

Keep Education Young

MISSION STATEMENT

Keep Education Young is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to accelerating real-life skills for youth using music as the bridge to success.

Needs Statement

More than 6.7 million young people in the United States are disengaged from school or work. Helping those disconnected youth identify a clear plan for their future has the potential to change the trajectory of their lives. Our programs inspire, equip, connect, and prepare youth for careers in the music industry and beyond, yielding life-changing results. Focusing on young people ages **12-25** in underserved communities, we set the stage for success by providing workshops and showcases to kick-start musical careers; and inspire the next generation of music industry leaders with hands-on career exploration. We are an independent nonprofit organization relying on public donations to fulfill our mission.

Setting the stage for success

We're giving our young people a chance to shine -- one standing ovation at a time. Music is Key we offer a multi-week program connecting talented, young artists to one another and music industry insiders to build self-confidence, develop new skills, and bring crowds to their feet. Celebrated venues play host as memorable backdrops for experiences that fuel ambition and kick-start musical careers. Learning from music industry leaders and what it takes to get to the next level. Keep Education Young offers music field trips. Youth are invited to tour live entertainment venues to discover careers in the music industry that don't require being on stage to be a star. Imagine the coolest career day. Ever. Keep Education Young is a year-long program offering middle school, high school a VIP backstage pass to learn about coveted gigs in the music industry. No musical skills required – just a passion to learn. This ticket to a more promising future is designed to inspire ambition, create momentum, and redefine what's possible with hands-on experience in behind-the-scenes jobs most people only dream about.

Collaboration

We foster out-of-the-box thinking, flexibility, and innovation in every aspect of our work. We believe in the power of the individual voice and we provide a forum so those voices can be heard. We initiate purpose-driven partnerships that produce win-win outcomes for our communities and our supporters.

Why Keep Education Young

Today's youth face a nationwide crisis when it comes to education and employment. 11.7% of our nation's 16–25-year old's — or 4.5 million young people — are disconnected, meaning they are not currently enrolled in school or working and that disconnection is even greater for youth of color. Experts also expect youth disconnection rates will spike dramatically as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, these young people face a variety of challenges, including:

- Permanently depressed future earnings
- Entrapment in perpetual cycles of poverty
- Increased participation in, or risk of becoming victimized by, crime
- Poor mental and physical health

We appreciate your help in funding Keep Education Young to bring our community this program.
Our youth needs us! You can donate at www.keepeducationyoung.org