

UnCollege Mentors

UnCollege Overview

UnCollege Gap Year is a self-directed learning program that helps young adults discover what they love, and learn how to bridge the gap between where they are and where they want to be. Over the course of a year, UnCollege fellows volunteer abroad, participate in workshops in San Francisco that teach exploration, creation, and self-advocacy, and gain professional experience working at an internship. We aim for each fellow to leave our program with a clear sense of direction, and an understanding of how to find something that they love, get great at it, and leverage their skills for opportunities.



UnCollege Fellows

UnCollege is a curiosity-driven education program. We give our fellows space to explore, and autonomy to decide what they want to learn; and in return we ask that when they find something they are excited about, they work hard to get great at it. They reach out to professionals to understand what they need to learn to become excellent in their fields, practice those skills, take on projects that push their capabilities, and work on habits and mindsets that are needed to achieve their goals.

Their interests are diverse. They make videogames, plan events, design houses, make art, write code, write books, give talks, market products, design clothes, start businesses, and just about everything in between. We're extremely proud of their accomplishments, and are always on the lookout for excellent mentors who can advise them on their journeys.



Mentorship

During the Launch phase of our program each fellow works with a mentor who advises them in exploring, developing skills, and taking on projects. Mentorship is invaluable in helping our fellows learn how their interests apply in a professional context, and how they can become great at what they do. Mentors help their mentees by:

- Meeting with them for half an hour once a week over the course of six weeks.
- Learning about them and suggesting professional avenues for them to explore.
- Helping them understand what it's like to work in a specific field.
- Giving them advice on how to enter a field - what skills they should learn, what projects they should take on.
- Suggesting books, online classes, and other resources for learning important skills.
- Looking at their work and giving constructive feedback.
- Pushing them to stretch their capabilities beyond their comfort zones.
- Acting as an advisor on their creative and entrepreneurial projects.

If you're interested in getting involved we'd love to hear from you. Send an email to gabe@uncollege.org to learn more.