AS220 Youth is a youth arts production house and creative incubator for young people, based in Providence, Rhode Island. Serving young people ages 14-21, with a special focus on those in the care and custody of the state, the program strives to dismantle the pipeline to prison by empowering, beyond-risk and incarcerated youth through arts, culture and collective action.

AS220 Youth provides free arts programming in our Empire Street Studio (115 Empire Street, Providence); and the Rhode Island Training School (RITS), the state’s juvenile detention facility. Once youth are released from the Training School, they can continue working with us at our Empire Street Studio until age 22, when they can become involved with other programs of AS220. AS220 Youth also partners with schools to provide students with required arts credits. Today, our program serves 600 youth annually.

Our mission is to raise a justice league of young leaders who use their experience, influence and creativity to build an alternative future for themselves and their communities.

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AS220 Youth houses two main programs: Live Arts and Visual Arts. Each program provides weekly exposure workshops that give young people the skills they need to create projects that are meaningful to them, as well as advanced classes that are more in-depth.

**LIVE ARTS**

In our Live Arts program, young people take workshops in music, dance, theater, and more. Members have full access to the Delgado Recording Studio and are encouraged to record original projects. When members are ready to take their work to the stage, they can perform at Mic Madness, our monthly open mic event and/or audition for ZuKrewe, our youth-led performance group.

**VISUAL ARTS**

Our Visual Arts program includes a variety of mediums, such as apparel design, photography, video, painting, and more. Members have opportunities to exhibit work in galleries around the state, and are also encouraged to sell their work at local events.

AS220 Youth is an opportunity for me to express myself when I don’t have that at home or anywhere else. AS220 is also a place where I can find people that relate to my interests. I feel connected to AS220 Youth because I know I have people to relate to, to talk to, and count on.

– Litty Espinal, Youth Member

**CREATIVE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

Creative workforce at AS220 Youth creates opportunities for youth leadership and civic engagement. Any young person aged 16 and older can apply to be an AS220 Youth Apprentice. Participants build their artistic skills and attain college and career readiness skills as they work together toward producing Futureworlds. Our Apprentices can graduate to our Teaching Assistant program where they help teach classes, mentor younger/new members, and help with administrative tasks. TA’s develop skills that prepare them for success in the workforce.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE & FUTUREWORLDS**

AS220 Youth centers artmaking in a social justice context. Through our programs, we aim to increase historical and contemporary knowledge of social justice issues facing communities of color. Using Stanford University’s Design Thinking methodology, youth engage in a process of learning about social justice issues that impact them and their communities, researching the systems surrounding these issues, and creating collaborative artworks that both identify the problems and imagine solutions. Every year, our young people unite to present FutureWorlds, a year long multimedia production that blends elements of art, AfroFuturism, popular culture, and visionary fiction to reimagine a more just and equitable world free from systems of oppression.
AS220 Youth Production Studios

Do you wanna start a fashion brand?
Do you need recording time?
Looking for opportunities to perform?

It's free!!
Ages 14-21

Come to AS220 Youth
Any weekday after 3pm to get signed up.

115 Empire St. Providence, RI 02903 2nd Floor
Facebook: astwotwentyyouthstudio  Phone: (401) 467-0701
AS220 Youth Mic Madness

Open Mic Event

Every 4th Wednesday 5pm - 8pm

FREE

Prize for the Best Youth Act
Ages 14-21

AS220 Main Stage
115 Empire St., Providence, RI