

Chautauqua Arts Education

2025–2026

Chautauqua Arts Education programs serve pre-K through 12th-grade students in Chautauqua County and beyond, encouraging creativity and self-expression through the performing and visual arts. These experiences foster artistic growth and deepen understanding of the world through creative expression. Find out more at artsed.chq.org.

Each program is designed to be inclusive and accessible to students of all ability levels. Adaptations and accommodations are built into every program, allowing all students to engage meaningfully in the arts. For more information about how Chautauqua Arts Education designs accessible arts education offerings, visit accessibleartsed.chq.org.

Programs marked with an asterisk below (*) may be funded in Chautauqua County in part through the Erie 2 BOCES Arts in Education Co-Ser. For details about fee structure and program availability, contact Suzanne Fassett-Wright at sfassettwright@chq.org.

FOR STUDENTS



School Residencies*

Developmental level: PreK–12

"Feelin' the Beat" integrates social-emotional and music learning through drumming. This program is presented in two 10-week residency cycles, with classes receiving weekly 30-minute sessions that build musical expression and social skills, including impulse control, focus, collaboration, and identifying and expressing emotions through music. Learn more at residencies.chq.org.

"Drumming gave my students a sense of importance through their ability to show their musical talent and their increased self-esteem as well. They have grown so much, and it is fun to see!"

—Teacher 1



Young Playwrights Project*

Grades 3–4

This three-phase project brings actors and teaching artists to schools to teach the art of playwriting. The program encourages students to use imagination and tell their unique stories, centering their creative expression as they develop writing and theatrical skills. Students will write their own plays, hear them read aloud and see them acted out, with select works performed live at Chautauqua Institution. Learn more at ypp.chq.org.

"My students really enjoyed having their plays read and seeing them come to life. I noticed that a few of my students had more confidence in their writing after they saw how the rest of the class liked their plays."

—Teacher 2



Opera in the Schools*

Grades K–6

Young Artists from the Chautauqua Opera Company sing and make music with students, leading an in-class lesson for 4th-grade classrooms and presenting a kid-friendly, 45-minute opera performance for the entire student body. Learn more at operaed.chq.org.

"The kids were engaged the entire show! I love when my students have experiences that they would not likely otherwise, and this is absolutely one of them. It is a beautiful thing to share with them and I'm so glad that they can experience and learn about opera."

—Teacher 3



Chautauqua Regional Youth Ballet Field Trip*

Grades PreK–12

Students will enjoy a preview of the Chautauqua Regional Youth Ballet's Spring Gala in the Chautauqua Amphitheater, featuring some of Chautauqua County's best and brightest young talent. Afterwards, students are invited to stay on the grounds, bring a picnic lunch and enjoy the day. Learn more at fieldtrips.chq.org.



Summer Field Trips – NEW!

Chautauqua Arts Education invites groups from summer camps and summer school programs to visit Chautauqua Institution during the summer assembly season for a custom-designed experience. Arts Education staff will work with your group to suggest a day's activities that fit your schedule, the age and interests of your students. Activities may include:

- Observing a Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra rehearsal
- Seeing a Chautauqua Theater Company or Chautauqua Opera Company performance (high school only)
- Visiting the Chautauqua Visual Arts Galleries
- Drumming by the Miller Bell Tower
- Swimming at Children's Beach or Pier Beach
- Taking a Visual Scavenger Hunt Walk around the grounds of Chautauqua Institution

And more!

For more information, contact Suzanne Fassett-Wright, sfassettwright@chq.org or learn more at fieldtrips.chq.org.

FOR TEACHERS



Professional Development for Teachers

Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua Lake Central School and Jamestown Public Schools form a Kennedy Center Partners in Education team, presenting professional development workshops in arts integration. Led by arts integration experts, these workshops provide educators with strategies that connect the performing and visual arts to core subjects such as reading, math and science. Participating educators receive professional development credit toward their certification goals, as approved by their districts. Learn more at teachered.chq.org.

