A Q&A with Hype Crew Members

Photos by Uche Iroegbu

Don’t Believe the Hype empowers youth in grades 9-12 as media creators. Hype leverages the power of media-making to help Indigenous, Black, Latina(o), Asian American, and historically unrepresented youth craft their own narratives and amplify their unique voices. The crew members premiered their capstone projects at a showcase event in June, sharing work that examined violence in schools, mental health, and representation in the arts.

We had the chance to sit down with some crew members to learn about Hype’s impact.

What lessons will you be taking with you from Hype?

Marquan Harper
(Twin Cities Academy, St. Paul)
I’ve always had an idea of what I’m interested in and what I wanted to do. But I never really knew that there was a purpose for what I wanted to do. Now, getting ready for college - knowing that I want to be a Communications major and do minors in Business and Marketing. Being able to have an opportunity, like working at TPT and doing something like this, especially with other young people of color, wouldn’t have been anything I would have imagined.