

# HIP-HOP EDUCATION CENTER CELEBRATES 15 YEARS OF IMPACT WITH THE LAUNCH OF HIP-HOP COMMUNIVERSITY & K-12 GUIDELINES

*The Hip-Hop Education Center proudly marks its 15th anniversary with the launch of Hip-Hop CommUniversity and the K-12 Hip-Hop Music Education Guidelines.*

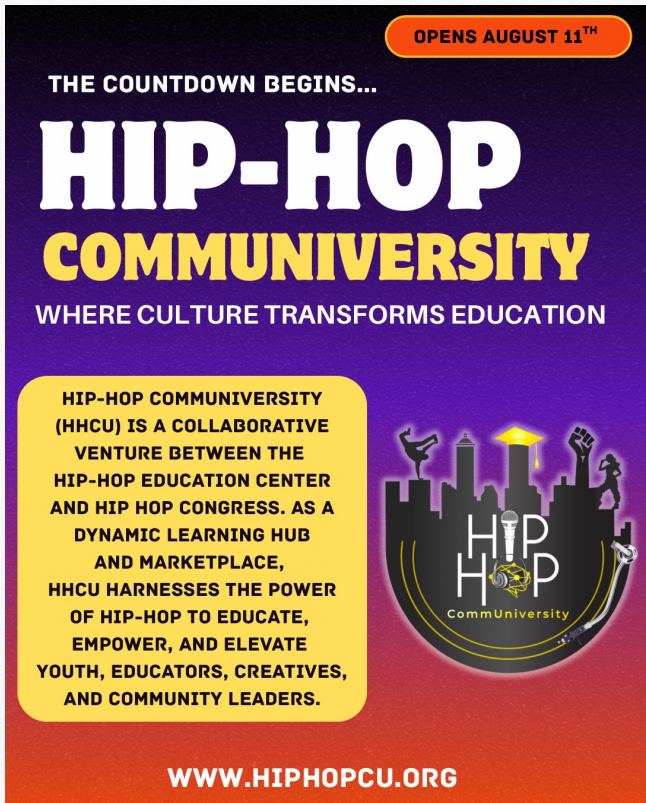
NEW YORK, NY, UNITED STATES, August 7, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The Hip-Hop Education Center (HHEC) proudly marks its 15th anniversary with two groundbreaking initiatives: the launch of [Hip-Hop CommUniversity \(HHCU\)](#) in partnership with Hip Hop Congress Inc. (HHC) and the release of the K-12 Hip-Hop Music Education Guidelines for Educators, developed in collaboration with [Music Will](#) and the Hip-Hop Education Roundtable.

These efforts are made possible through generous support from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Sweetwater, Dolby Impact Lab, and Music Will, who share HHEC's vision of culturally responsive education and creative empowerment.

Over the next two years, these initiatives will be rolled out nationwide to equip educators, teaching artists, scholars, archivists, and social entrepreneurs with tools for transformative teaching and learning.

"The creation of the Hip-Hop Music Education Guidelines marks a powerful milestone in music education. Hip-Hop is deeply woven into every aspect of our students' lives—except in the classroom. These Guidelines give educators the tools to comfortably bring culturally relevant practices into their teaching, bridging the gap between students' lived experiences and their musical education." — Scott Burstein, Director of Professional Development & Higher Education, Music Will

Originally launched in 2018 by social entrepreneur and HHEC founder Martha Diaz as an edtech

A promotional poster for Hip-Hop CommUniversity. The background is a gradient of purple and blue. At the top right, an orange banner says "OPENS AUGUST 11TH". Below it, the text "THE COUNTDOWN BEGINS..." is in white. The main title "HIP-HOP COMMUNIVERSITY" is in large, bold, white and yellow letters. Underneath, it says "WHERE CULTURE TRANSFORMS EDUCATION" in white. A yellow box on the left contains text about the collaborative venture between HHEC and HHC. On the right is a circular logo featuring a city skyline with a graduation cap and the words "HIP HOP CommUniversity". At the bottom, the website "WWW.HIPHOPCU.ORG" is displayed in white on an orange background.

OPENS AUGUST 11<sup>TH</sup>

THE COUNTDOWN BEGINS...

# HIP-HOP COMMUNIVERSITY

WHERE CULTURE TRANSFORMS EDUCATION

HIP-HOP COMMUNIVERSITY (HHCU) IS A COLLABORATIVE VENTURE BETWEEN THE HIP-HOP EDUCATION CENTER AND HIP HOP CONGRESS. AS A DYNAMIC LEARNING HUB AND MARKETPLACE, HHCU HARNESSSES THE POWER OF HIP-HOP TO EDUCATE, EMPOWER, AND ELEVATE YOUTH, EDUCATORS, CREATIVES, AND COMMUNITY LEADERS.

