



2020-2021 Annual Report



"JFMS and the BIPOC Sci-Fi Lab gave me the **confidence** and **support** to pursue my dream projects as a **woman of color** who had little to no experience in film or television"

- Edyka Chilomé,
BIPOC Sci-Fi Lab Graduate

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"I'm very honored to spearhead an organization that's making a change in so many people's lives, and providing a **safe space** where folks can create **sacred community**, change their own story, and **see themselves as the prolific artists that they are.**"

- Kimberly Bautista,
Founder and Executive Director

A NOTE FROM OUR FOUNDER

Our Founder and Executive Director

Looking back where we were a year ago, I'm beside myself thinking of all the challenges we at Justice for My Sister worked through and all of the growth we've experienced, both as individuals and as an organization. One of the highlights for me is witnessing our graduates grow in their leadership--stepping into their power.

Some graduates have received prestigious awards and fellowships from Sundance, the Bay Area Video Coalition, Women in Film, and others. Others have been hired for their first TV staff writing job for series on HBO and Bounce TV. Our BIPOC Sci-Fi Lab graduate Gabby Jackson became a JFMS Teaching Artist and was recently promoted as our Programs Manager. Our prior Production Coordinator and Nuevas Novelas graduate Julissa Villatoro is now an Assistant Video Editor at Spotify due to our job placement initiative. It's such a thrill to witness the strides forward that our whole community is making, returning with us this year amid fellowships, directing gigs, and new projects.

I'm very honored to spearhead an organization that's making a change in so many people's lives and providing a safe space where folks can create sacred community, change their own story, and see themselves as the prolific artists they are. Thank you for being part of this journey. You believing in our work makes it possible for us to offer a space where emerging artists of color can hone their voice and cultivate a sense of belonging for themselves and each other.

As we welcome the fall of 2021, we are thrilled to launch our 2nd cohort of the BIPOC Sci-Fi Screenwriting Lab and expand our youth art programs to new parts of LA County! We are working with therapists, artists, and organizers to provide leadership development training for our staff as we continue to nourish ourselves to operate from a place of fulfillment, satisfaction, and joy. We are hoping the same for all in our community.

With care and esteem,
Kimberly Bautista

A YEAR IN REVIEW

The last twelve months have marked immense growth for us as an organization. New institutional partnerships, new team members, graduates receiving career-changing recognition and opportunities, and the creation of new programs... plus a return to in-person programming for our youth! Some of our accomplishments include:

Podcasting for Environmental Justice

JFMS's first virtual youth program providing participants, all young women of color, with personalized support and mentorship. Our program allowed students to explore themes surrounding environmental justice whilst increasing their skills in media literacy, storytelling, activism, and healthy relationships.

JFMS at Sundance Film Festival

JFMS hosted two virtual workshops during the illustrious Sundance Film Festival. Our workshops: "Centering Self-Care in our Artistic Practice" and "Ancestral Healing through Reclaiming and Remembering" opened an honest conversation with our audience to reclaim ancestral traditions and intergenerational healing through films centered around Black and Indigenous identities.

100%

of participants had never produced a radio segment or podcast before

350+

live attendees to our workshops and student showcases in 2021

NEW PROGRAMS

Afterschool Arts Program

In 2021, JFMS was awarded a contract with the Department of Arts and Culture and the Department of Parks and Recreation to provide healing-centered art classes to youth ages 10-18 throughout Los Angeles County. Our classes include filmmaking, theater, painting, and music classes for youth as part of a holistic effort to increase student leadership and prevent violence in our communities.

Step Into Your Power

A new interactive workshop our JFMS staff offered at the 7th annual I-Matter Girls Empowerment Conference, where we reached over 100 young women at three different locations, to discuss how to embrace all aspects of ourselves, and feel that we belong in each space we enter.

Parks After Dark with the Department of Parks and Recreation

JFMS curated Parks After Dark events amidst the return to in-person activities during the pandemic. JFMS collaborated with local artists to safely provide drumming lessons, mandala making, danza azteca, and ballet folklórico workshops to over 250 community members in Bassett and Ringrove Park.

