

COCAedu After-School Classes

COCAedu teaching artists provide after school classes for arts learning to students in an 8- to 10-week residency format.

The following are some examples of COCAedu after-school classes:

Dance and Creative Movement

Broadway Stars (Ages 4–K)

Every star on Broadway started somewhere. Students dance to music from some of Broadway's most beloved musicals, like *Annie* and *The Lion King*.

Hip Tots (Ages 4–K)

Energetic young students move to hip beats and music while developing motor skills and focusing on creative expression. Children channel their energy while learning counting, musicality, and rhythm, and developing movement control.

Dance Around the World (Ages 4–K)

Children are encouraged to move actively—to hop and slide, spin and stomp to a variety of lively musical styles from around the world. Kids are inspired by world music as they explore such basic movement concepts as space, shape, time, and rhythm.

Movement Safari (Ages 4–K)

If you were an animal, what animal would you be? Take a trip through the animal kingdom in movement and song. Young explorers hop, creep, lumber, and gallop, even create characters and stories with animal heroes and villains! Class culminates with a sharing of what kids have learned.

Story Ballet (Ages 4–K)

This course is designed to develop foundational dance movement skills in an imaginative setting. It introduces children to concepts such as rhythm, patterns, and exploratory dance composition as well as developmentally appropriate locomotor skills.

Jazz Dance (Grades 1–3, Grades 4+)

Jazz dance is immediately accessible, and an ideal way for new students to explore the world of dance and movement. Jazz incorporates high-energy Broadway musical dance styles and contemporary pop dance styles, and stresses flexibility, strength, and alignment.

Move It (Grades 1–3)

This class offers an introduction to jazz, modern creative movement, and hip-hop. Students learn about the relationships between these three styles of movement and show what they've learned for the final day of class.

Musical Theatre Dance I (Grades 1–4)

In this fun and energetic class, students focus on well-known musicals. They dance to songs from some of the most beloved children's musicals which may include *The Wizard of Oz*, *Mary Poppins*, *The Lion King* and *Annie*.

Step Into Dance (Grades 1–3)

A great introduction into the world of dance styles, which may include jazz, modern, swing dance, hip-hop, and more. Students gain knowledge, techniques, and the vocabulary of dance while having fun moving.

Dance Exploration (Grades 4+)

Students learn techniques of multiple dance styles and the connections between them. These may include jazz, hip-hop, modern, or swing dance. Students gain knowledge, techniques and the vocabulary of dance while having fun moving.

Hip-Hop (Grades 3+)

COCA's hip-hop classes are designed to provide a comprehensive experience surrounding the technique, culture, and progression of hip-hop. Students learn the latest cutting-edge moves while building technical proficiency.

Musical Theatre Dance II (Grades 5+)

Ready to audition for the middle or high school musical? Students experience the exciting world of Broadway dance while sharpening audition and performance skills. They expand their musical theatre dance vocabulary in order to successfully prepare for a career on the stage.

Swing Dance (Grades 3–5, Grades 6+)

Students learn the basics of swing dance as they develop discipline, coordination, strength, and flexibility. Each class starts with a warmup and progresses with combinations and movements across the floor. Students are exposed to the historical and cultural elements that contributed to the formation of this style of dance.

West African Dance (Grades 1–3, Grades 4+)

Experience the joy of movement and learn about the cultures of West Africa in this dynamic class. Students are introduced to high-energy dances rooted in African life and legend.

Theatre and Music

I've Got Rhythm (Ages 4–K)

Students explore movement, music, and performance in this class. We dance, sing, and play rhythm instruments while developing stories to show family and friends.

Magic Trunk (Ages 4–K)

Open the magic trunk and let your imagination soar! Perhaps one day we discover a pirate's costume or fantastic sunken treasure; another day, perhaps fairy dust and jewels. Whatever we find, students move, sing, and act their way through classic children's tales. Come join us to find out what the magic trunk contains.

Play A Story (Ages 4–K)

Each class, students listen to a classic folk or fairy tale and create their own version through creative drama, movement, and song. On the final day of class, parents are invited to share one of the students' favorite stories.

Seuss on the Loose (Ages 4–K)

Children explore the "wiggled roads" and "weird wildish space" of Dr. Seuss in the class all about possibilities. Each class, they engage in creative movement and pretend play as they inhabit fantastical characters like the Cat in the Hat and Horton the Elephant.

Space Odyssey (Ages 4–K)

Kids explore the galaxy in Space Shuttle Imagination, taking a walk on the moon and experiencing zero gravity, creating alien and astronaut characters and stories to infinity and beyond!

Under The Sea (Ages 4–K)

Students explore the marvels of the ocean—both real and imaginary. Through drama and movement, they create a world of starfish, imaginative sea creatures, and other watery wonders. Perhaps they even meet a favorite mermaid there. Dive in!

Curtain Up! (Grades 1–3)

Budding actors learn to use the body and voice to create characters under the guidance of a COCA theatre instructor. Using improvisation, dramatic play, story enactment, theatre games and imaginative journeys, students develop confidence as they discover the joy of theatre.

Gleeful (Grades 1–3, Grades 4+)

Learn songs from some of Broadway's best loved musicals as well as kid-friendly pop

numbers! Students are encouraged to develop their vocal performance technique, then add some "choir style" movement and show what they've learned on the last day of class.

