



Nightwalks with Teenagers

by Mammalian Diving Reflex

What is Nightwalks with Teenagers?

Nightwalks with Teenagers is a walking performance and a nighttime tour of the city, designed and hosted by teenagers. *Nightwalks* is an all ages event, where an audience (of both teens and adults) is invited to attend, and encouraged to participate and experience the city from the teenagers' perspective.

Why is Nightwalks with Teenagers important?

In our day-to-day lives, adults are often the ones taking charge of teens' lives. Whether in school or at home, the youth are restricted with supervision from their parents, guardians or teachers; the decision-making powers teens have are limited to what their adult supervisors deem appropriate, which can impact how much control they feel over their lives, self-confidence and self-worth.



Image: Nightwalks with Teenagers in Bologna, Italy 2023

Nightwalks with Teenagers reshapes the social contract between adults and teens by giving teenagers the power to make executive decisions to create and shape all elements of the performance.

From the planning stage to the finished *Nightwalks* performance, the teens take on the role of artists and supervisors, and have the creative control over the project. Even if only for the duration of the project, we want the youth to feel that they have power over the outcome of the performance, that the decisions that they make matter, and most of all, we want to have lots of fun!



Image: *Nightwalks with Teenagers in Brussels, Belgium 2019*

To further learn about Mammalian Diving Reflex's methodology, read: *The Mammalian Protocol for Collaborating with Children and Haircuts by Children and Other Evidence for a New Social Contract* - Darren O'Donnell.

What will you do?

Nightwalks with Teenagers takes about two weeks to plan, rehearse and perform the walk. You as a youth participant are expected to participate in all elements of the workshops, planning and performance, and also enjoy yourself! *Nightwalks* is a very unique opportunity for all of us to present your city from your point of view in a performance full of activities chosen and led by **you**, and we want this to be a memorable experience for everyone. Activities might include: showcasing a talent (like a short skit, parours, magic, rapping, anything!), engaging the audience in activities (like

a water fight, a basketball game or some kind of challenge), as well as spending time with the audience in the same way you would if you were just hanging out with the group of friends. There is a lot of room for experimentation and spontaneity.

Schedule

Total- 10 Days	Activities
Day 1 - Day 2	Workshops where we get to know each other, play games with each-other and the public
Day 3 - Day 5	Workshops where we explore the neighbourhood, plan out the walk route, the activities (and related props, costumes, etc.), and who will lead them
Day 6 - Day 7	Workshops where we continue to plan the performance, and test-run the walk in the city
Day 8	<i>Nightwalks</i> dress rehearsal with props and costumes (as required)
Day 9 - Day 10	<i>Nightwalks with Teenagers</i> performance with audience members

Social Media:



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