

Mentor Interview Guide 2018

Checklist prior to interview:

- Printed version of this guide with your five questions already filled in.
- Recording device (i.e. your phone or other recording device).
- Internship Journal (just in case you have to take notes, see script below).

Interviewer Name: Mia & Valeria

Mentor Name: Mario Mesquita

Date of Interview: 5-29-18

Device on which interview is being recorded: Mia's Iphone

Interview audio file uploaded to Google Drive and saved as [last Name, FNI]_Mentor Interview [Date]

Script

What do you want to say when you and your mentor have first sat down for your interview?

Interviewer: Thank you (Mentor's Name) for agreeing to be interviewed. The purpose of this interview is for me to better get to know you and your career path in becoming (Mentor's title in the workplace -- e.g. third grade teacher). Is it okay that I record our conversation for the purposes of transcribing our conversation at a later date?

Interviewee: YES (if not yes, then you will have to take notes in your journal).

Interviewer: Great, thank you. My first question is...

Interview Question	(Insert Mentor's Name Here) Response
1. Did you attend college? ..if so, Where did you attend college? How did you make that choice?	Mario: I went to the university of Oregon for my undergraduate degree and I actually went to the same university in my hometown. Mainly because my mom wants to dig a well so i decided to stick close to home. otherwise I had been accepted to a program that would have been able to send me abroad as a freshman. However, financially I wasn't going to be covering all of it. So those two factors together. I decided to stay. after that I graduated then I worked for seven years before I decided to go to grad school. Then I started a program at Portland State university. But i actually found that the program in public practice or Masters in Fine Arts in Los Angeles was actually a better fit

	<p>so I transferred.</p>
<p>2.How did attending college change your perspective about your dream career?</p> <p>What inspired you to choose this career?</p>	<p>Mario: I would say that despite what you want to study in college. Can definitely change very distinctly change from what it was originally. What was more important Was about the skills that I learned, how to do research, talk to people, talking in public. those were the real hard skills that were very important no matter what career i decided to go into after that. but for me always staying in tune with art design, but also social justice, and education was apart of that for me. I always tried to find work that relates to one of those subject areas.</p>
<p>3.When you were a junior in high school what were your career aspirations?</p>	<p>Mario: I wanted to avoid education. cause that's actually what my mom did. she was an academic advisor and counselor and became the director f a multicultural center at the local community college. In highschool I did not want to do what she was doing. Ironically through my art I did very similar things that she was doing. I think in high school I thought I was going to work in some graphic design firm and then become wealthy. But i actually started working in high school at our radio station there, and it was something i wanted to put on my resume. and two, the second thing, was because i asked my mom if i could get a cell phone and she said that it was fine but I would have to pay for it. I think I was a sophomore when i began working at the radio station</p>
<p>4.What is a highlight from your career?</p>	<p>Mario: being an academic advisor, a school counselor at a community college that i was working with first generation students. so students who parents and family who hadn't actually gone to college before. Was very fun and fulfilling because I encouraged students despite sometimes challenges with their family that they may have had. that by going to college and taking these classes and sometimes it was difficult that they could move beyond that and aspire to whatever careers they were thinking about. even if it was staying in their own community, but maybe being a teacher or going into the medical field that through college and their education they can find a different path than what their</p>

	<p>parents were doing.</p>
<p>5. .What do you consider your greatest achievement in your career?</p>	<p>Mario: Can I back up to the other question? Cause the other thing. The highlight of my career was going back to graduate school and actually being able to work/Talk with, interview. But also challenge Some artists that I had wanted to meet, and people who I looked up to. So i think that was also a great experience in graduate school was actually meeting the people that I admired. Sometimes you also learn that people are just people they are human and they have their own errors as well. I think that was the most important lesson to learn. We can also be each other's best friends as long as we're open. Okay. So what was that another question? Sorry.</p> <p>Valeria:What do you consider your greatest achievement in your career?</p> <p>Mario: Being able to balance off both a carrier where i'm able to manage education programs, support learning through the arts. Also being around the museum and being around different artists while at the same time having my own artistic practice. In denver. Or next month I'm going to denver to talk about my practice and how that has helped the city of Santa monica look at different ways of actually talking to their citizens. Where as before a lot of cuties waited for people to come talk to them so they would wait for ike city hall meetings and that's where they would gather people's opinion. Whereas the city of Santa Monica goes really thinking about doing something different because they were seeing the same people come to these meetings and the same voices being heard and not actually the majority of the residents of Santa Monica. So that's why they wanted to partner with an artist to see how they could think of a different way of communicating with people.</p> <p>Valeria: in denver when you speak there, is it like a convention?</p> <p>Mario: Yea. its a national conference. It's called the Americans for the arts conference.</p>
<p>6.What advice do you have to your teenage self about college and career?</p>	<p>Mario: I think I already knew as a teen that trying new things ewas always important. Maybe just encourage that a little bit more but also</p>

	<p>not to be so shy. I'm a natural introvert so I had to learn in college to be able to speak in freely and more comfortably with people that I didn't know and do presentations. Ironically In my first professional job after undergraduate . which I was doing community based research so I had to talto people I became very comfortable with speaking in front of people that didn't know. So that was easy, so i was then able to move onto academic advising and that kind of stuff and admission counseling. Because I was speaking in public to strangers and I could really explain what we had to offer. But when It came to speak in front of friends and family that was different.</p> <p>Valera: why?</p> <p>Mario: because they know me and because I definitely act different in front of friends and family versus when I'm out talking professionally</p>
7.What do you like to do outside of work?	<p>Mario: I think it depends on how much brain power I have used over the past week. Sometimes it's nice to sit in silence and maybe read a book but also I get really antsy too and I still want to be creative so sometimes that means cooking elaborate dinners even if it's just for myself. Or I will sketch. And also just constantly thinking about what could possibly be my next artistic project may be and sometimes how that might relate to work.</p>