[WWW.HIPHOPCU.ORG](http://WWW.HIPHOPCU.ORG)

Hip-Hop CommUniversity Launch!

venture and microschool, Hip-Hop CommUniversity (HHCU) is rooted in cultural innovation and educational equity. Drawing from over five decades of Hip-Hop's history, artistry, and activism, HHCU transforms education through the lens of Hip-Hop culture—bridging traditional instruction with real-world experience.

Now relaunched in collaboration with Hip Hop Congress and platform designer NovaWorks Corp, HHCU offers a dynamic learning hub through music, dance, visual art, storytelling, entrepreneurship, technology, and civic engagement, HHCU empowers learners of all ages to lead with creativity, critical consciousness, and purpose.



Hip-Hop CommUniversity (HHCU) Logo

“The partnership between Hip Hop Congress and the Hip-Hop Education Center represents a powerful alignment of vision and values. Together, we’re relaunching Hip-Hop CommUniversity as a unified platform for education, empowerment, and community-building. By combining our histories, networks, and resources, we’re creating new opportunities for collective impact and sustainable change for generations to come.”— Rahman Jamaal, Executive Director, [Hip Hop Congress, Inc.](#)

“

With HHCU and the K-12 Guidelines, we’re building the infrastructure, tools and community needed to reimagine education and empower the next generation of educators and cultural changemakers.”

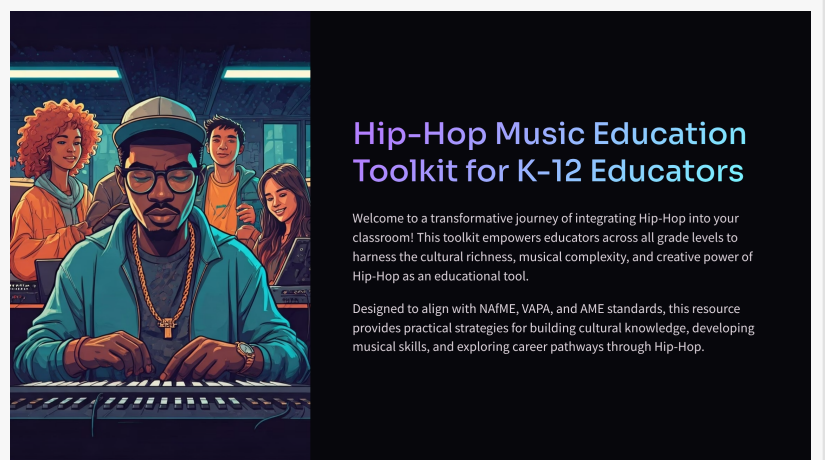
*martha Diaz, Executive Director, Hip-Hop Education Center*

Key offerings include:

- K-12 Hip-Hop Music Education Guidelines□-Accredited courses and professional development□-Internships, apprenticeships, and fellowships□-Workshops for educators and youth□-A digital marketplace, speakers bureau, and social network

From beat-making and lyricism to financial literacy and tech empowerment, HHCU is designed to foster both personal growth and professional advancement. Whether an aspiring artist, a passionate educator, or a community elder with wisdom to share, HHCU is a space where every voice is valued, every skill is honored, and every dream has room to grow.

“This 15-year milestone isn’t just a celebration—it’s a call to action. With Hip-Hop CommUniversity and the K-12 Guidelines, we’re building the infrastructure, tools and community needed to reimagine education and empower the next generation of educators and cultural changemakers. This is about transforming systems, amplifying voices, and building a future grounded in cultural pride, imagination, and collective power” —  
Martha Diaz, Founder & Executive Director, Hip-Hop Education Center



K-12 Hip-Hop Music Education Guidelines Cover

About:

Hip-Hop CommUniversity (HHCU) - To cultivate educational equity and creative excellence by embedding Hip-Hop culture into transformative learning models that serve, uplift, and mobilize communities. [hiphopcu.org](http://hiphopcu.org).

Hip-Hop Education Center (HHEC) - The mission of the HHEC is to empower individuals and communities by catalyzing social change and educational equity through research, curated curricula, collaborative programming, career and leadership training, and the development of a living archive. [hiphopeducation.org](http://hiphopeducation.org)

Music Will - For more than two decades, we’ve provided access to music education to over a million students who might not have otherwise had access in their schools. We strive to make music education available to all students regardless of their socioeconomic background, and it should reflect the cultures of the students we serve. [musicwill.org](http://musicwill.org)

Hip-Hop Education Roundtable (HHER) - HHER is a collective of teaching artists, scholars, and music industry professionals dedicated to using Hip-Hop for community empowerment, education reform, and social change.

Hip Hop Congress (HHC) - HHC empowers communities around the world through the development and sharing of its cultural resources. Our network serves artists, youth and thought-leaders who support grassroots initiatives and culturally-informed education for social change. [hiphopcongress.com](http://hiphopcongress.com)

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