



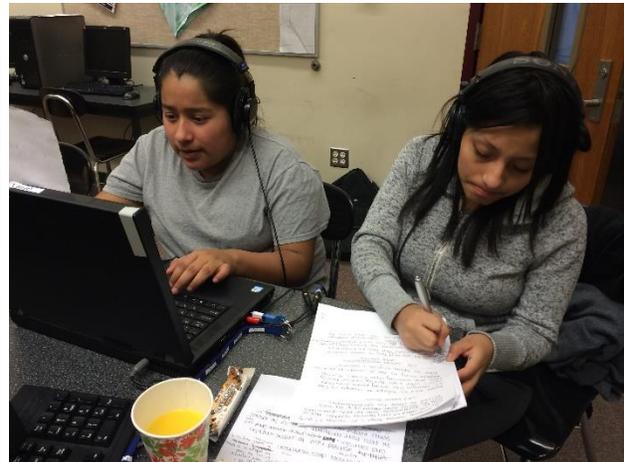
RadioActive Youth Media Pop-up Workshops

About RadioActive Youth Media

RadioActive is a program of KUOW 94.9FM Public Radio. Our mission is to create a space where youth delight in discovering public radio journalism, and to support young people’s growth as media makers by sharing access to public radio’s knowledge, skills, and institutions. We offer Introductory workshops that last 6-14 weeks, ongoing leadership and production opportunities for Intro workshop graduates, and short term community-based exposure programming. Our philosophy is that youth voices are powerful and not heard often enough.



Middle schoolers at Rainier Vista learn audio recording, mentored by a RadioActive advanced youth producer.



Workshop participants from Mt. Vernon Migrant Youth Leaders work on mixing audio and editing scripts.

RadioActive’s Pop-up Workshop program

Each year, we offer a limited number of free pop-up radio workshops to youth-serving community organizations in the Puget Sound Area. Pop-up workshops last anywhere from a day to a week and allow us the opportunity to serve youth from a specific community – often, youth who might not be able to participate in our intensive 6-14 week programs. In pop-up workshops, youth learn technical and storytelling skills, and produce their own short audio stories, mentored by radio professionals and RadioActive advanced youth producers.

Since we have limited capacity to run pop-up workshops, partners are chosen annually by RadioActive staff and youth leadership teams.

What RadioActive Pop-up Workshops look like

Youth learn technical skills (audio recording, digital editing, script writing) as well as social and emotional skills (confidence, leadership, collaboration) at RadioActive. Our approach is to provide interactive workshops where participants create new work on topics they choose, while trying out hands-on skills in a safe and supportive environment.

RadioActive works individually with each pop-up partner to tailor a workshop designed to fit the needs of the youth they serve. We start from a few basic program models, with the primary determining factors of revised program design being: the goals of the partner organization, how many contact hours are available, the age and makeup of students, and the format of radio stories they will be creating.

Sometimes students are assigned a specific radio format – like “person on the street” interviews, or an interview-based profile of a single character – and other times they are given the choice to create an original poem, personal commentary, or interview-based story. Students usually work in pairs or small groups, and are assigned a RadioActive advanced producer as a mentor to help them create their final product within the assigned deadline.



A RadioActive mentor helps two pop-up participants record in a studio at KUOW.



A pop-up participant checks off the steps to complete their story on our group checklist.

All RadioActive pop-up workshops begin with getting to know each other, creating a space where everyone has their needs met, becoming familiar with the radio storytelling medium, and learning basic audio recording and interviewing skills. We incorporate opportunities for planning, feedback, and reflection into every workshop. We always close by listening to the completed work and celebrating the accomplishments and learnings of the students.

“The students loved the workshop. They can’t wait to do more! They shared with other students in their group about it, and each of them spoke with a sense of confidence.”

- Janice Blackmore, Mt. Vernon Migrant Youth Leaders Club

RadioActive Youth Media pop-up workshops

Program Quality

RadioActive is a part of the Youth Program Quality Initiative, which gives us tools to continually assess and improve the quality of the programs we offer. In 2015, the Raikes Foundation honored RadioActive with the Pinnacle Award for significant program quality improvement.

Our pop-up workshop program lead is Lila Kitaeff, who has worked as a youth media educator in the Seattle area for over a decade. RadioActive advanced producers – students who have completed an intensive, lengthy introduction to radio journalism workshop – serve as co-facilitators and mentors. Program instructors and mentors attend youth development, teaching artist, and anti-racism trainings.

“We were excited to see how skilled the mentors were. They were great role models, and were really good at facilitating and adapting.”

- Partners at Rainier Vista Housing Community

Becoming a RadioActive Pop-up Workshop partner

At RadioActive, we put resources into outreach and community-based exposure programming because we believe in the power of radio storytelling and recognize that access to this type of programming is unequal across our region. We prioritize working with communities without ready access to media platforms and/or who are underserved by high quality arts programs.

