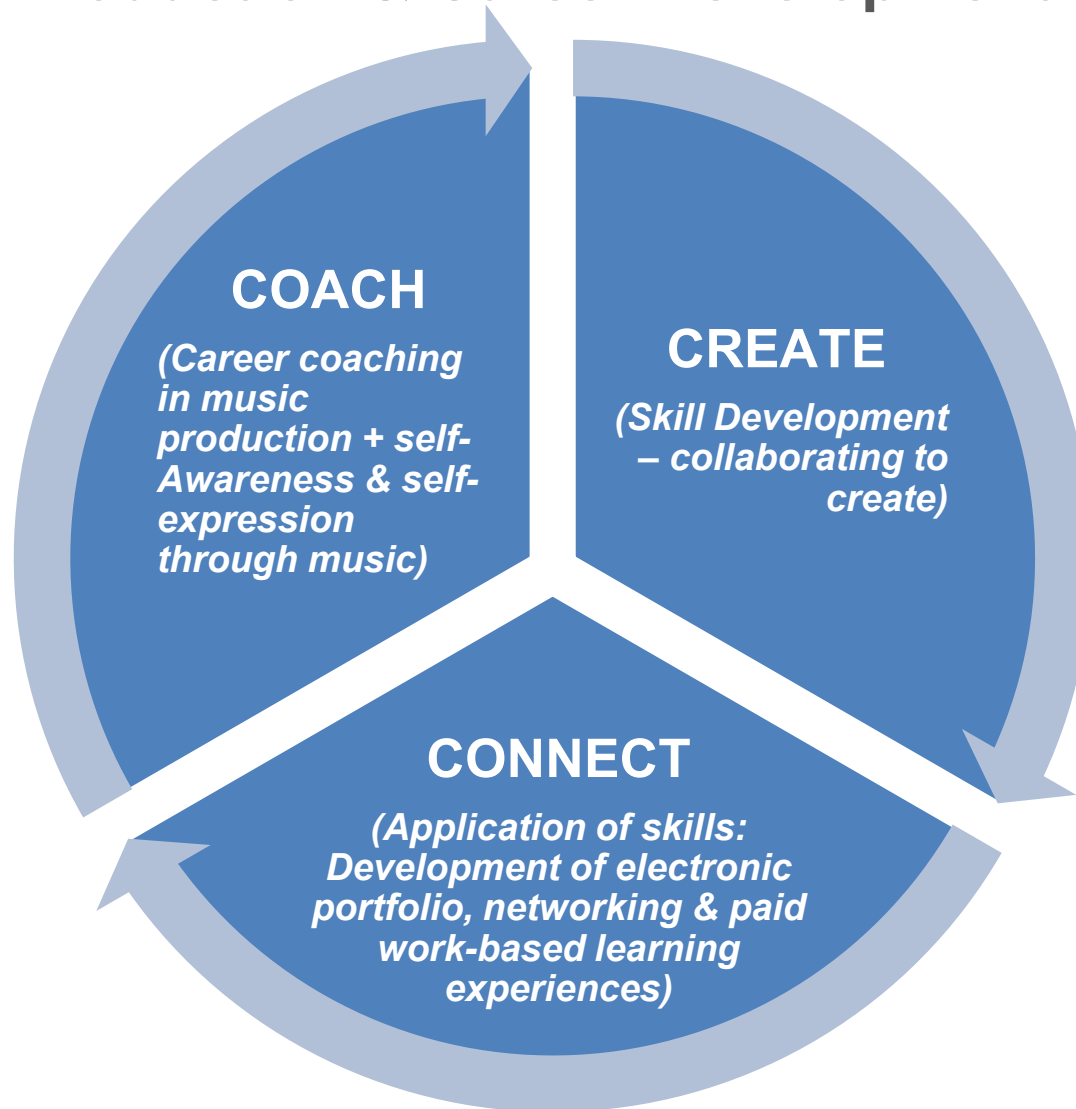


## Approach / Strategy

Implement programming using a coaching model.  
The A2A program is aligned with the Creative Youth  
Development National Partnership framework.



# Music Production & Career Development Program



This program is provided under a 2020-2021 contract with the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. This is the 5th year of the program.



# COACH

## Career Coaching in Music Production from Konshens the MC

- Creative Writing
- Audio Music Production
- Arts Based Entrepreneurship

“I enjoyed my time spent in this program. I’ve gotten more experience of writing music and doing what I love to do in a timely fashion. I’ve also gotten to collaborate with other talented artists. Super grateful for my time spent here and I can’t wait for all the new and exciting opportunities to occur.” – Youth Participant

Name

My life is  (color)

Sounds like

Smells like

My life looks like

Taste's like

Feels like

I love my life because

Edutainment Unlimited LLC

[www.konshens.com](http://www.konshens.com)



# CREATE

“Community” – written & performed by Jhiya, produced by Tayshawn  
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/y66jw96222npu6r/JMoney%20x%20Tayshawn%20-%20Community.mp3?dl=0>

“Special” – written & performed by Petra, produced by Xavier  
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/bqpucvrk64bpwv4/Petra%20x%20Xavier%20-%20Special%20.mp3?dl=0>



# CONNECT

## Electronic Portfolios

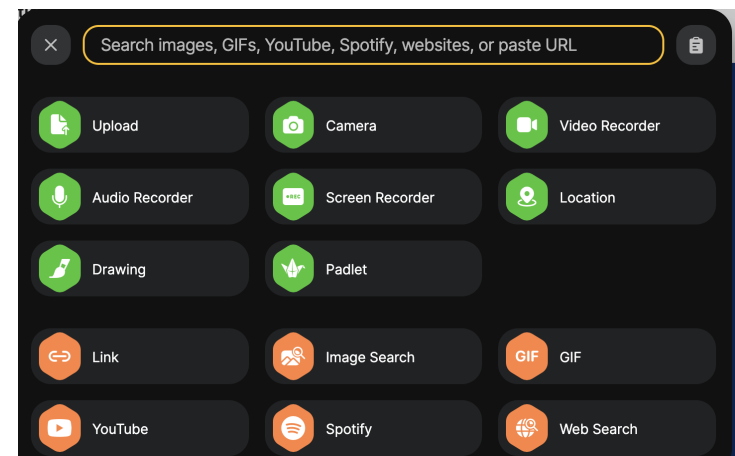
- Artist Biographies
- Titles & Inspirations for Pieces
- Links to Recordings
- Photos
- Social Media
  - (specific to promoting art)
- Experience

“I enjoyed working on the portfolio was good, because I can put my own opinions in it. The negative part of it was, it took some time doing it. But, I really enjoy being creative, and create my own poems, with my own taste.”— Youth Participant

Sarah Grime • 19d

### Electronic Portfolio & Press Kit Template

<b>Artist Information</b> ⋮	<b>Audio Recordings</b> ⋮	<b>Photos</b> ⋮
<b>Artist Name &amp; Tagline</b> ⋮	<b>Title of Piece #1</b> ⋮ Type in a description of the piece and a link to it. Include names of collaborators.	<b>Headshot</b> ⋮ Upload a headshot. +
<b>Why music?</b> ⋮	<b>Title of Piece #2</b> ⋮ Type in a description of the piece and a link to it. Include names of collaborators.	
<b>What genre &amp; why?</b> ⋮	<b>Title of Piece #3</b> ⋮ Type in a description of the piece and a link to it. Include names of collaborators. +	
<b>What drives your lyrics / beats? What is your creative process?</b> ⋮		
<b>What makes your musical creations unique? How would you describe your style?</b> ⋮		
<b>Who is your audience? Who do you want to reach &amp; why?</b> ⋮		
<b>What is one goal you want to achieve in music?</b> ⋮		
<b>What is one message you want to convey through your music?</b> ⋮		
		+





