

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

This program begins with one week of virtual programming before four weeks in-country. The in-country programming is based at Brackenhurst, an eco-campus in Limuru Kenya, with a weekend wildlife safari excursion into the Maasai Mara region. This artistic collaboration course focuses on African music, art, and performance and their role in creating awareness and social transformation in local communities.

Students will collaborate with local performers in the areas of art, music, and theater performance and focus on creating a presentation around a current social issue in Kenyan communities. Participants will meet with the local performers during their virtual programming week. On arriving in Kenya, they will then visit these local performers and experience firsthand the work they do in their communities. Through interactive lectures by Kenyan activists in the arts and running community service learning workshops, students will develop an appreciation for Kenyan art and the potential it has for community transformation. The program will culminate in a performance by the students and local artists as they share their message through art to a community audience.

PROGRAM COSTS

USD5 280

(inclusive of room, board, tuition and scheduled activities)

Optional single supplement at Brackenhurst available



ARTISTIC COLLABORATION IN KENYA 2023

3-6 & 10-12 JULY (VIRTUAL)

23 JULY-20 AUGUST (IN-COUNTRY)

LOCATION

Brackenhurst Learning Center in Limuru, Nairobi is a hub that was created to help meet specific educational requirements. There are custom settings and materials to meet program needs. Students may engage in on-site recreational walking, jogging, or birdwatching along the forest trails.

The **Maasai Mara**, part of the expansive Maasai Mara-Serengeti ecosystem, has 15 conservancies. These conservancies cover over 300 000 acres and provide connected critical wildlife habitats that complement national parks and the reserve; they also secure major wildlife migratory corridors. Their vast open plains, Acacia-Commiphora woodland, rocky outcrops, and varied riverine vegetation provide habitat for around 400 bird species, over 60 mammal species, and host some of the highest wildlife densities in Africa.

PRE-REQUISITES

A background in the visual or performing arts. Participants need to be culturally aware and open-minded to thrive in this program. All lectures and tutorials are conducted in English; hence a good command of the English language is essential.

KEY STUDY TOPICS

- Intercultural competence
- Key issues impacting local communities
- Artistic collaboration
- Art as a vehicle for community education

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this program, students should be able to:

- Compare and contrast the culture of music and art in Kenya with that of their home country
- Develop intercultural communication skills to help them collaborate with local peers and professionals
- Develop a comprehensive understanding of the key issues faced by Kenyan communities, and focus on one issue to address in the final performance
- Expand their ability to effectively collaborate with the artistic skills and unique perspectives of a wider team
- Refine their ability to apply intercultural competence and interpersonal communication skills to accomplish a determined goal
- Understand their strengths and weaknesses, values and beliefs, and how to best use this new self-awareness in the service of the community

EVALUATION

- Final performance
- Reflective essay and journal entries

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Walking long distances (i.e., 5 km) over rough and muddy terrain during fieldwork
- Exposure to sun and wind during fieldwork
- Living in a setting without a consistent internet connection for the duration of the program
- Managing dietary needs with limited available options in some locations

INSTRUCTOR



BILLY MUGAMBI
Billy Mugambi, also known as Mr Sketch, is a freelance illustrator, children's content creator, and fine artist. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Design from the University of

Nairobi and has worked as an art teacher in various schools within the city. Billy uses various forms of visual and performing arts to express himself and his beliefs. He draws, paints, sculpts, crafts, writes, sings, and plays the guitar. He also cherishes the belief that art is the most powerful and enduring tool used by mankind for social revolution; a universal language of activism that does not require a translator. He strives to use art responsibly in his unique ways.



APPLICATION DEADLINE: 1 JUNE 2023
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