Through our outreach and community programming, we reach an average of almost 900 students a year, and work with dozens of school and community organizations. RadioActive has been holding our afterschool workshop at different partner sites around the Seattle area since 2012, and has a strong track record of successful long-term partnerships.

Past Pop-up Workshop partners include the Mt. Vernon Migrant Youth Leaders Club, Camp Ten Trees (a camp for LGBTQI youth), the Seattle Public Library, the King County Juvenile Detention Center, Rainier Vista Housing Community/Horn of Africa Services/Refugee Women’s Alliance/Youth Tutoring Program.



Participants edit their final stories with mentor support.

In this workshop I:

	YES	KIND OF	NOT REALLY
Felt good about what I accomplished	X		
Learned more about working in a team	X		
Got to create something I wanted to make	X		
Had fun	X	X	X

Anything else you'd like to share?
Thank you for coming and showing us something positive. #100

A completed post-workshop feedback form.

Listen to our youth-produced work at <http://kuow.org/programs/radioactive-youth-media>
Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/RadioActiveYouthMedia>

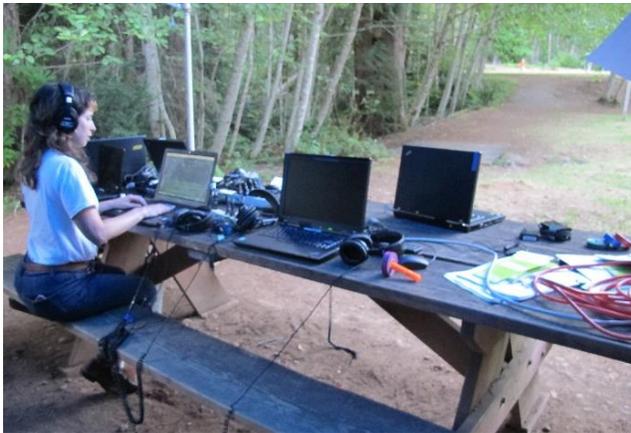
RadioActive Youth Media pop-up workshops

PARTNER SITES PROVIDE:

- Recruitment and registration of program participants, including securing release forms and parental permission. Partner site must commit to providing a minimum number of youth participants, to be agreed upon in advance.
- A workshop meeting space that is safe and secure (and relatively quiet). If all or part of the workshop will take place at KUOW, partner site provides transportation to and from that location.
- For workshops that take place over multiple days consecutively, a secure storage space for workshop materials and equipment between meeting times.
- At least one on-site staff member who is dedicated to supporting the logistical needs of the workshop. In some cases, partner site may provide additional staff members to serve as mentors.
- Classroom and participant behavioral management as needed.
- Food for participants during the workshop.
- If including a community listening party following the workshop, partner site will provide space, coordination, outreach, and on-site support for the event.

RADIOACTIVE PROVIDES:

- Outreach support, including providing materials and attending 1-2 outreach events.
- All curriculum and instruction.
- Workshop materials and technology.
- Final audio and documentation files.
- Advanced communication and coordination, debrief and follow-up with partner site.



Pop-up workshops, like this one at Camp Ten Trees, are highly adaptable and often require creative solutions.



Mentors for our pop-up workshop at the King County Juvenile Detention Center pose outside the facility.

Listen to our youth-produced work at <http://kuow.org/programs/radioactive-youth-media>
Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/RadioActiveYouthMedia>

Frequently Asked Questions

Is there any cost to the partner organization?

At this time, RadioActive and KUOW provide all funding for pop-up workshops. Partner sites provide only in-kind costs such as staff hours and facility use.

How does RadioActive choose workshop partners?

Because pop-up workshops require a heavy amount of advanced prep work, workshop partners are chosen annually. Potential partnerships will begin with an exploratory conversation to discuss goals and logistics. Based on this information, and our community access priorities, RadioActive staff and youth leadership make final decisions about which partners we work with each year.

What will happen to the stories after the workshop is over?

In some cases, RadioActive will work with partner sites to hold a community listening party to publicly share the work produced by participants. Distribution rights for work produced in RadioActive pop-up workshops will belong non-exclusively to the youth producers, RadioActive/KUOW, and the partner site.

Unless otherwise agreed upon, RadioActive will consider all work produced in pop-up workshops for inclusion in the RadioActive podcast, publication on kuow.org, and broadcast on 94.9. We cannot guarantee inclusion in any of these mediums. We commit to communicating with partners about distribution of work produced in pop-up workshops, and ask that partners do the same.



Staff, mentors, and middle school participants at our Pop-up Workshop at Rainier Vista Housing Community

Contact

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