

Cultivate the Creative - Elevate Creativity Program Youth Participant Application

Are you ready to explore your creativity, connect with new people, and discover more about yourself? This fall, [Cultivate the Creative](#) is inviting high school students (ages 14–18) to join **Elevate Creativity**—a **9-week creative arts program** designed to give you space to try new art modalities, strengthen your creative practice, build confidence, and share your unique story.

Each week, we'll dive into a new way of expressing yourself—from movement and storytelling to art, nutrition, relationships, and even money management. You'll get tools you can carry into everyday life, especially beyond high school, and you'll also get to connect with other students across Pinellas County who are on their own creative journeys. Not only will you learn how to leverage your creative practice to tell your story by the end the 9 weeks but **you will have a portfolio of your creative practice** and certification of completion.

We'll meet on **Thursday evenings, October 11 – December 6, 2025**, in different spots around town. Every session will be hands-on, creative, and fun—and by the end, you'll have the chance to share your voice with friends, family, and community.

Here's what the journey looks like:

- **Oct 11** – Elevate Creativity Kickoff (a parent/guardian is required to attend)
- **Oct 16** – From the Inside Out: Expressive Movement
- **Oct 23** – Food 4 Fuel: Nutrition
- **Oct 30** – I Feel, Therefore I Am: Mindfulness
- **Nov 6** – Interpersonal Communication: Softness as Strength
- **Nov 13** – Conflict Engagement and Resolution: Navigating Life's Challenges
- **Nov 20** – Plan Your Future: Financial Planning
- **Nov 25 (TUESDAY)** – Find Your Voice!
- **Dec 4** – Share Your Voice and Story (internal showcase)
- **Dec 6** – Celebrate Your Voice! (final celebration with friends & family)

Important Dates:

- **Info Session (students + parents/guardians):** September 10 at 6 PM ET [REGISTER HERE](#)
- **Applications Due:** September 19, 2025
- **Notifications Sent:** September 26, 2025

How to Apply

This application helps us get to know you. There are no right or wrong answers—we just want to hear your voice and your experiences. Here's what to keep in mind:

- **Be yourself.** Share who you are and what excites you.
- **Be honest.** If you're still figuring things out, that's okay. This program is about exploring and learning.
- **Be creative.** Tell us how you like to express yourself—whether that's drawing, music, writing, dancing, gaming, photography, content creation, or anything else.

Take your time answering the questions. Don't stress about writing perfectly—we're interested in what's real for you. Once you finish, double-check your contact info so we can reach you.

If you have questions about the program or filling out the application, email us at connect@cultivatethecreative.org—we're here to help!

This year, priority will be given to youth who live in zip codes 33705, 33711, and 33712, as well as youth who are in the foster care system. If this applies to you, please share that in your application. If it doesn't, don't worry—we still encourage you to apply and we'd love to hear your story.

We can't wait to learn more about you and the story only you can tell. This is only the beginning to join us on our mission today by cultivating the creative within.

* Indicates required question

Watch the video below for more information about the program!



<http://youtube.com/watch?v=Foj5SQcrvsl>

1. Full Name: *

2. Preferred Name/Nickname (if any):

3. Pronouns

Mark only one oval.

☐ she/her

☐ he/him

☐ they/them

☐ prefer not to answer

☐ Other: _____

4. Date of Birth *

Example: January 7, 2019

5. Grade Level (Fall 2025): *

Mark only one oval.

☐ 9th Grade

☐ 10th Grade

☐ 11th Grade

☐ 12th Grade

☐ Other: _____

6. Do you identify as any of the following? (select all that apply) *

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Black/African American
- ☐ Hispanic/Latinx
- ☐ White
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Native American/Indigenous
- ☐ Pacific Islander
- ☐ Prefer not to answer
- ☐ Other: _____

7. Are you currently in foster care or have experience in the child welfare system? *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to answer
- ☐ Other: _____

8. School Name:

9. Email Address: *

10. Phone Number: *

11. Address Zip Code, if available

12. Parent/Guardian Name: (CTC will contact with parents/guardians for consent and approval) *

13. Parent/Guardian Contact Phone Number *

14. Parent/Guardian Email Address *

15. Emergency Contact (Name & Relationship): *

16. Emergency Contact Phone Number: *

17. We know that you likely are balancing a lot of commitments between extra curricular activities and homework. Select the best time slots for you to meet on Thursday evenings. We will lock in our weekly meetups based on what works best collectively across applicants *

Check all that apply.

- ☐ 3 - 4:30pm
☐ 4 - 5:30pm
☐ 5 - 6:30pm
☐ 6 - 7:30pm
☐ 7 - 8:30pm

18. T-Shirt Size: *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ XS
☐ S
☐ M
☐ L
☐ XL
☐ XXL
☐ Other: _____

Application Questions

Tell Us More About What Makes **You (U)**nique

The next set of questions is all about **your creativity, experiences, and what you're hoping to get out of the program**. We want to hear about the ways you already express yourself, how you handle challenges, and what excites you about joining Elevate Creativity.

Don't worry about giving "perfect" answers—just be honest and share what feels true for you. This is your chance to let us know how you see yourself, what you enjoy, and what you'd like to explore over the 9 weeks.

If you do not want to submit written responses, you may email video responses to connect@cultivatethecreative.org. If you email video responses, please write "Email sent" in the response box.

19. Why are you interested in the Elevate Creativity program? *

20. What does creativity mean to you? How do you currently express yourself creatively? *

21. What is your favorite form/s of creativity? Ex: painting, sculpting, writing, music, dancing, content creation, drawing, photography, etc.) *

22. What is your favorite or most recent creative project that you've completed or were a part of? Please describe what you enjoyed about the creative process. *

23. Describe a time you collaborated with others on a creative project or activity. What role did you play? *

24. How do you typically handle stress and difficult emotions? *

25. What do you hope to learn or discover about yourself during this program? *

26. Are you willing and able to commit to attending all 9 weekly sessions? *

Mark only one oval.

☐ Yes

☐ No

27. If you answered no, or are unsure of how to answer the question above, please elaborate below:

28. Do you need any accommodations to participate in this program (transportation, accessibility, language support, etc.)? If yes, please describe below. *

29. What barriers, if any, might make it difficult for you to participate fully?

30. Do you have access to a mobile device, computer, or iPad/tablet that you can use through the program to communicate with others and develop your online portfolio? *

Mark only one oval.

☐ Yes

☐ No, I will need one from Cultivate the Creative

31. Is there anything else that you would like us to know about you?

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms