

## Youth program journey

Rooting	Building an image of myself	Project to connect with the cultural and artistic traditions of the Black communities of Abya Yala
Understanding the program and building community from the Afro-diasporic perspective	Building a narrative of who we are as AfroLatinx. Afro-centered storytelling	Connection with community artists and experience performing arts
March 1 to March 29	April 5 to May 3	May 3 to June 7

## Check-in

How are we doing in the process? → Self- and peer-evaluation led by youth. The program will encourage youth to engage in conversations about their processes, new findings, achievements, and learning.

### Suggested generative questions for check-in:

- How are our bodies feeling about all the new information?
- What do our families think about what we're learning?
- What has been the most surprising information we have learned so far?
- Why is this information important for us, for society?

# Schedule

Session #	Topic (s)	Objectives
<b>Session 0</b> <b>Date:</b> Friday, February 21st <b>Where:</b> Washington Hall <b>Time:</b> 6 - 8:30 pm <b>Lead:</b> Youth Program Committee	<b>Open House: Program Launch Celebration</b>  A gathering to learn about the program, connect with MÁS and all the participants, and celebrate the beginning of our journey as a group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish understanding of what the program will and will not entail</li> <li>Collect information about youth participants (what kind of art they are interested in; their availability, needs, etc.)</li> <li>Youth select a committee to join</li> <li>Collect a portrait of each participant</li> <li>Get to know everyone participating in the program</li> </ul>
<b>Session #1</b> <b>Date:</b> Saturday, March 1st <b>Where:</b> Union Cultural Center (UCC) <b>Time:</b> 1- 4pm <b>Lead:</b> Milvia, Sabrina, Hever	<b>Rooting: preparing the soil</b>  Ignite connections with each other as a group through arts; share program expectations; gain a deeper understanding of the program values, dynamics, logistics, and schedule.  What does "Rooting" mean? And what does it have to do with identity?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish rapport and trust amongst facilitators, youth, and artists</li> <li>Finish the session with a clear understanding of everyone's name</li> <li>Learn where we all come from</li> <li>Leave with a sense of what rooting means in relation to our identities as Afrolatinos.</li> </ul> <p><u>Rooting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Move forward to a sense of belonging: increased supportive and identity-affirming relationships</li> </ul>
<b>Session # 2</b> <b>Date:</b> Saturday March 8th <b>Where:</b> Union Cultural Center (UCC) <b>Time:</b> 10am-12m <b>Lunch:</b> 12pm / 1-4pm <b>Lead:</b> Evelyne Laurent-perrault	<b>Rooting: Afro Diasporic History of the Abya Yala</b>  <u>Community Seminar (morning)</u> History of African diaspora; slave trade, cimarronaje: Garífuna people and Afro-Puerto Rican people.  <u>Afternoon session:</u> Afro history through visual arts: Reinterpreting slavery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand historical context of Afrolatinx population</li> <li>Be introduced to topics such as transatlantic slave trade, colonialism, racial caste systems, and other vital terminology for the program</li> <li>Contextualize youth regarding the Garifuna people and Afro-Puerto Rican identity in relation to the history of the African diaspora and identity</li> </ul>
<b>Session # 3</b> <b>Date:</b> Saturday, March 15th <b>Where:</b> Union Cultural Center (UCC) <b>Time:</b> 1 - 4pm <b>Lead:</b> Milvia, Sabrina, Hever	<b>Ancestral, Community, and Family stories: Our stories make History.</b>  Mapping our ancestries: Our current connections – family histories. Finding cultural connections. Learning about our ancestral connections: a collective view of African and Abya Yala geopolitical and tribal maps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deepen understanding and question racial dynamics in Latin America and Seattle.</li> <li>Engage in deeper conversation with MÁS program participants as well as family members about these topics, bringing this understanding/line of questions to the next session</li> </ul>
<b>Session # 4</b> <b>Date:</b> Saturday, March 22nd <b>Where:</b> Union Cultural Center (UCC) <b>Time:</b> 1 - 4pm <b>Lead:</b> Milvia, Sabrina, Hever	<b>What does it mean to be Afrolatinx?</b>  Group discussion in rotating small groups (3-4 people per group) to collectively build our own idea and definitions of Afrolatinx identity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a sense of what Identity and Afrolatinidad mean</li> <li>Build a sense of community belonging in connection with the Afrodiasporic identity</li> </ul>