# VOICES OF CHANGE

A Competitive Creative Experience

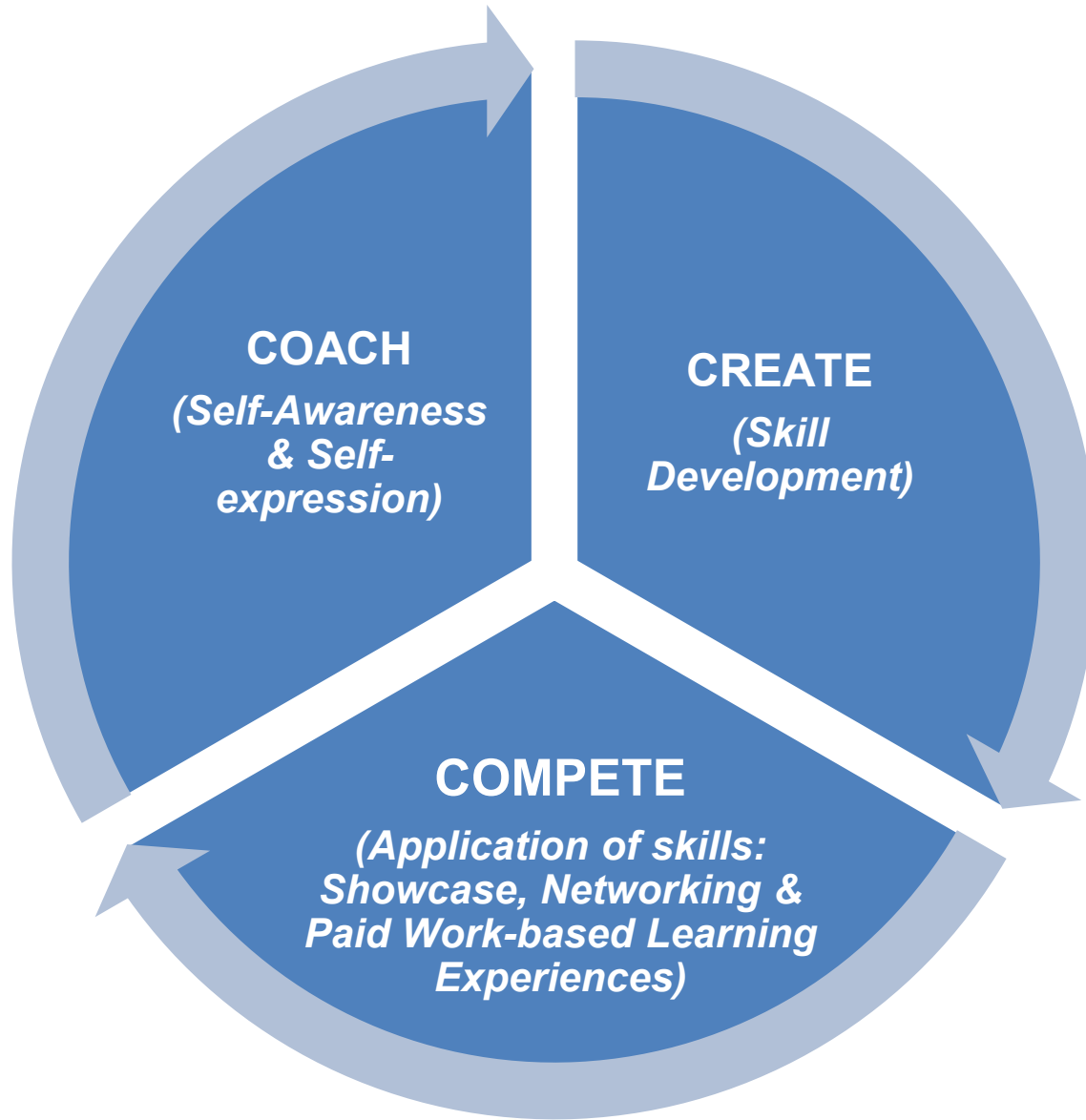
## THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW

**Audience:** DC high school youth with IEPs

**Purpose:** Use art to equip youth with the knowledge and skills to lead self-determined lives through opportunities to LEARN, LEAD, & ACT.

**Design:** Creative competitive experience where eight school teams squared off to create short multimedia works with the theme, “**The Day After Tomorrow.**” Teams had up to 10 youth with IEPs or 504 plans. Each team received virtual coaching from experts in advocacy, communication, problem-solving, music production, photography, visual art, videography and performance. Each school team competed with other schools on Instagram Live in a format similar to TV’s The Voice. Beyond the competition, each school’s multimedia creations are an advocacy tool to elevate youth voices and visions to advocate for change.





# Coach

- **Storyboarding:** Gabriel “Asheru” Benn (Guerilla Arts Ink)
- **Music Production:** Konshens the MC (Edutainment Unlimited LLC)
- **Public speaking / performance:** Carmen White, Lennie Smith, Linwood Smith, Jiiko Townsend (Dramatic Solutions)
- **Videography:** Will Starks (Lyarks Films)
- **Photography & Drawing:** Sarah Grime & Elijah Lee (SchoolTalk)



# Create

**Artists Behind the Art:**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= Lcy7mV274c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lcy7mV274c)

**Multi-media Piece\*:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ykh5LgPzs0Q>



# Compete

## 1. Group Stage

### CREATIVE COMPETITION SCHEDULE



**VOICES OF CHANGE**

**MON MAY 17TH**  
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM  
WOODSON VS BALLOU  
EL HAYNES VS ROOSEVELT

**TUES MAY 18TH**  
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM  
RIVER TERR VS DUNBAR  
CAPITAL CITY VS DUKE

**WED MAY 19TH**  
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM  
WOODSON VS DUKE  
BALLOU VS CAPITAL CITY

**THUR MAY 20TH**  
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM  
EL HAYNES VS DUNBAR  
ROOSEVELT VS RIVER TERR



