

Mission & Vision



Mission

Women's Audio Mission is dedicated to the advancement of women in audio production, music technology and the recording arts. In a field where women are chronically under-represented (less than 5%), WAM uses music and media to attract women and girls to technology careers and is “changing the face of sound” by providing hands-on training, experience, career counseling and job placement in audio technology for music, radio, film, television, software development and the internet. WAM believes that women's mastery of creative technology and inclusion in the production process will expand the vision and voice of media and popular culture.

Vision

WAM is creating history. Inspired by Motown, which advanced black soul artists and music producers and forever changed popular music, WAM is the first organization in the world to focus on advancing women and girls of all backgrounds in audio recording, music production and creative technology. WAM provides exceptional training programs, the latest high-end technology, a world-class recording studio, record label, radio station, music technology innovation labs, and a performance space, all under one extraordinary umbrella. WAM inspires and empowers the artists, producers, engineers and innovators of tomorrow by ensuring that women and girls have the necessary tools and training to create and shape the soundtrack of our lives.

Programs



Girls on the Mic

Cultivates the next generation of music producers, artists and tech innovators. Each year, 650 middle and high school girls, the majority of which come from underserved populations, with the highest high school dropout rates in San Francisco (close to 20%), receive hands-on training and experience in music technology and media production.

The WAM Studio

Is the only professional recording studio in the world run entirely by women. Every year, the studio delivers affordable recording services to 20-30 independent female artists while providing career counseling and paid work experience for women pursuing careers in audio and digital media. Projects include: Kronos Quartet (8 projects, including the soundtrack for the Oscar-nominated film, Dirty Wars), Salman Rushdie, Angélique Kidjo, The SHE'S, and Pamela Z. Each year, WAM places 20-30 women in audio positions.

WAM Core Training

Is a certificate program that provides 250 adult women per year with free and low-cost professional training and internships in music technology, media production and the recording arts.

Recording Residencies: Preserving Culture

Provides underserved artists from diverse cultures with access to low/no-cost recording services, radio and digital distribution, and performance opportunities. WAM has provided free recording services and career promotion to over 64 traditional folk artists from 16 different countries, including Van-Anh Vo's debut which was named one of NPR Music's Favorite Albums of 2013.

SoundChannel.org

Is a growing collection of online e-textbooks which brings WAM's rigorous, college-tested recording arts and audio technology training materials to colleges and recording arts programs all over the United States. SoundChannel reaches 6,700 students from 127 countries around the world.

Guide to Giving



Gifts by Check or Credit Card

(which may be paid outright, or may be pledged)

If you would like to make a donation by check or credit card, please designate Women's Audio Mission as the payee and indicate that you intend to support the AMPLIFY! Campaign. Pledges can be paid in yearly, quarterly or monthly installments, and must be paid in full by December of 2016.

Gifts of Securities

You may gift securities to the campaign using our Authorization of Stock Transfer form. Please see separate instructions for contributing stock.

Real Estate and Personal Property

You can donate property and avoid the capital gains tax, while also allowing a charitable deduction for the full fair market value for property held over one year. A formal appraisal is required for gifts of real estate.

Life Insurance Policies

Gifts of life insurance policies that you no longer need provide an excellent means of making a contribution while realizing current tax benefits. To receive a deduction, designate WAM as both the owner and beneficiary of the insurance policy. Please check with your insurance agent for details.

Charitable Lead Trust

This trust would provide income from your investment directly to WAM for the duration of the trust. The amount of the distribution is eligible for an income tax deduction for you each year. When the trust matures, the principal is returned to you or to your family.

Planned Gifts

While you're considering your gift to the campaign, please think about making a planned gift, such as:

Bequests: A charitable bequest is one of the easiest means by which you can make a substantial gift to WAM. Your estate receives a deduction for the full amount given, so your heirs pay no estate tax on the amount of the gift. You may name WAM as a beneficiary in your will. We can provide you with sample language for a bequest or contingency bequest.

Retirement Funds: You may designate WAM as the primary or partial beneficiary of your IRA. This is a highly effective way to benefit WAM while reducing both income and estate taxes. By specifically naming WAM as the designated beneficiary, the IRA will be fully deductible for federal and state estate tax purposes and WAM, as a tax-exempt organization, will pay no tax on your gift.

Life Income Trusts: You can make a significant gift to charity, earn immediate tax savings, and still retain the income your investments earn for as long as you live by setting up a charitable life-income plan, such as a Charitable Remainder Trust, Charitable Annuity Trust, or by contributing to the campaign's Pooled Income Fund. This type of gift is not subject to capital gains taxes.