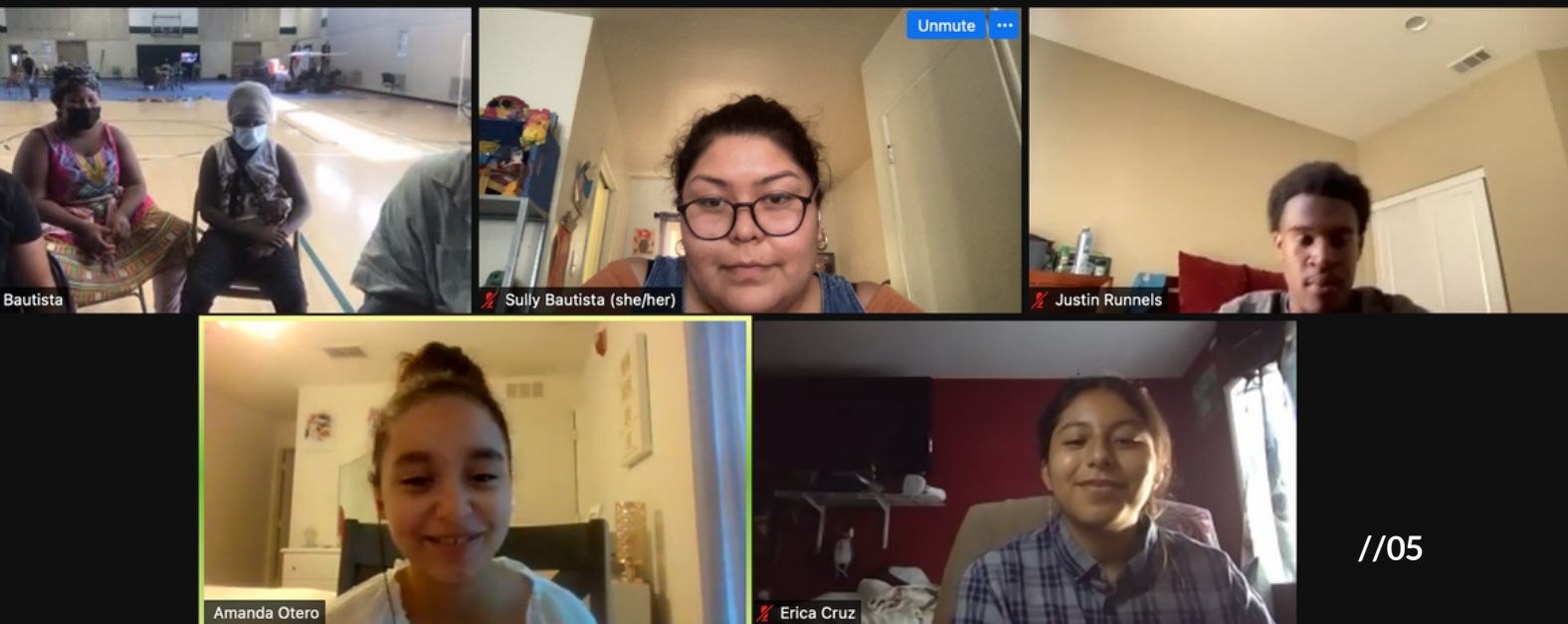




OUR IMPACT

"When talking about these topics that are usually hard to talk about with other people, I loved seeing the passion everyone had. Thank you for this opportunity of being able to join Nuevas Novelas and for all the support and encouragement received by each and every one of the mentors!"

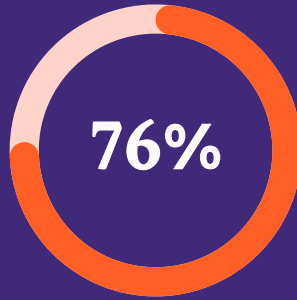
- Nuevas Novelas Participant



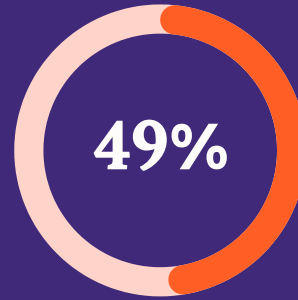
OUR STUDENTS



100% of students come from low-income communities of color



76% of our students are women, girls, and femmes.



Nearly half of our participants report experiencing some sort of gender-based violence or aggression

2020-2021 IN NUMBERS

13

New student films produced

8

New youth podcasts on environmental justice

2

New youth BIPOC sci-fi scripts written

82

Hours of in-person programming

120

Hours of on-line workshops

36

Hours of internal staff training

MEET THE TEAM

Our organization is entirely led by women of color, personally committed to trauma-informed storytelling and facilitation. Our life experiences have inspired us to intentionally cultivate a safe space for all of our programming, where students can feel supported to both hone their creative skills and heal.

