



**COLLEGE +  
CAREER  
EXPLORATION**

**WMCAT**

**Step Year**



*“I don’t know” is a good place to start.*

Step Year at the West Michigan Center for Arts + Technology (WMCAT) was specifically designed to help you find a career or educational path that’s right for you. If you’re ready to take the next step, but aren’t sure what you want to do or would like more support navigating, we’re here to help. Step Year is a tuition-free program open to young adults ages 18-24 who have a high school diploma or GED and live in Kent County.

## DURING THE PROGRAM YOU WILL:

### LEARN

Engage in career and educational exploration opportunities in industries such as technology, design, business, entrepreneurialism, advanced manufacturing, health care, and civil service. You'll also learn vital power skills like networking, interpersonal communication, and public speaking.

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### LEAD

Through Step Year, you'll better understand yourself and how your lived experience is an asset in your post-secondary path. You'll explore components of your identity, your values and passions, what gives you life, and how you can use your skills in your career.

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### WORK

WMCAT will support you in finding a job by connecting you to employment pathways in a variety of sectors. Grow your confidence as an employee and gain marketable skills that can be added to your resumé.



**It can feel overwhelming.**

*A new kind  
of gap year.*

Well...not quite a year. Step Year is a one year program that includes having fun, making new friends, as well as exploring your identity and career interests.

**We'll help you get there.**



## THE WMCAT FAMILY HAS YOUR BACK

We'll help you navigate financial aid, application processes, and any other hurdle that comes your way. You just have to take the first step.



## TAKE THE FIRST STEP

### QUESTIONS

Visit our website  
[www.wmcat.org/stepyear](http://www.wmcat.org/stepyear)  
for more information  
and to apply

# 2021 Program

Step Year at WMCAT was specifically designed to help you find a career or educational path that's right for you.

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

■ February 15, 2021 ■

Orientation **March 11, 2021**

Twice a week programming: **March 22-June 18, 2021**  
*Monday & Thursday: 9:00a - 2:30p*

Bi-weekly meeting: **July - September, 2021**  
*4:00 - 5:30pm once a week*

Monthly Meetings: **October - December, 2021**  
*4:00 - 5:30pm once a month*

## TAKE THE FIRST STEP

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### QUESTIONS

Contact the Program Manager,

Leanne Rhoads at

[leanne.rhoads@wmcats.org](mailto:leanne.rhoads@wmcats.org)

616.454.7004

### APPLY ONLINE

[www.wmcats.org/stepyear](http://www.wmcats.org/stepyear)

**WMCAT**

West Michigan Center for Arts + Technology (WMCAT) provides a culture of opportunity for people to create social and economic progress in their lives and community. We fulfill our mission through visual arts and tech engagement, workforce development and social enterprises.

[www.wmcats.org](http://www.wmcats.org)