## 2. Semi-finals

**VOICES OF CHANGE**  
CREATIVE COMPETITION  
**SEMI-FINALS**

1 DUKE ELLINGTON  
VS.  
2 CAPITAL CITY

4 DUNBAR  
VS.  
3 RIVER TERRACE

SchoolTalk

**FINAL FOUR**  
LIVE ON INSTAGRAM  
JUNE 14TH

DSD  
VSA The Kennedy Center  
The Kennedy Center  
OSSE

## 3. Finals

To watch the full Voices of Change Creative Competition go to [www.youtube.com/lyarks](http://www.youtube.com/lyarks)





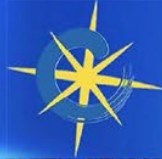
# SERIES SCHEDULE

**MON MAY 17TH**

WOODSON VS BALLOU  
EL HAYNES VS ROOSEVELT



BALLOU SHS



CAPITAL CITY PCS



DUKE ELLINGTON



DUNBAR SHS



E.L. HAYNES PCS



RIVER TERRACE



ROOSEVELT SHS



HD WOODSON

**TUES MAY 18TH**

RIVER TERR VS DUNBAR  
CAPITAL CITY VS DUKE

**WED MAY 19TH**

WOODSON VS DUKE  
BALLOU VS CAPITAL CITY

**THUR MAY 20TH**

EL HAYNES VS DUNBAR  
ROOSEVELT VS RIVER TERR

MON JUN 14TH

Duke Ellington

Dunbar

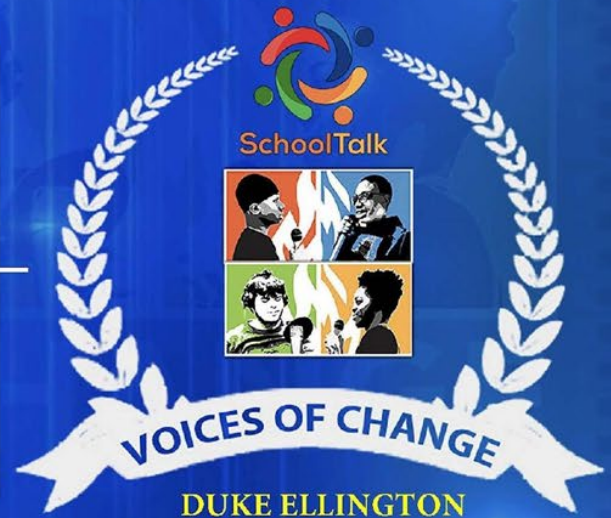
Capital City PCS

River Terrace

Duke Ellington

**FINALS**  
WED JUN 16TH

Capital City PCS



@SCHOOLTALKDC





# WBLEs

## *Voices of Change Program*

### WBLEs

**Artists, Spokesperson,  
Social Media Reps** (pre-  
competition)

**Production Team** (during  
competition)

**MC** (during competition)

**Judges** (during competition)

**Spokespersons** (during  
competition)



# WBLEs

*United Nations Desertification & Drought Day*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=BIkeUjmYSb0&feature=youtu.be> |