Founder:

Kimberly Bautista
Executive Director and Founder

Staff:

Gabrielle Jackson
Programs Manager

Sullyari Bautista
Communications Coordinator

Sebastian Gonzalez
Teaching Artist

Guadalupe Martinez
Teaching Artist

Nancy Ramos
Editor

Advisory Board:

Chris Hastings
Executive Producer, WGBH

Eliza Hooper
Film Director

Shannon Matta
Alpha Treatment Centers

Molly Murphy
Co-Director, Working Films

Marie Alyse Rodriguez
Film Producer, Intuition Films

Ivonne Rodriguez
USC Neighborhood Academic Initiative



"After participating in the Lab, I know that my work is just as good if not better than what we see on our screens daily. As a Black writer, I learned so much from the other writers in the class in terms of different perspectives."

- Jarvis Fuller,
BIPOC Sci-Fi Graduate



Thank You to Our Partners and Supporters!

Justice for My Sister thanks each and everyone of you who has contributed last year. Your support made it possible for us to provide our healing-centered film instruction to emerging artists of color in 2020-2021.

We are so grateful for your partnership, funding and donations--and for believing in the vision.

HFPA



WarnerMedia



PARK PROUD LA



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

OUR 2022 GOALS

JFMS understands the power of creating systemic change by providing new and innovative services that support our youth and allows them to become successful artists. Next year, our goal is to complement our services by providing professional development opportunities to our graduates, and paid opportunities to develop their craft.

- **JFMS PA Training Certification Program**

An 8-week lecture series and 100 hours of on-set training for 30 students to obtain a certificate, production credits, mentorship and job opportunities with partners at WarnerMedia, HBO, Netflix, Spotify and others.

It is our goal to increase the number of students participating in the program by the end of 2022 and increasing the number of job offers our students receive after obtaining our certificate.

- **BIPOC Sci-Fi Screenwriting Lab**

Mentorship, peer support, and guest speakers' guidance in a weekly seminar series so participants can conceive sci-fi and fantasy short film concepts and author the script and pitch deck of their show.

We successfully launched our 2nd in 2021 with 14 participants. It is our objective to duplicate the number of students serve in 2022 to bring more stories of filmmakers of color to our communities.

GET INVOLVED

As we work towards our vision, we invite you to become part of the movement to transform the film and TV industry. Get involved in our organization in various meaningful ways.

Donate.

- \$50/month helps us connect 1 student to a job opportunity in the industry.
- \$85/month helps us provide a full scholarship to a student for one of our multi-week classes if you donate for a year.
- \$150/month allows us to hire a mentor for one of our multi-week classes if you donate for a year

In-Kind Contributions.

We are currently accepting contributions of gear, both new and used, to be used by our students—both the youth and emerging professionals. Some of the items we need include:

- DSLR cameras
- Sound gear
- Camera accessories
- Light Kits

Looking for additional ways to get involved?

- Volunteer as a guest speaker, consultant, or mentor.
- Become an Advisory Board Member.
- Help us spread the word of our work by sharing our emails with your network.
- Join our braintrust! We opened our leadership opportunities up to a circle of supporters and advocates interested in supporting our organization.

SUPPORT OUR PA TRAINING CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

We at Justice for My Sister offer video production services to tell your organization's story, help you document your event, and find new ways to use video storytelling to educate your community.

This program supports our graduates and Teaching Artists with paid job opportunities needed to increase the number of voices of color in the industry.

50%

Of our Teaching Artists who worked on our sets went on to receive additional work from our partners and Board Members.

50%

Of our students who worked on our sets have later been nominated by us and accepted into WarnerMedia's PA Bootcamp, resulting in job opportunities with HBO's Insecure, CBS' Bob Hearts Abishola, and others.



"The Lab introduced me to new writings/films that incorporated BIPOC that I had never been exposed to before and to see representations I wouldn't have been exposed to otherwise."

- Kristal Sotomayor,
BIPOC Sci-Fi Lab Graduate

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Thank you to everyone who makes our work possible. Please follow our journey and help us spread the word about our work.



@justice4sister



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We thank you for your continued support.

Justice for My Sister Collective

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