<p><b>Session #5</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b> Saturday, March 29th  <b>Where:</b> Union Cultural Center (UCC)  <b>Time:</b> 1 - 4pm  <b>Lead:</b> Youth program committee</p>	<p><b>Presentation of Deliverable #1</b></p> <p>Time to finish the collective project.</p> <p>Presentation and conversation about the work.</p> <p><i>Check-in:</i> How are we doing?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen youth leadership</li> <li>• Review the process</li> <li>• Understand what to anticipate for the next steps in the program</li> <li>• Deepening communications between artists and youth</li> <li>• Artists gain a deeper understanding of who our youth are</li> </ul>
<p><b>Session #6</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b> Saturday April 5th  <b>Where:</b> Union Cultural Center (UCC)  <b>Time:</b> 1 - 4pm  <b>Lead:</b> Aviona Rodríguez Brown</p>	<p><b>Writing workshop</b></p> <p>Engage in creative work and produce writing that expresses our understanding of who we are in relation to the intersection of race and culture. We will start with the information collected from previous mapping exercises.</p>	<p><b>Writing objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore identities through writing</li> <li>• Create a written narrative of who we are</li> <li>• Process the information received by focusing on the life stories of youths as a starting point</li> </ul>
<h1>Break</h1>		
<p><b>Session #7</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b> Saturday, April 19th  <b>Where:</b> Union Cultural Center (UCC)  <b>Time:</b> 1 - 4pm  <b>Lead:</b> Fernanda Bruno</p>	<p><b>Photography Project</b></p> <p>Building a visual storytelling about who we are.</p> <p>Creation and selection of photographs that tell youth's stories. To be used in the final photographic exhibition of the program</p>	<p><b>Photography objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore identity through images</li> <li>• Understand how to stay safe in this digital age</li> <li>• Understand how to use cell phones as a creative strategy</li> <li>• Create visual narratives / storytelling</li> </ul>
<p><b>Session #8</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b> Saturday, April 26th  <b>Where:</b> Union Cultural Center (UCC)  <b>Time:</b> 1 - 4pm  <b>Lead:</b> Fernanda Bruno</p>		
<p><b>Session #9</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b> Saturday May 3rd  <b>Where:</b> Union Cultural Center (UCC)  <b>Time:</b> 1 - 4pm  <b>Lead:</b> Youth Program Committee</p>	<p><b>Artists and youth connection: artistic gathering</b></p> <p>Presentation and conversation about the work with the artists.</p> <p><i>Check-in:</i> How are we doing?</p> <p><u>Artistic project Kick off:</u> Meeting with AfroLatinx artists, Otoqui Reyes and Junita Crisanto. Youth will learn details of the community art projects the artists bring.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen youth leadership</li> <li>• Allow artists to gain a deeper understanding of who our youth are</li> <li>• Artists affirm youth in their exploration of art as a tool to express their identity connections</li> <li>• Reaffirm photography and writing as tools of healing and exploration in our communities</li> </ul>

<p><b>Session #10</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b> Saturday, May 10th  <b>Where:</b> Union Cultural Center (UCC)  <b>Time:</b> 1 - 4pm  <b>Lead:</b> Otoqui Reyes and Juanita Crisanto</p>	<p><b>Project to connect with the cultural and artistic traditions of the Black communities of Abya Yala</b></p> <p>Puertorican Bomba and Garifuna Culture Connection: Youth will engage in the development of a performance led by Afrolatinx artists.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gain initial understanding of what makes the artists passionate about their work and how their identities are affirmed and maintained through artistic expressions</li> <li>• Youth voices are centered in the process of sharing knowledge, developing creative ideas, and producing the final piece.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Session #11</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b> Saturday, May 17th  <b>Where:</b> Union Cultural Center (UCC)  <b>Time:</b> 1 - 4pm  <b>Lead:</b> Otoqui Reyes and Juanita Crisanto</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth appreciate and value artistic works produced by, for, and from Black people and communities in terms of: experience, time, investment of resources, originality, creativity, history, worldview, etc.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Session #12</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b> Saturday, May 24th  <b>Where:</b> Union Cultural Center (UCC)  <b>Time:</b> 1 - 4pm  <b>Lead:</b> Otoqui Reyes and Juanita Crisanto</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth are inspired and engaged to use the living arts and turn space into a tool for healing and affirming their identities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Session #13</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b> Saturday, May 31st  <b>Where:</b> Union Cultural Center (UCC)  <b>Time:</b> 1 - 4pm  <b>Lead:</b> Otoqui Reyes and Juanita Crisanto</p>	<p><b>Rehearsal</b></p> <p>Rehearse our performances, receive feedback, and address possible details we need to take into consideration for the celebration logistics.</p> <p><b>Check-in</b> How are we doing?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalize details for the final presentation</li> <li>• Encourage self and peer-assessment with respect and appreciation of the work</li> </ul> <p><u>Affirm and value:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The creative and production process, recognizing everyone's contribution, valuing where each of the participants has arrived.</li> <li>• The connection and the time spent together</li> <li>• The transformation process as the central indicator of achievements and objectives</li> <li>• Help youth to understand the impact that the creative process has had on them</li> </ul>
<p><b>Session #14</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b> Saturday, June 7th  <b>Where:</b> Washington Hall  <b>Time:</b> 6 - 9 pm  <b>Lead:</b> Youth Program Committee</p>	<p><b>Celebration!</b>  <b>Final Presentation</b>  <b>Community Gathering</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Display artwork, practice public speaking skills, enjoy!</li> <li>• Open spaces for the community to affirm and value the youth works</li> <li>• Share the fruits of the program</li> <li>• Generate a space for community coexistence and sharing</li> <li>• Position MÁS as a space that builds bridges for people of all ages</li> <li>• Generate a space of security and rootedness for all those who participate in the final exhibition</li> </ul>