SchoolTalk

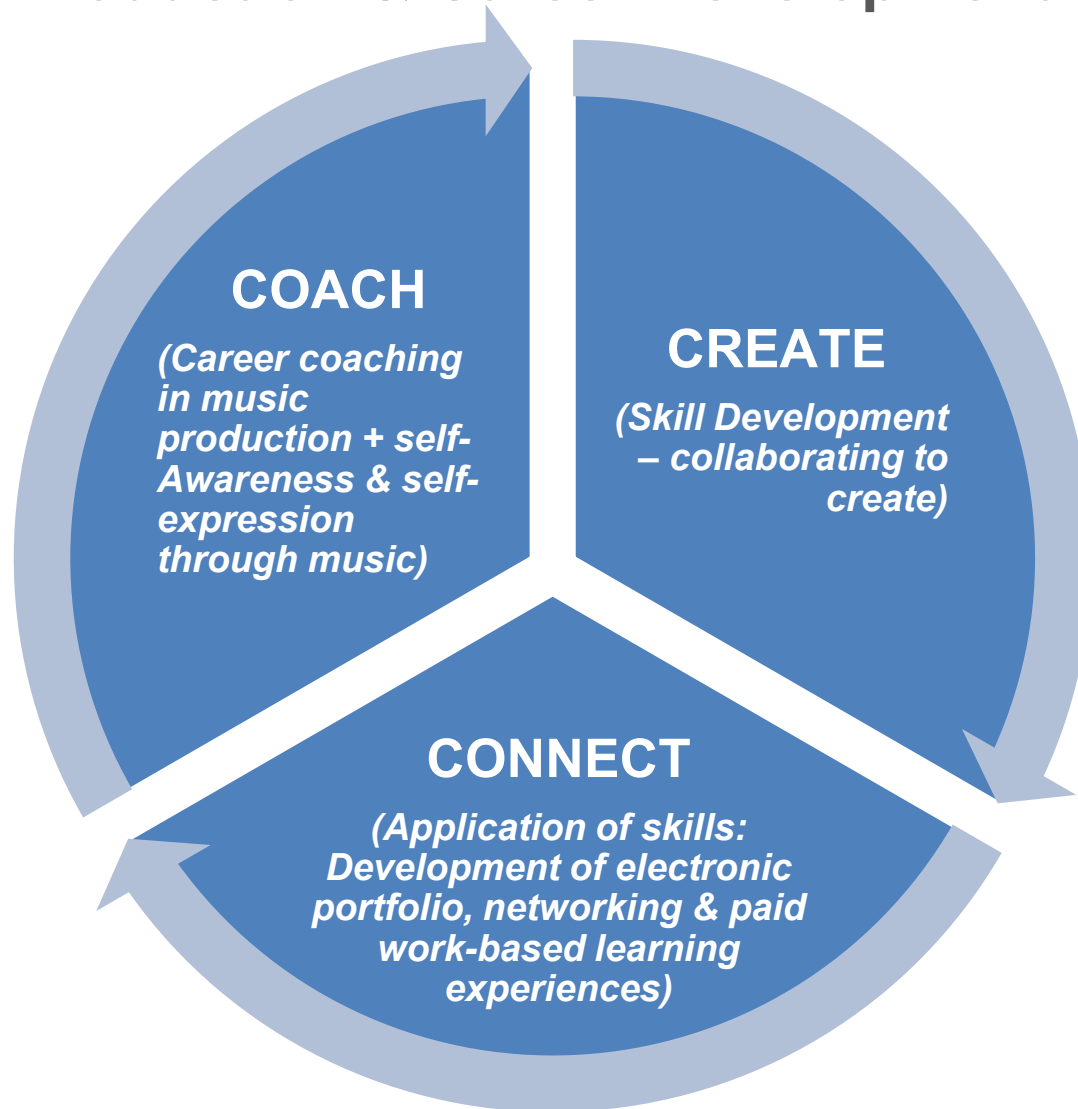


## Approach / Strategy

Implement programming using a coaching model.  
The A2A program is aligned with the Creative Youth  
Development National Partnership framework.



# Music Production & Career Development Program



This program is provided under a 2020-2021 contract with the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. This is the 5th year of the program.

# COACH

## Career Coaching in Music Production from Konshens the MC

- Creative Writing
- Audio Music Production
- Arts Based Entrepreneurship

“I enjoyed my time spent in this program. I’ve gotten more experience of writing music and doing what I love to do in a timely fashion. I’ve also gotten to collaborate with other talented artists. Super grateful for my time spent here and I can’t wait for all the new and exciting opportunities to occur.” – Youth Participant

Name

My life is  (color)

Sounds like

Smells like

My life looks like

Taste's like

Feels like

I love my life because

Edutainment Unlimited LLC

[www.konshens.com](http://www.konshens.com)



# CREATE

“Community” – written & performed by Jhiya, produced by Tayshawn  
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/y66jw96222npu6r/JMoney%20x%20Tayshawn%20-%20Community.mp3?dl=0>

“Special” – written & performed by Petra, produced by Xavier  
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/bqpucvrk64bpwv4/Petra%20x%20Xavier%20-%20Special%20.mp3?dl=0>



# CONNECT

## Electronic Portfolios

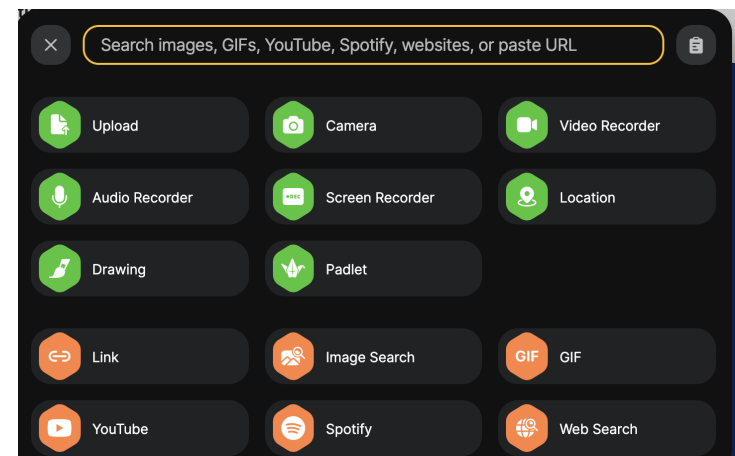
- Artist Biographies
- Titles & Inspirations for Pieces
- Links to Recordings
- Photos
- Social Media
  - (specific to promoting art)
- Experience

