

*It is simply exhilarating to edit, it makes my heart beat faster. I plan to study hard and pounce on every opportunity I can find because I really hope to one day have a career in filmmaking.*

Jocelyn blogging about interning at Law & Order: SVU

*I find it quiet invigorating to have younger people around. Jocelyn was wonderful to work with. She was very prepared technically...and how to conduct herself around professionals.*

Nancy Forer, Editor,  
Law & Order: SVU

The **Creative Industries Internship Program** was created to provide talented, responsible low-income teenagers enrolled in our Advanced Studies programs in photography, film, digital media, and animation an opportunity to receive on-the-job experience that prepares them for today's creative economy, while allowing them to apply their creativity, knowledge, and skills.

Interns are carefully selected and we only place students who have demonstrated responsibility and whom we believe will succeed. All prospective Interns complete an application signed by the Intern and his or her parent. If sites ask for a portfolio, résumé, or interview we will work to prepare the student for any of these requirements.

**How Long Are Placements?** We ask for a minimum of 6 weeks, 4-hours per week, although many youth are interested in and available for longer-term internships. We may also be able to place an Intern for a shorter period of time to work on a special project: just ask. Once you "hire" an Intern, we create a simple agreement that the Intern, her or his parent/guardian, Venice Arts, and your company signs. We also provide weekly support to the Intern and check-in with you to assure that everyone's needs are being met.

**What Can Interns Do?** Most companies expect an Intern to "help out" at reception or with very basic technical support, but many can do much more. We let them know that they should expect to lend a hand, listen, and learn. However, many companies have found that our Interns are sufficiently sophisticated with arts software and digital processes to provide more meaningful support. Whenever possible, we encourage placement sites to invite Interns to observe client meetings or aspects of the regular workflow; this helps them understand what it takes to run and work in a creative business.

**Partial List of Internship Sites**

*Anonymous Content*

*Donna Deitch  
Production*

*FinalCut*

*G2 Gallery*

*Grainey Pictures*

*My Story Inc.*

*NBC Universal  
Law & Order: SVU*

*Ravenswork*

*Sofia Balme  
Productions*

*Sway Studios*

*Venice Arts*

*Warner Brothers*

**Paid Or Unpaid Internship?** We are happy to place Interns in unpaid Internships that conform with law, and understand that many businesses have students who work for free. However, we encourage you to consider a paid internship as our teens come from low-income families and are severely disadvantaged economically. While eager to Intern, many cannot work for free, as they help to support themselves and/or their families.

Forgoing an Internship to take a standard, minimum wage job often means that their goals get pushed aside. When you do the math, an Internship costs very little: \$576 pays for a 12-week, 6-hour a week Internship. We are happy to have you contribute to the program and to manage payment to the Intern.

**Sharing Your Company's Commitment to Community:** When you place an Intern, we acknowledge your company for giving a young person a once in a lifetime opportunity. We include you as a member of our Business Art Circle and feature your contribution in our eNews, on the web, through social media, and in print signage. You also receive personal invitations to special events with an opportunity to network with others.

*When you place an Intern, you are offering real world experience, the knowledge that there is a future in creative fields and, most importantly, you are helping to change a life.*

**For more information:** contact Brigid McCaffrey at 310-392-0846 or [brigid@venicearts.org](mailto:brigid@venicearts.org).

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