

USDAN FOCUS 2-WEEK COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ART DEPARTMENT

STOP MOTION ANIMATION + NARRATIVE ARTS

DIVISION: JUNIOR, SENIOR GRADES: 4-12
SESSION: 2A

In this Stop Motion Animation class, students will plan, script, stage, shoot, and produce their own short film. Working individually or as a team, students will use various materials to create sets, props and characters as needed. Storytelling and narrative art will be explored from both a visual and literary perspective to complement their stop-motion work and/or create new work.

PRINTMAKING + NARRATIVE ARTS

DIVISION: SENIOR GRADES: 6-12
SESSION: 2A

This printmaking course will explore linoleum printing, which can be simple and graphic or intricate and detailed. A linoleum surface is used to carve into and create a printing plate, which can be used many times to produce unique prints. Students will make a series of prints based on drawings from observation combined with drawings made from stories that they write. Narrative art will be explored from visual and literary perspectives and will compliment both printmaking and the creation of new work.

ART ADVENTURE: PRINTMAKING + NARRATIVE ART

DIVISION: PARTNERS IN THE ARTS GRADES: 2-3
SESSION: 2A

Adventures in printmaking may include stamping, foam printing and collagraphs, giving students an introduction to the art of making multiples. Printmaking will be complemented by Narrative Art, where students will learn to create narrative stories from their artwork.

ART ADVENTURE: PAINTING & DRAWING + FIBER ARTS

DIVISION: PARTNERS IN THE ARTS GRADES: 2-3
SESSION: 2B

Painting and drawing will be explored through various mediums such as tempera, watercolor, oil pastel and pencil. The adventure will continue in a Fiber Arts minor class, where students will experiment with different ways of making art with fabric and fibers such as weaving and sewing.

SOFT SCULPTURE + FIBER ARTS

DIVISION: JUNIOR, SENIOR GRADES: 4-12
SESSION: 2B

Defy traditional notions of sculpture in this Soft Sculpture class. Sculpture is art that is three-dimensional and while we usually think of materials like clay, wood and stone to create sculptures, the options are endless. In this course you will explore fabric, paper and other pliable materials that can be sewn, glued and stuffed to make three-dimensional objects. Artists for inspiration will include Claus Oldenburg and Sheila Hicks. In conjunction with Soft Sculpture, students will take a fiber arts class for one hour each day. In this class they will hone their skills in things like sewing, embroidery, crochet and also explore fiber and fabric in less traditional ways.

PAINTING PEOPLE & FIBER ARTS

DIVISION: SENIOR GRADES: 6-12
SESSION: 2B

Work from both observation and imagination, students will explore how to use paint to represent people in this senior painting class. Students will learn technical skills while also thinking theoretically to creating personal and unique works of art. In conjunction with painting, students will take Fiber Arts for one hour each day to explore using fiber and fabric in novel ways. Some painting experience recommended but not required for Painting People and no experience is necessary for Fiber Arts class.

COSPLAY WORKSHOP + SCULPTURE

DIVISION: JUNIOR, SENIOR GRADES: 4-12
SESSION: 2C

From Star Wars to Anime, learn the ins and outs of creating costumes and props of your favorite characters. Learn how to use materials such as foam, fabric, paper and clay to create detailed, wearable depiction of your chosen characters for cosplay, halloween, or just for fun. Bring your favorite character ideas or we can help you create one! A minor in sculpture compliments your Cosplay skills and ideas. In this more traditional sculpture class you will learn skills you can use to make an addition to your costume or explore another idea of your choice.

ART ADVENTURE: COLLAGE, CONSTRUCTION AND PUPPETS + SCULPTURE

DIVISION: PARTNERS IN THE ARTS GRADES: 2-3
SESSION: 2C

Starting with paper collage and moving into construction with heavier materials, this Art Adventure class will culminate with students constructing a puppet. A minor in sculpture will allow students to continue honing their skills while working on art that is more three-dimensional.

ART IN THE OPEN: PUBLIC ART + SCULPTURE

DIVISION: SENIOR GRADES: 6-12
SESSION: 2C

Public Art students will collaborate together to create sculptures to add to Usdan's outdoor art collection on the camp's 140-acre campus. Students will learn the foundations of 3D-design and construction, basic engineering and building techniques, and how to use common hand tools as they design and create large-scale artwork. The course excitedly challenges students to experiment and use creative problem solving to build intrepid open-air art. Students also attend a secondary course in sculpture to help refine their techniques.

THEATER DEPARTMENT

MATINEE IDOL: CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

DIVISION: JUNIOR, SENIOR
GRADES: 4-12
SESSION: 2C

Matinee Idols is a two-week intensive course for lovers of musical theater, concentrating on contemporary work in musical theater, Charlie and The Chocolate Factory. The work will be studied and analyzed by the students who will then be accompanied by teachers to a matinee performance in New York City on August 2. Following their theater trip, students will be given the chance in studio to perform scenes and musical numbers from the show. For the final week of camp students might choose to audition to perform in our famous Last Day Cabaret. Act fast! This is sure to be a sell-out! Complimenting Junior Matinee Idol will be Junior Chorus and Senior Matinee Idol will be Pilobolus: Moving and Making.