“I enjoyed working on the portfolio was good, because I can put my own opinions in it. The negative part of it was, it took some time doing it. But, I really enjoy being creative, and create my own poems, with my own taste.”— Youth Participant

Sarah Grime • 19d

### Electronic Portfolio & Press Kit Template

<b>Artist Information</b> ⋮	<b>Audio Recordings</b> ⋮	<b>Photos</b> ⋮
<b>Artist Name &amp; Tagline</b> ⋮	<b>Title of Piece #1</b> ⋮ Type in a description of the piece and a link to it. Include names of collaborators.	<b>Headshot</b> ⋮ Upload a headshot. +
<b>Why music?</b> ⋮	<b>Title of Piece #2</b> ⋮ Type in a description of the piece and a link to it. Include names of collaborators.	
<b>What genre &amp; why?</b> ⋮	<b>Title of Piece #3</b> ⋮ Type in a description of the piece and a link to it. Include names of collaborators. +	
<b>What drives your lyrics / beats? What is your creative process?</b> ⋮		
<b>What makes your musical creations unique? How would you describe your style?</b> ⋮		
<b>Who is your audience? Who do you want to reach &amp; why?</b> ⋮		
<b>What is one goal you want to achieve in music?</b> ⋮		
<b>What is one message you want to convey through your music?</b> ⋮		







# VOICES OF CHANGE

A Competitive Creative Experience

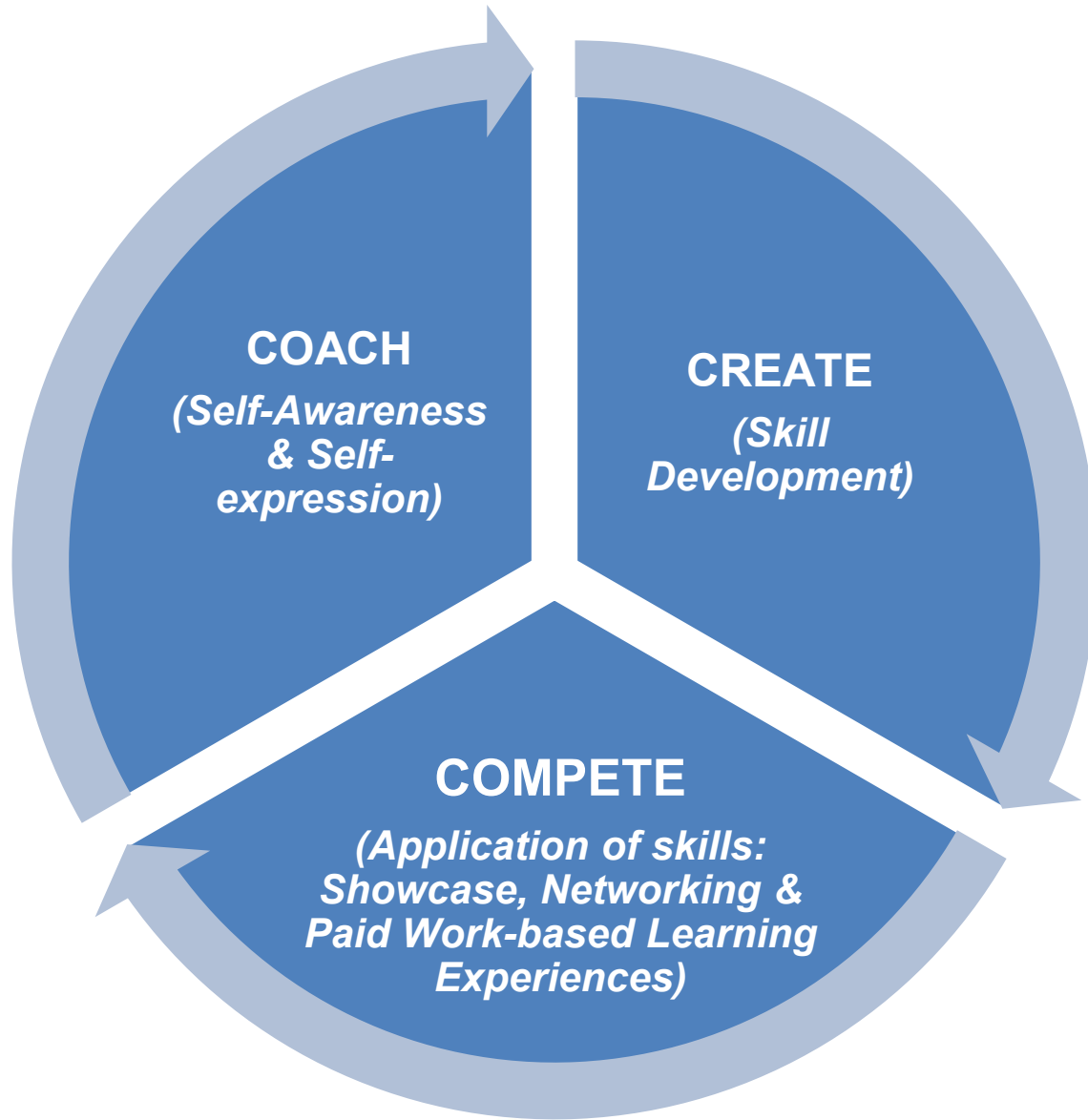
## THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW

**Audience:** DC high school youth with IEPs

**Purpose:** Use art to equip youth with the knowledge and skills to lead self-determined lives through opportunities to LEARN, LEAD, & ACT.

**Design:** Creative competitive experience where eight school teams squared off to create short multimedia works with the theme, “**The Day After Tomorrow.**” Teams had up to 10 youth with IEPs or 504 plans. Each team received virtual coaching from experts in advocacy, communication, problem-solving, music production, photography, visual art, videography and performance. Each school team competed with other schools on Instagram Live in a format similar to TV’s The Voice. Beyond the competition, each school’s multimedia creations are an advocacy tool to elevate youth voices and visions to advocate for change.





# Coach

- **Storyboarding:** Gabriel “Asheru” Benn (Guerilla Arts Ink)
- **Music Production:** Konshens the MC (Edutainment Unlimited LLC)
- **Public speaking / performance:** Carmen White, Lennie Smith, Linwood Smith, Jiiko Townsend (Dramatic Solutions)
- **Videography:** Will Starks (Lyarks Films)
- **Photography & Drawing:** Sarah Grime & Elijah Lee (SchoolTalk)



# Create

**Artists Behind the Art:**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= Lcy7mV274c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lcy7mV274c)

**Multi-media Piece\*:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ykh5LgPzs0Q>



# Compete

## 1. Group Stage

### CREATIVE COMPETITION SCHEDULE



**VOICES OF CHANGE**

**MON MAY 17TH**  
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM  
WOODSON VS BALLOU  
EL HAYNES VS ROOSEVELT

**TUES MAY 18TH**  
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM  
RIVER TERR VS DUNBAR  
CAPITAL CITY VS DUKE

**WED MAY 19TH**  
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM  
WOODSON VS DUKE  
BALLOU VS CAPITAL CITY

**THUR MAY 20TH**  
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM  
EL HAYNES VS DUNBAR  
ROOSEVELT VS RIVER TERR



## 2. Semi-finals

**VOICES OF CHANGE**  
CREATIVE COMPETITION  
**SEMI-FINALS**

1 DUKE ELLINGTON  
VS.  
4 DUNBAR

2 CAPITAL CITY  
VS.  
3 RIVER TERRACE

**SCHOOLTALK**

**FINAL FOUR**  
LIVE ON INSTAGRAM  
JUNE 14TH

VSA The Kennedy Center

The Kennedy Center

OSSE

## 3. Finals

To watch the full Voices of Change Creative Competition go to [www.youtube.com/lyarks](http://www.youtube.com/lyarks)



