

## **ASPIRE ARTS LEADERSHIP | THE CREATIVE PITCH 2025**

Recognizing that there are many models for producing theater, ASPIRE students will create and pitch their own model for producing theatrical events, whether it is a theater company, a multidisciplinary arts organization, a festival, or some other creative artistic initiative. This pitch will be presented to a selectors panel of theater professionals. This exercise will prepare ASPIRE students to think holistically and critically about leadership styles, programming, and models, placing the art in the context of community. It will also demonstrate the students' abilities to think outside the box. The following is a set of recommended guidelines to help prepare an effective pitch:

- **Students have 5 minutes to present their pitch followed by 5 minutes to take questions from the selectors;** students will be responsible for allocating their own time accordingly.
- The presentation must include the mission and purpose of your endeavor, where it will take place (town, city, state, country), and its relevance in terms of audience and community.
- Students are invited to be as innovative, creative, and practical as possible in pitching a compelling artistic endeavor using whatever resources are available to them. We encourage specific examples of the sort of theatrical work you intend to create.
- Students are encouraged to demonstrate collaboration in their presentations with other artists. Whether or not you attend a KCACTF School and/or Festival, you are welcome to consult with and include work with other artists such as student designers, directors, playwrights, as well as community organizations, etc.
- Students should identify the position/role they intend to hold in the creative endeavor and articulate how the endeavor aligns with their leadership aspirations.
- For in-person pitching at a festival, any AV/tech/projector needs should be cleared and tested in advance of the pitch.
- Students will be asked to provide an electronic copy of their resume in advance of their pitch session.

The finalists chosen by the selectors will move on to the second round of ASPIRE interviews to select one finalist from each region to join the ASPIRE weeklong fellowship at KCACTF in Washington, D.C in April 2025. For those interested in being considered for the ASPIRE fellowship, attendance in D.C. is required for finalist selection and runner-ups may be solicited should the finalist be unable to attend.