MUSIC

JUNIOR CHORUS

DIVISION: PARTNERS IN THE ARTS, JUNIOR GRADES: 2-6
SESSION: 2A, 2B, 2C

Young singers in Usdan's Junior Chorus learn the fundamentals of their craft in a summer of exploration, friendship, and fun. They experience the joy of healthy singing, the excitement of performing, and the satisfaction of collaborating and creating with musicians from the International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE).

Guest faculty will join the resident chorus in three 2-week sessions:

MAJOR:

2A. June 26 - July 7: Making Vibrations: Traditional Choral Singing.
2B. July 10 - 21: Making A Grand Entrance: Broadway at Usdan!
2C +1. July 24 - August 4 + August 7 - 11: Making Music: Creating a work for young voices, in collaboration with ICE.

MINOR:

2A. Broadway: Famous Choruses.
2B: Student's way: Student curated repertoire.
2C: Breakaway: New Dimensions, Vocal Percussion.

DANCE DEPARTMENT

ALVIN AILEY INTENSIVES

DIVISION: SENIOR GRADES: 6-12

Immerse yourself in a 2 week Dance Intensive this summer at Usdan in partnership with the Alvin Ailey Arts In Education. Each of the techniques offered are utilized in the repertory of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and taught by Alvin Ailey Teaching Artists. Each session will have a dance technique class in the morning and a composition class in the afternoon, where the art of making a dance will be explored. The intensives are for children in grades 6-12 with at least one year of classical or modern dance training.

ALVIN AILEY JAZZ TECHNIQUE + COMPOSITION

SESSION: 2A

Jazz is a fun, high energy class that explores the expressive styles of jazz. Students learn the basics of technique and alignment through a ballet and jazz warm-up to achieve a strong and solid foundation. Students will develop a foundation of the basic jazz movements including jumps, turns, across the floor progression, and stylized movement. This class will encourage students to bring their individuality and unique personality to the class.

ALVIN AILEY MODERN DANCE: HORTON TECHNIQUE + COMPOSITION

SESSION: 2B

This class will teach students the basic fundamentals of the Horton technique, and consist of studies to stretch and strengthen different areas of the body. Many of the beginning level studies which are taught will include flat backs, primitive squat, lateral stretches, release swings, leg swings, deep lunges, and T positions. Simple combinations of turns and jumps are taught to introduce musicality and dynamics to the dancer's vocabulary.

ALVIN AILEY HIP HOP TECHNIQUE + COMPOSITION

SESSION: 2C

Hip-Hop is a dance style focused on the popular urban cultural style of dance that will introduce moves featured in today's popular music videos. Each class focuses on classic party dance moves, popping & locking drills, and basic breaking combos with a touch of new school hip-hop energy. Students will learn about the culture of hip-hop and all of its elements including basic footwork, freezes and more. This environment also allows students to gain confidence and build self-esteem.

INTRODUCTION TO DANCE

DIVISION: PARTNERS IN THE ARTS GRADES: 2-3

SESSION: 2A

An introduction to the language of classic and contemporary dance forms. Students will learn basic positions, steps, and styles drawn from Jazz, Lyrical, Theater Dance, and Modern Dance. Three periods of dance. No previous dance experience necessary.

INTRODUCTION TO DANCE & THEATER

DIVISION: PARTNERS IN THE ARTS GRADES: 2-3

SESSION: 2C

This is a vivid introduction to the language and fundamentals of classic and contemporary dance forms, including jazz, lyrical, theater dance, and modern dance. In conjunction with learning basic positions, steps, and styles, students will attend a one-hour theater class every afternoon. No previous dance experience necessary.

CHESS

DIVISION: PARTNERS IN THE ARTS, JUNIOR AND SENIOR

GRADES: 2-12

SESSION: 2A, 2B, 2C

Usdan offers a unique, individualized program for young chess players. From competitive chess tournaments to exciting team competitions, students hone their experience through game play and tutoring. The Usdan Chess Ladder groups students in varying levels, from absolute novices to advanced tournament players. Individual and group lessons are conducted by highly-ranked tournament players with decades of experience at many of New York's best schools.

DISCOVERY

DIVISION: DISCOVERY

GRADES: PREK-1

SESSION: 2A, 2B, 2C

Usdan's Discovery Program introduces students to the arts in several disciplines and media. Play and exploration are at the heart of Discovery, where children enjoy music, art, dance and swim multiple times a week. Additional activities draw from Usdan's diverse offerings, such as theater, nature, archery, chess and photography. Discovery campers attend select assemblies performed by professional and student artists. Throughout the week, they are also given opportunities to choose activities based on their own interests. With the Discovery Center as a base, campers have their own small group and college-age counselor to guide them throughout their adventurous day.