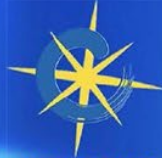
# SERIES SCHEDULE

**MON MAY 17TH**

WOODSON VS BALLOU  
EL HAYNES VS ROOSEVELT



BALLOU SHS



CAPITAL CITY PCS



DUKE ELLINGTON



DUNBAR SHS



E.L. HAYNES PCS



RIVER TERRACE



ROOSEVELT SHS



HD WOODSON

**TUES MAY 18TH**

RIVER TERR VS DUNBAR  
CAPITAL CITY VS DUKE

**WED MAY 19TH**

WOODSON VS DUKE  
BALLOU VS CAPITAL CITY

**THUR MAY 20TH**

EL HAYNES VS DUNBAR  
ROOSEVELT VS RIVER TERR

MON JUN 14TH

Duke Ellington

Dunbar

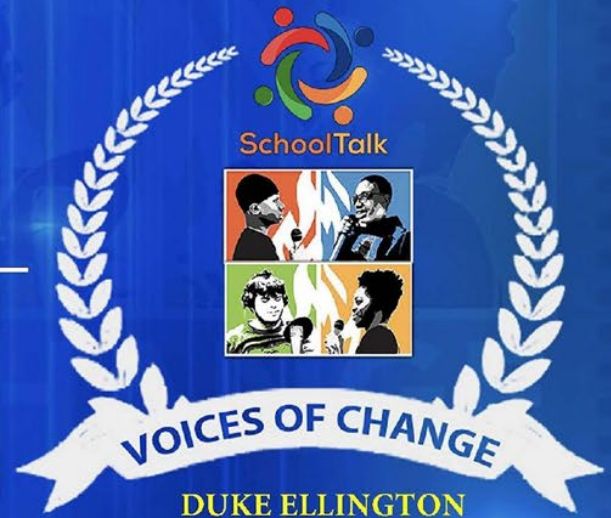
Capital City PCS

River Terrace

Duke Ellington

**FINALS**  
WED JUN 16TH

Capital City PCS



@SCHOOLTALKDC





# WBLEs

## *Voices of Change Program*

### WBLEs

**Artists, Spokesperson,  
Social Media Reps** (pre-  
competition)

**Production Team** (during  
competition)

**MC** (during competition)

**Judges** (during competition)

**Spokespersons** (during  
competition)



# WBLEs

*United Nations Desertification & Drought Day*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=BIkeUjmYSb0&feature=youtu.be> |



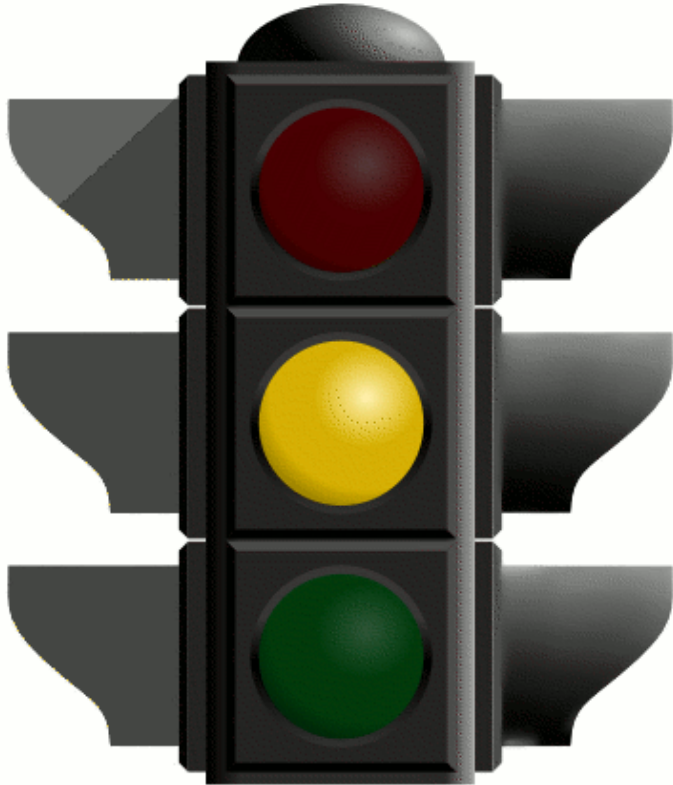
# Q & A

# Closing - Commitments

What commitment can you make today to that will change the way you move in this work?

- Is there a resource you would like to explore further?
- Is there a questions you would like to try to answer?
- Is there a tangible way you can apply the content to your work?

Take a moment to reflect and share your response to these questions in the Google Form:



**Red Light** - What stopped your learning?

**Yellow Light** - What questions do you still have?

**Green Light** - What are you excited about?

## Contact us!

Sarah Grime - [sarah.grime@schooltalkdc.org](mailto:sarah.grime@schooltalkdc.org)

Konshens The MC - [konshensedutainment@gmail.com](mailto:konshensedutainment@gmail.com)

Elijah Lee - [elijah.lee@schooltalkdc.org](mailto:elijah.lee@schooltalkdc.org)

Emily Lehman Miller - [emily.lehman@schooltalkdc.org](mailto:emily.lehman@schooltalkdc.org)