Please consult with your tax advisors for advice concerning your specific circumstances. If you would like to make a confidential inquiry about any of these options, please contact:

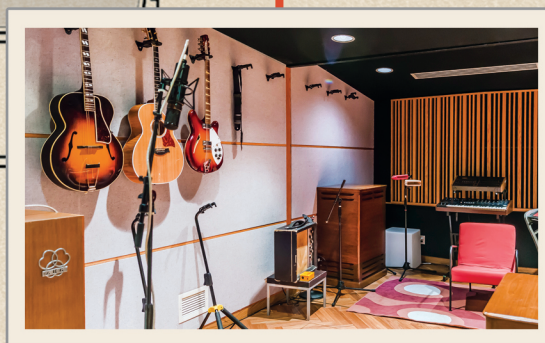
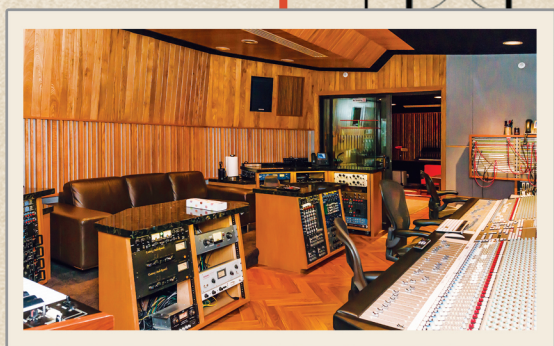
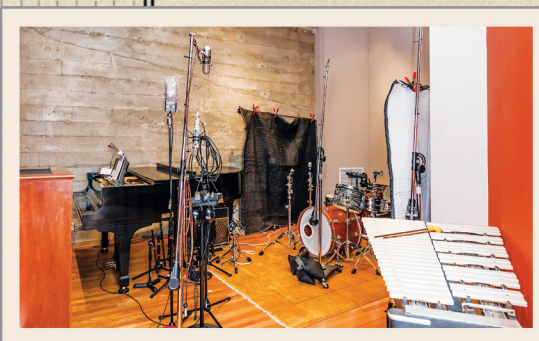
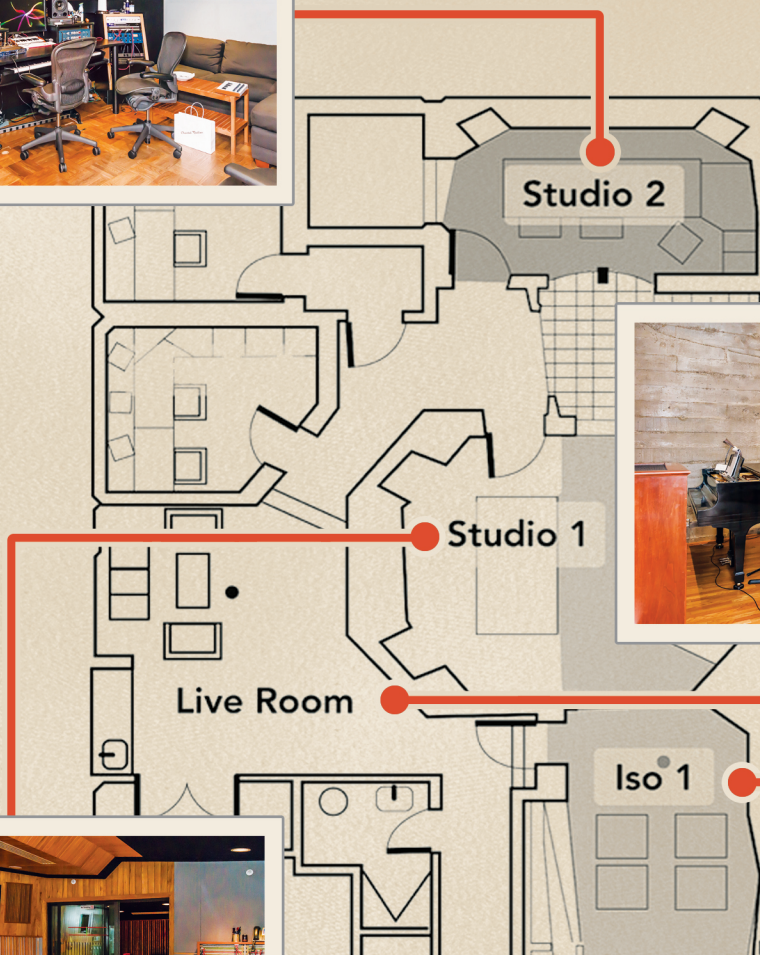
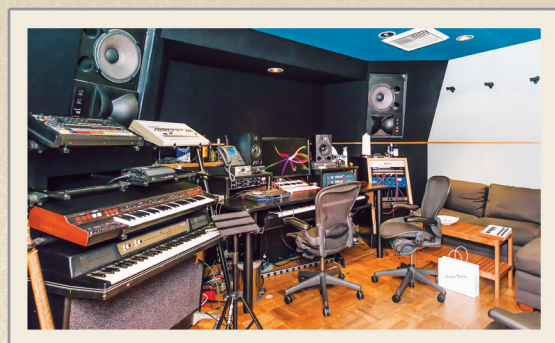
Terri Winston • Executive Director

