According to the National Center for Women and Information Technology, only 26% of computing jobs in 2015 were held by women. Additionally, only 5% were held by Asian women, 3% were held by African American women and just 1% were held by Hispanic women. In the film industry, there is a 5 to 1 ratio of men to women working. This gender gap persists across every sector of the media arts and tech industries. Additionally, top companies expect incoming hires to already possess a certain degree of professional development along with leadership skills. That’s where internship experience comes in. But many young people find internships hard to land. How do young, career-bound women looking to work in media arts and tech succeed?

BAVC can help. In this iteration of BAVC’s Bridges Fellows, young women ages 18-26 will gain leadership skills and engage in professional development to help them land an internship at a media arts or tech company in the Bay Area. Participants polish their resumes, LinkedIn profiles, and engage with professionals in the industry while gaining public speaking skills, in-depth training on interviewing techniques, and tips on communication strategies that will help them get their feet in the door.

The Fellowship consists of an intensive week-long series of workshops and trainings at BAVC’s Mission District headquarters in San Francisco. Fellows receive training and support from a team of professionals in the video, audio, gaming-production, design and coding industries to develop their entrepreneurial and leadership skills and internship potential as candidates.

Fellows will:

- Participate in one week-long series of career skills workshops and industry field trips at BAVC from March 28-April 1, 12-6pm (including a Career Panel March 30th from 4:30 - 7pm).
- Take one adult class at BAVC (8-24 hours of tools-based media training, worth up to $900).
- Identify and get placed in an internship with BAVC’s support before June 2016.
- Receive $500 after completing an internship.
- Present their internship experience at the Bridges Symposium in June 2016.
Eligibility
Applicants must be female-identified*, be between the ages of 18-26, and reside in the Bay Area. Applicants must be able to commit to all program components and dates. Successful candidates will possess an interest in media arts and tech and a drive to excel.

*BAVC is committed to inclusive and anti-discrimination practices in relation to all women, including transgender women, intersex women, and gender expansive participants, and aims to ensure that all participants identities are respected and protected.

Deadline to apply: March 1, 2016.

Select candidates will be invited for an interview and finalists will be notified by March 18, 2016.

Note: BAVC will provide lunch daily during the training week. BAVC does not provide additional stipends for travel or lodging. Internship stipends will be provided upon completion of an internship.