



Research & Culture Analyst Internship (Paid) – Thyrsty / CtrlAltX Studios

Tracks: Nightlife · Consent · Creators · Interviews & Research Methods

Company: CtrlAltX Studios LLC (NY-based)

Project: Thyrsty (immersive nightlife + social technology)

Job Type: Temporary, Part-Time Internship (W-2)

Pay: \$17/hour (hourly, non-exempt)

Hours: 10 hours/week (80 hours total)

Duration: 8 weeks

Location: Remote (U.S.) – NYC-focused research lens

Start Date: Flexible (coordinated with candidate)

Remote Work Stipend: \$50/month (for eligible interns; see details below)

About CtrlAltX Studios & Thyrsty

CtrlAltX Studios LLC is a creative technology studio and product lab operating at the intersection of culture, nightlife, AI, and immersive digital systems. We build experimental platforms and research frameworks exploring how people connect, express desire, create, and gather—online and in real-world spaces.

This internship supports research connected to **Thyrsty**, a consent-aware nightlife and social technology project exploring creator ecosystems, event flows, privacy expectations, and ethical experience design.

Internship Overview

This is a **research- and learning-focused internship** for students or early-career researchers interested in how culture, nightlife, consent, creators, and technology intersect. Interns contribute through **qualitative and quantitative research**, interviews, synthesis, documentation, and insight generation.

This internship is not event staffing, nightlife promotion, administrative support, alcohol service, security work, or production labor.

Applicants may be selected into one primary track and may support a second track depending on project needs.

Creator & Community Context (What You'll Research)

Thyrsty research touches **creator-led nightlife and community gatherings**, including (but not limited to):

- DJs and music selectors
- Promoters and party organizers
- Event collectives and community hosts

- Performers (e.g., dancers, artists, MCs)
- Venue teams (e.g., door/guestlist coordination, production coordination)
- Content/documentation creators (photo/video/social) tied to events

This work is not about judging nightlife—it’s about understanding real-world behaviors, expectations, and friction points so platforms can be designed more responsibly.

After-Dark / Adult Context (High-Level, Research-Oriented)

Some research may touch **after-dark adult nightlife contexts**, where themes like privacy, boundaries, consent, and safety are especially important. Interns should be comfortable discussing these topics with maturity and respect.

This internship does not require creating, performing in, or participating in adult content. Research activities focus on interviews, analysis of publicly available information, and pattern synthesis to inform ethical, consent-aware platform design.

Internship Tracks (Indicate your top 1–2)

Track 1: Nightlife & Event Culture Research

Focus: What actually happens in nightlife spaces

- Document event formats, entry flows, and social dynamics
- Identify friction points, informal norms, and workarounds

Outputs: observation memos, experience maps, pattern summaries

Track 2: Consent & Ethics Research

Focus: How consent, safety, and boundaries are signaled and enforced

- Study norms and expectations around consent, privacy, and safety
- Analyze power dynamics and ethical risks

Outputs: consent pattern briefs, ethical risk flags, design insight summaries

Track 3: Creator & Promoter Ecosystems

Focus: How creators organize, monetize, and manage coordination

- Map creator workflows and current tool “stacks”
- Document pain points in promotion, access, payment flows, and community trust

Outputs: creator journey maps, ecosystem analyses, friction briefs

Track 4: Interviews & Mixed-Methods Research

Focus: Direct insight through structured conversations + light quant

- Conduct remote interviews and synthesize themes
- Support micro-surveys / theme counting to validate patterns

Outputs: interview summaries, coded themes, survey insights, mixed-method briefs

What You'll Do (Core Responsibilities)

- Conduct **qualitative research** (interviews, thematic coding, synthesis)
 - Support **light quantitative research** (micro-surveys, theme counts, basic analysis)
 - Produce decision-ready artifacts (memos, maps, insight briefs)
 - Follow ethical research practices (consent, privacy, careful handling of sensitive topics)
 - Participate in weekly check-ins and incorporate feedback quickly
-

Deliverables You'll Produce

- Interview protocol + consent script (if applicable)
 - Research memos (1–2 pages) translating observations into product insights
 - Codebook/theme framework and anonymized findings
 - Journey map(s) or experience map(s)
 - Micro-survey summary with validated hypotheses and contradictions
-

Schedule Expectations

- **10 hours/week for 8 weeks**, tracked via timekeeping (hourly role).
 - Schedule is flexible, but interns must be able to:
 - attend a **weekly 30-minute check-in** scheduled in **Eastern Time**, and
 - maintain at least 1–2 hours/week of overlap with Eastern Time for async coordination (messages, feedback loops).
 - Hours are capped at **10/week** unless **pre-approved in writing**.
-

Pay & Employment Classification

- This is a **non-exempt, hourly, temporary W-2** internship paid at **\$17/hour**.
 - Payroll is processed with applicable taxes withheld.
 - **Remote Work Stipend:** Eligible interns will receive a **\$50/month** remote-work stipend (typically covering internet/phone/utilities used for work).
 - For an 8-week internship, this is expected to equal **up to \$100 total** (prorated if the internship does not cover two full months).
 - Stipend and reimbursement handling will follow applicable payroll and expense policies.
-

Remote Work Location & Compliance

- Remote within the U.S.; intern must reside and work in the U.S. and be authorized to work.
 - Because wage rules vary by location, **pay will meet or exceed the applicable minimum wage for the intern's work location**. If a local minimum wage exceeds \$17/hour, compensation will be adjusted upward to comply.
-

Research Ethics, Consent, and Data Handling

Because this role covers sensitive themes (privacy, consent, power dynamics), interns must follow strict research standards:

- **Consent-first interviewing:** Interviews must use approved consent language and explain what data is collected, how it's used, and the right to stop at any time.
 - **Privacy by design:** Do not collect unnecessary personal identifiers. Findings must be anonymized and summarized respectfully.
 - **No inappropriate content collection:** This role does not involve soliciting explicit content. Research focuses on systems, norms, safety practices, workflows, and experience design—not voyeurism or sensationalism.
 - **Responsible handling of sensitive topics:** Interns must be comfortable exploring real-world issues (consent, boundaries, harm reduction, privacy), while maintaining maturity, neutrality, and discretion.
 - **Data security basics:** Store work only in approved project tools (e.g., Google Drive/Docs, Notion). Do not store participant data in personal accounts or share outside the project.
-

Qualifications

Required

- Strong writing and synthesis skills (clear, structured, evidence-based)
- Comfort with ambiguity and early-stage research questions
- Professionalism with sensitive topics (consent, privacy, safety)
- Reliability: able to hit weekly deliverables with minimal follow-up

Nice to Have

- Coursework or experience in sociology, anthropology, psychology, HCI, UX research, media studies
 - Experience with interviews, thematic coding, survey design, synthesis
 - Familiarity with creator ecosystems, community-led events, platform responsibility
-

Tools & Work Style

- Tools may include Google Drive/Docs, Notion, and standard video conferencing.
 - You'll receive structured prompts/templates for memos and synthesis to keep work decision-ready.
-

Academic Credit

If the intern is seeking academic credit, the opportunity may be eligible **pending approval by the student's college/university**.

Confidentiality & Work Product

This internship may involve early-stage concepts and research materials. Interns will be asked to sign **standard confidentiality** terms and a **work-product/IP assignment** agreement covering materials created during the internship, consistent with typical startup practice.

Additional Notes

- This is a temporary internship; there is **no guarantee of continued employment** after completion.

- No visa sponsorship is available at this time.
-

How to Apply

Please submit:

- Resume & cover letter
- Optional (recommended): a short note indicating your preferred track(s) and any relevant research experience (interviews, coding, surveys, synthesis)