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	Reverb	Harmonic Motion	Amplitude	Equalizer	Phase Shift	Resonant Frequency	Transformer	Speed of Sound
	\$1 - \$999	\$1,000 ↑	\$2,500 ↑	\$5,000 ↑	\$10,000 ↑	\$25,000 ↑	\$50,000 ↑	\$100,000 ↑
VIP Passes to the 2015 Public Campaign Launch Event & 2016 Campaign Victory Party	Invitation ONLY	Invitation ONLY	2/Invitation	4	6	8	10	12
Name Recognition on the AMPLIFY! campaign page of WAM's Website	🔊	🔊	🔊	🔊	🔊	🔊	🔊	🔊
Name Recognition on Entry Hall Donor Wall		Permanent	Permanent	Permanent	Permanent/ Priority	Permanent/ Priority	Permanent/ Priority	Permanent/ Priority
Name/Logo Listing on Hard Copy and Digital Launch Event Invitations				🔊	🔊	🔊	🔊	🔊
Banner Placement at the Campaign Launch Event					Standard	Prominent	Prominent	Prominent
Recognition from the Public Launch Event Stage						🔊	🔊	Special
Table/Opportunity to distribute marketing materials at Launch Event							🔊	🔊
Opportunity to Speak from the Stage at the Public Launch Event							🔊	🔊
Permanent Naming Opportunities							🔊	🔊

Facility Photos & Floor Plan



Meet Sam Benedetti



Sam posted this on her Facebook page last year: "I learned Friday that I got the offer to begin an internship at Pixar! None of this would be possible without Terri Winston of Women's Audio Mission. I want to give a huge shout out and thanks to all the amazing people at WAM. I have learned so much from each and every one of you in my time there."

Sam came to WAM while she was enrolled at Los Medanos Community College, working at Trader Joe's and struggling to pay her tuition and rent.

The vast majority of Sam's classmates were men and sometimes she was the only woman in her class. Like many women, Sam suffered from low self-confidence, and while her classmates eagerly jumped in, Sam often remained in the back of the class. She learned about WAM in her Modern Recording Techniques textbook and started taking classes at WAM that semester. Sam went on to intern at WAM, gaining critical hands-on experience assisting on sessions with high-profile artists like Grammy Award-winning Kronos Quartet and Pamela Z, and running live sound for the annual Boogie Woogie Festival. She also started mentoring in WAM's youth program, Girls on the Mic, and found that teaching young girls audio skills boosted her self-confidence and leadership abilities. Sam flourished in WAM's internship program: "No matter how often my confidence wavered, I was reinforced with 'you got this - just give it a try.'"

WAM's Executive Director, Terri Winston, encouraged Sam to apply for an AV engineering internship at Pixar Animation Studios. Sam was chosen for a paid, 6-month internship, which led to her current full-time position on the AV Systems team. "I would have never dreamed that I could work at a major movie studio if it weren't for WAM. They are the reason I am at Pixar now. Their training, encouragement and belief in me made it possible for me to muster up the courage to apply!"

Meet Madalyn Fernandez



"In 2012, I attended a WAM member meeting where I heard of a temporary job at the audio software company Cycling '74. I was hired, and that temporary job has now transformed into my full-time career. Thanks WAM! Concurrently, I'm working as the freelance post-production dialogue and music editor for an upcoming documentary about female MCs in the Bay Area, recording and editing comedy podcasts, and studying Max/MSP. WAM is one of those diamond in the rough organizations where it not only provides knowledge, hands-on experience, and opportunities that rival any in the field, but also offers continued support in a diverse community."

Meet Girls on the Mic Students



"Girls on the Mic is important because WAM proves that women can also be strong in a male kind of career."

—Ani, Buena Vista/Horace Mann K-8

"I always wanted to be like Beyonce and, with this program, I was! I wrote a song, made a beat, set everything and recorded it. It's not an official song but it makes me happy."

—Yadira, Buena Vista/Horace Mann K-8

"Girls on the Mic is important to me because it lets me express what I can do and show people my creative side. WAM rocks!"

—Alicia, Thomas Edison Charter Academy

"Girls on the Mic increased my self-confidence because I learned to be in charge."

—Keyanna, Elmhurst Community Prep/Oakland