Lullaby of Broadway (Grades 1–3)

Young performers learn about the stories, characters, and songs of classic Broadway shows. They develop basic skills in acting, singing, and stage movement as they explore the world of musical theatre. Family and friends are invited on the final day for class observation.

Music Matters (Grades 1–3, Grades 4+)

Students develop vocal projection and proper breathing through song while they develop stage presence through creative movement. On the final class day, students perform a medley of songs.

Topsy Turvy Tales (Grades 1–3)

What would happen if Dorothy met the Three Little Pigs along the Yellow Brick Road? What if Cinderella didn't like to dance? Children take a traditional story then give it a twist. Students make props and act out their own topsy turvy tales.

African Rhythms (Grades 3+)

Students participate in a hands-on exploration of the different instruments in the drum orchestra. Playing hand drums, stick drums, and a variety of small percussion instruments, they learn traditional rhythms of West Africa. As they work with the music and rhythms, they discover the culture and countries the music comes from and even try out the language.

Broadway Bound (Grades 3+)

Develop skills in acting, singing, and stage movement as you explore the world of musical theatre. Students learn vocal projection and proper breathing through song while they develop stage presence through creative movement.

Drama Express (Grades 3+)

In this introduction to stage acting, students play theatre games, learn about theatrical improvisation, and discover how to use their bodies and voices to create both comic and dramatic characters of all kinds. The class explores acting terms and all the "dos and don'ts" of professional theatre.

Speak the Speech (Grades 7+)

Students learn and enjoy how to use clear and effective speech to boost their communication skills and self-confidence. The class is designed to help students

discover special techniques and vocal exercises to improve the speaking voice, while exploring stage presence, creative script writing, public service announcements, and panel discussion skills.

Year-long Theatre Production Program (Grades 4+)

COCA has a limited number of openings each year for these theatre production classes. First semester is dedicated to learning basic elements of the craft of acting through improvisation, character and movement study, and voice technique. Second semester focuses on the rehearsal process, culminating in a fully staged production in spring for families, fellow students, and friends.

Visual Art

Sculpture Safari (Grades 1–3)

It's time to explore the animal kingdom through a variety of sculpture media. Students use clay, wood, even handmade paper to create three-dimensional creatures of all kinds. This class emphasizes construction and shape recognition and helps students to link physical skills with their imagination. Interest in an art adventure is a must; no passport is necessary.

Meet the Masters (Grades 1–3)

What made Calder click? What got Van Gogh going? Students enter the world of the masters, and then, using drawing, painting and sculpture, create their own "masterworks." Each week, children are exposed to a new artist. Move over, Monet!

Shutterbug (Grades 1–3)

Students experiment with the basics of photography, while using a variety of conventional and unconventional cameras and techniques. They learn how to use composition, light and shadow, as well as point of view to communicate their ideas. Students photograph the school community and the world around them.

The Young Illustrator (Grades 1–3)

Young illustrators experience popular children's tales by authors like Maurice Sendak, Lane Smith, and Eric Carle. They learn techniques to develop their own creative ideas in watercolor, tempera, collage, and chalk illustrations.

Art Stew (Grades 1–3, Grades 4–6)

Students explore drawing, painting, and printmaking for a class filled with fun and variety. Inspired by stories, nature, and music, students explore color, learn to use line expressively, and create works using traditional and non-traditional art materials.

Crafting Mosaics (Grades 3–5, Grades 6–12)

Students learn the art and craft of mosaics as they make beautifully decorated objects, like picture frames, boxes for treasures, bird houses, and many other works of art using ancient techniques and materials like glass, stone, tile, and more.

Drawing From Life (Grades 1–3, Grades 4–6)

Students develop their ability to draw images from the world around them. Through a variety of challenging and fun assignments, students explore contour, line, positive and negative space, perspective, proportion, and shading.

The Book & Beyond (Grades 1–3, Grades 4–6)

Students learn to create a variety of book forms—accordion books, box books, and pop-up books—and learn different binding techniques. The process integrates focus on drawing skills and work in collage with creative writing, as students explore new and unique ways to combine words and images.

Creating Comics (Grades 3–5, Grades 6–12)

Don't just read the comics, draw your own! This class is for students who want to develop their ability to draw characters and scenes that tell a story. Learn how to create a storyboard and find the right words to complement your visuals. Students also explore what makes some of their favorite cartoonists so good.

Exploring Printmaking (Grades 3–5, Grades 6–12)

Students develop skills in creating sculpture and learn about contemporary art. Students explore a wide variety of materials, including clay, paper, and found objects, to create unique works based on personal imagery and ideas.

In Living Color (Grades 3–5, Grades 6–12)

This program is for students who want to explore and develop their painting skills. Composition and color theory are stressed and students encounter great artists throughout history as they create works in watercolor, acrylics, and pastels.

Sculpture Studio (Grades 3–5, Grades 6–12)

Students create original works in a variety of three-dimensional media. Artists practice techniques for working with wire, clay, paper, found objects, and natural materials to create miniature, life-size, and large-scale sculpture.

Mural Making (Grades 4+)

Students are encouraged to draw on their personal experiences, culture, and knowledge as a source of inspiration for creative expression as they create a piece of public art to be permanently installed in their school.

Photography (Grades 4+)

Students learn the basics of photography, experimenting with a variety of conventional and unconventional cameras and techniques, as well as learn how to use composition, light, shadow, and point of view to communicate their ideas.

For more information, contact Lauren Younge, Arts Learning Manager, at lyounge@cocastl.org.