**YouMedia Discord**

**Staff FAQ**

**What is Discord?**

Discord is an app that is free, mobile and cross-platform – it can be viewed on various devices with different operating systems.

It is an online space where teens can gather, access content, and post content they create.

Discord users can access different servers. CML now hosts a YouMedia server.

Many teens are already using Discord. They can now add CML’s YouMedia server to their account.

If a teen is not already a Discord user, they can create a free Discord account if they are aged 13+.

**How does it work?**

Discord is organized into “servers,” which are private, virtual spaces with their own topic, members and rules

* CML’s Discord server is called *Columbus Metropolitan Library YouMedia*
* Once a teen downloads Discord on their computer or mobile device they request to join the YouMedia server
  + Help teens access the sign-up page through the Discord button on the Teen page of the CML website or by using the QR code on the Discord half-sheet flyer
    - Teens need their library card and an email address to join
  + YouMedia staff reviews the submissions and sends a link to teens who apply to join
  + Adults are not permitted to have CML YouMedia Discord accounts
* Discord servers have channels
  + Each server has any number of channels that members can access
  + Much like TV channels, server channels have topics such as music, art critique, drawing, etc.
  + Channels allow TSS staff to create specifically-aimed spaces for teens to learn about the creative topics they have an interest in

**Why do we have it?**

* Teens from all service areas can now participate in YouMedia
* YouMedia content is available on Discord 24/7 – teens can access it any time
* All teens can access the specialized skills of our Teen Services Specialists, who are experts in the digital arts. Teens are not limited to working with only one TSS – they can work with all of them!
* Teens are already on Discord. Adding a CML YouMedia server meets them where they are.

**Who runs it?**

The YouMedia Team runs it. We have YouMedia at Barnett, Driving Park, Karl Road, Main Library, and Whitehall. Hilltop will have a YouMedia Center.

* YouMedia staff are on Discord weekdays during afterschool hours to mentor teens and to moderate discussions.
  + During moderated hours, teens can chat with the TSS staff and other teens. They can also upload content.
    - TSS staff may offer livestream programs during moderated hours.
  + Outside of moderated hours, teens can access posted content.

**If it is for YouMedia, why do non-YouMedia locations need to know about it?**

Teens at all locations now have access to YouMedia through Discord.

* Access to content 24/7 – tutorials, videos, digital art and more
* The ability to connect with CML YouMedia staff and other teens during moderated hours
* The chance to attend live events on the server
* Teens can post content

**Can I see what it looks like?**

Yes! You can log in under our CML staff guest account.

A few things to know:

* Access the CML staff account to look around and familiarize yourself with Discord
* More than one staff member can log in simultaneously, but you can’t join live stream or video chat – only one person per login can join live streams, so if you try to join and another staff member logs in after you, you will be kicked off the live stream.
* Your username will appear as “CML Guest.”
* Click on the CML YouMedia server link in the upper left.
* To see the levels of content, use the left menu to scroll through the multiple channels on the server, including the following: art, coding, content creation, film, photography, tech, and graphic novel club.

Login here: <https://discord.com/login>

Username: [mentors.youmedia@gmail.com](mailto:mentors.youmedia@gmail.com)

Pw: sent through email to Teen Services staff and YS Managers – please share with interested staff

**How do I promote it?**

One-to-one promotion and walking students to a computer to help them join is the only effective promotion tool we have discovered to date.

Tell teens about CML’s YouMedia Discord server. Then walk them to a computer to help them sign up.

* Help teens access the sign-up page through the Discord button on the Teen page of the CML website or by using the QR code on the Discord half-sheet flyer
  + Teens need their library card and an email address to join
* YouMedia staff reviews the submissions and sends a link to teens who apply to join
* If a teen is already a Discord user they can request to join the CML YouMedia server

Consider logging into the Discord staff account and have it displayed on a computer where staff can show students around Discord.