

About

The Social Planning Council of Ottawa is a non-profit organization that has been a catalyst for social and economic development since 1928. The organization takes a holistic approach to community development by integrating research, planning, and community building.

<https://www.spcottawa.on.ca/>
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Mouvement U SHINE Movement is a non-profit corporation that aims to give voice to visible minorities*. With its commitment to the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals, the organization is guided by three in particular - Goal 1: No Poverty, Goal 4: Quality Education, and Goal 5: Gender Equality. By extension, this organization seeks to strengthen the integration capacity of immigrants and Canadian-born individuals facing systemic challenges.

*Statistics Canada: The Employment Equity Act defines visible minorities as, "persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour":



An agency of the Government of Ontario
Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

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LENS ART

Photography for Refugee Youth



Reference and Certificate
on
completion



What is "Lens Art"?

The project "Lens Art" is a learning model for visual storytelling through the art of photography. Curated for refugee youth in Ottawa, the program will equip participants with the skill of visual narration to tell their dreams and realities through the power of images.

Funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the teaching program is a collaborative effort between the Social Planning Council and U Shine Movement. The students will learn to use photography as a tool to integrate with broader community and voice their feelings through imagery.

The Learning

At the commencement of the training, a cohort of young participants will be coached by two professional photographers over a period of intense training for 12 days. Called "Train the Trainer", this segment will prepare 10 youth trainers and equip them with tools and skills to teach and train other photography aspirants enrolled in Lens Art. Following their training, each trainer will extend their learning to others by teaching and mentoring three refugee youth over a period of four months. As this training draws to a conclusion, the participants will exhibit their work to the general public. This exhibition will give non-refugee communities a glimpse of how these youth see their current reality in Canada and the dreams they nurture. During the sessions, cameras will be loaned to all students for the duration of the program.

You Learn

- ➔ How to be an effective trainer
- ➔ Basics of photography
- ➔ Language of images
- ➔ Interaction of lens and light
- ➔ Basics of digital photo processing
- ➔ Art of visual presentation
- ➔ Art of capturing moments and presenting images in story form
- ➔ What is a story? What makes a story? What is storytelling?

Online Learning

The Lens Art is an online program. More than 80 per cent of the coaching is offered online with some provision for an in-person consultation with trainers and the teaching staff. In view of the global pandemic caused by COVID-19 and its subsequent need for physical distancing, our team is working remotely while still remaining available for student support and coaching assistance by phone as well as via email and video conferencing. If necessary, learning requirements may also be modified to enable all participants to complete and submit assignments from home in the event of a lockdown or self-isolation due to COVID-19.

Skills Covered



- ▶ **Number of participants:** Maximum 10
- ▶ **Age Group:** Between 18 and 25 years
- ▶ **Dates:** September 15 - October 2, 2020
- ▶ **Venue:** 815 St. Laurent Blvd.
Ottawa, ON K1K 3A7

Program Includes:

- Enriching people's lives through arts, culture, and heritage
- Exclusive Facebook Group
- Expert knowledge of leading photographers
- Complimentary e-portfolio to showcase online
- Letter of Reference
- Certificate of Completion

