GET LIT SUMMER INTENSIVES 2026

THE OVERVIEW

This year, Get Lit's cutting-edge Summer Intensive program will offer youth ages 13–18 an unparalleled opportunity to study Filmmaking and Poetry & Performance at a professional level. Hosted at the iconic Granada Building and Los Angeles Center Studios — home to *Fight Club*, *Mad Men*, *Top Gun: Maverick*, and more — the immersive experience places students in the heart of Hollywood with access to state-of-the-art equipment, real sets, and leading industry teaching artists. Each track trains 30 students per session, giving over 120 young people an unparalleled opportunity to develop advanced creative skills, collaborate across disciplines, receive exposure to top production facilities and produce high-quality work.

By the end of the program, students leave with polished professional assets — films, recordings, and performance reels — that strengthen college, career, and scholarship applications. With robust scholarships ensuring equitable access, Get Lit's Summer Intensive becomes not just a place to learn, but a launchpad into the creative and entertainment industries.

SESSION 1

JUNE 15, 2026 – JULY 10, 2026
MONDAYS – FRIDAYS
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

FINAL SHOWCASE:
SATURDAY
JULY 11, 2026

SESSION 2

JULY 13, 2026 – AUGUST 7, 2026
MONDAYS – FRIDAYS
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

FINAL SHOWCASE:
SATURDAY
AUGUST 8, 2026

FILM SUMMER INTENSIVE

This summer, Get Lit invites students to create professional-level films for college and film-school portfolios inside a working Los Angeles film studio. With two decades of experience partnering with leading voices in the film industry and producing award-winning work, Get Lit is launching a first-of-its-kind, summer film intensive hosted at **Los Angeles Center Studios** (home to *Fight Club*, *Mad Men*, *Westworld*, and *Top Gun: Maverick*). Students gain access to working sets, state-of-the-art equipment, and university-level instruction led by industry professionals. The program includes cross-collaboration with poets, writers, and musicians — and offers rare hands-on experience with **StageCraft**, the immersive LED video wall technology used on *The Mandalorian* and *The Batman*.

By the end of the intensive, students graduate with **two polished films**, including a thesis project designed for competitive school applications. With robust scholarships ensuring equitable access, this program is more than an intensive program — it's a launchpad into the creative industries that define Los Angeles.

WEEK 1: FOUNDATIONS OF FILMMAKING

Students learn the essentials of composition, lighting, and pre-production through hands-on workshops and group exercises, forming production teams for their first project.

WEEK 2: POETIC VIDEO PROJECT

Filmmakers adapt original poems into cinematic short films, rotating on-set roles and learning editing basics before hosting a class screening and feedback session.

WEEK 3: SCREENWRITING & ORIGINAL SHORT FILM

Students write their own 5–10 minute short films, six of which will be selected for production.

WEEK 4: POST PRODUCTION & FESTIVAL

Students embark on a post-production intensive, culminating in a public Film Festival celebrating creativity, teamwork, and storytelling.

STUDENTS WILL LEAVE WITH:

- Knowledge of film theory.
- Practical knowledge including writing, cinematography, pre-production, and post-production.
- Production experience working with state-of-the art equipment, software, and industry-standard production spaces & sets.
- Two short films of different genres: poetic music video and a 5-10min thesis film.

POETRY & PERFORMANCE SUMMER INTENSIVE

In the Poetry Lab Summer Intensive, students immerse themselves in the art of poetry — its language, lineage, rhythm, and power to shape personal and collective truth. Rooted in **Get Lit's signature classic-and-response model**, students engage with enduring works across eras, from Keats and Audre Lorde to Kendrick Lamar and Amanda Gorman, while crafting original poems that bridge past and present. As part of a larger creative ecosystem, students collaborate with peers in Get Lit's Summer Film Intensive at Los Angeles Center Studios, contributing original poetry to films and multimedia projects, with music and beat-based writing woven throughout. The program culminates in a Poetry Showcase at Los Angeles Center Studios, and students leave with a **professionally recorded performance video** for portfolios and college submissions, the opportunity to perform at the legendary Poetry Lounge, a letter of recommendation, access to our Get Lit Alumni Network, opportunity to audition for the Get Lit Players, plus access to select professional opportunities through **Get Lit** and **GRAPPLE**.

