

## A LETTER FROM DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AVA KINSEY

Greetings Beloved Community,

Welcome!

BAM Education provides a space for young people to embrace creative agency & daring in all aspects of their art making. Youth develop their artistry through thought-provoking in- and after-school programs, assemblies, festivals, workshops, performances, and screenings that empower them to express themselves and engage with their community.

Vision, Voice, and Power (VVP) is BAM Education's mission framework, encapsulating the way we want young people to work together, with BAM, and with the surrounding community.

VVP is also our department's cultural lens. It is how our administrators seek to engage with one another, participants, school partners and community members. We define VVP from a youth-centered perspective. Vision is how young people use their imagination to create and engage with art and each other. Voice is the way in which young people express and represent themselves to the world. Power, then, is young people's agency to create and engage with art that is meaningful to their lives.

Whether this is your first time engaging with BAM Education or you are a returning community member, we invite you to bring your full selves into our spaces—to cultivate and imagine and create an artistic world that mirrors the diversity of our beloved borough of Brooklyn, and our world.

We hope that you see yourselves in the work that we do and in the worlds we fashion.

Educators, please apply for our DanceAfrica in the Classroom, Word.Sound.Power in the Classroom, or (Re)Centering Theater general education or inclusive residencies, our virtual education sessions as early as the Fall of 2024. Also, please join us in person for our school-time matinee offerings, which will be available in the Spring.

Young people in high school and parents, caregivers, and guardians, please engage with us in our after-school programs Arts & Justice, Brooklyn Interns for Arts and Culture, and Spring Dance Insider, and gain access to BAM resources and the skills of our talented Teaching Artists.

For our BAM Education alumni between the ages of 18—24, please reconnect with us during our alumni events and in our Creative Career Collective program, a pre-professional program exclusively for alumni participants who are seeking careers or study in the creative, performing, visual, technical, or liberal arts.

We are grateful for your interest in BAM Education. We look forward to working with you, and becoming a member of your artistic community.

We hope to work with you all soon.

With gratitude,

Ava Kinsey