WEEK 1: THE POWER OF LANGUAGE | FOUNDATIONS OF POETRY

Students are introduced to Get Lit's classic-response model, exploring poetic devices and emotional truth while crafting their first original poem.

WEEK 2: EXPANDING THE VOICE | WRITING & REFLECTION

Students explore new poetic styles, themes, and perspectives through workshops focused on revision, depth, and word choice.

WEEK 3: COLLABORATION, MOVEMENT & PERFORMANCE

Students bring poetry to life through movement, music, and performance, developing stage presence and group pieces that blend multiple art forms.

WEEK 4: CURATION & CELEBRATION

Participants refine their poetry collections and rehearse for the final showcase—an inspiring celebration of voice, growth, and creative community.

STUDENTS WILL LEAVE WITH:

- A Personal Anthology of memorized. classic poems & Original Response Poems.
- Strengthened creative writing, memorization, and performance skills.
- Confidence in Expressing truth through art.
- An understanding of Poetry's role in history, culture and current events.
- A creative community that supports ongoing poetic development.

MEET THE TEAM

JAZIYYAH "BLU" HIGGINS | *HEAD OF TALENT & PERFORMANCE*

Jazziyah, also known as Blu, is a poet, performer, writer, and host whose work bridges storytelling, leadership, and community. Blu is a proud Howard University graduate, and his debut collection *orchids&blus* became an Amazon #1 New Release in Black & African American Poetry. Based in Los Angeles, Blu is a teaching artist with Get Lit, Head Coach of the Get Lit Players, and a host at the iconic Da Poetry Lounge and the Radical Hood Library.

TIFFANY SNOW | *ARTS EDUCATION MANAGER*

Tiffany Snow is a poet and actress who moved to Los Angeles to work at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, where she recruited top-performing students. Following her calling, she left JPL to pursue the arts, becoming a two-time NAACP Theatre Award–winning actress. Her debut poetry collection, Whispers from Within, explores inner voice, healing, and self-remembrance. As a teaching artist, Tiffany loves creating brave, joyful spaces where young people can explore their creativity, build confidence, and discover the power of their voices. She believes every young person carries a story worth telling and a voice worth hearing.

LUKAS LANE | *HEAD OF MEDIA*

Lukas Lane is an actor, filmmaker, and playwright with an MFA in Dramatic Writing from NYU Tisch, whose work includes directing and producing films and series for Ford, Vans, and the Golden Globes Foundation, as well as plays staged at UC Berkeley and NYU. He was a writer on *Summertime*, which premiered opening night at Sundance, served as Media Director for *If I Awaken in Los Angeles* at the Ford Theatre, and recently wrapped on *El Rebote*, a short film starring Emmy winner Jim O'Heir and set to premiere on the international festival circuit; he is represented by Innovative Artists.

WHAT IS GET LIT – WORDS IGNITE?

Get Lit – Words Ignite transforms young people into powerful storytellers, creatives, and community leaders at a moment when youth urgently need spaces to be seen and heard. For 20 years, Get Lit has helped students turn lived experience into art, agency, and opportunity through the transformative power of poetry.

Get Lit delivers programs from classroom to career through an evidence-based literacy curriculum, spoken word performance, and creative workforce development. The organization trains teachers, runs after-school programs and summer intensives, and expands global access to poetry through the Uni(Verse) platform. Students build voice and confidence through open mics, showcases, and the nationally recognized Classic Slam.

Through the Creative Career Lab, and paid creative opportunities, young people gain real-world skills, mentorship, and pathways into careers in the arts, media, and entertainment. With partners like Anderson .Paak, the NBA, and the Golden Globes, Get Lit has become a cultural bridge connecting youth voices to the industries shaping our world.