

The Summer ST-ARTS Program at Winthrop University
June 5-23, 2017

PARENT / STUDENT INFORMATION

What is the Summer ST-ARTS Program?

The Summer ST-ARTS Program (Students with Special Talents in the Arts) is a Winthrop University summer program for 300 public school students in grades 6-8 with special talents in the arts. Sponsored jointly by the College of Visual and Performing Arts and the Clover, Fort Mill, Lancaster, Rock Hill, and York school districts, this program provides an intense, three-week experience in the visual and performing arts [dance, drama, music, and the visual arts] for artistically gifted and talented students. A faculty and staff of 50 artists/teachers consists of regional and national artists, master teachers, and the Winthrop University arts faculty. Curriculum for the program is designed and evaluated in accordance with the South Carolina Visual and Performing Arts Framework and the state guidelines for this type of program. The program concept and design have been cited by the State of Department of Education as a model of cooperation between an institution of higher learning and its local consortium of public schools. Since its inception in 1989, the Summer ST-ARTS Program has served over 8,500 middle school students.

Who may attend the program?

Students in grades 6-8 from the five participating school districts are eligible to attend the program. Entry into the program is through competitive screenings that usually begin in October of each year. Students proceed through specific and final screenings in one major art area [some students may wish to qualify in more than one art area] in his/her district according to the schedule published by the district. Once selected, students may return each consecutive year of eligibility with the recommendation of the ST-ARTS faculty and the school districts. New students are screened each year to fill available slots.

Where is the program located?

The program is housed on the Winthrop University campus in recently renovated arts facilities: Rutledge Building [visual arts], Johnson Hall [drama and dance], and the Conservatory of Music [music].

When does the program take place?

The Summer ST-ARTS Program is held during the last three weeks in June of each year. **The dates for 2017 are June 5-23, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. STUDENTS SELECTED FOR THE PROGRAM COMMIT TO ALL THREE WEEKS.**

How do I qualify for the program?

Summer ST-ARTS students are selected through a highly competitive screening process. In the fall of each year, school districts send ST-ARTS information letters to all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade arts students. Parents and teachers may nominate students to participate in the specific screening, usually held in October and November. Students nominated for the program should:

- show a serious interest in an art form [dance, drama, music, or visual art]
- show a serious interest in spending time pursuing an art form
- express emotions in and through an art form, and
- be able to create unique responses to given stimuli.

All nominated students receive information from the school district on preparing an audition [or, in the case of visual arts, preparing a portfolio]. Students earning qualifying scores on the specific screening are invited to participate in the final screening. Those receiving qualifying scores in the final screening are selected for the ST-ARTS program.

What is the cost of the program?

The Summer ST-ARTS Program is funded through contract with Winthrop University and each participating school district. There is no charge to the students.

Are there preliminary meetings during the previous spring?

Yes. Students accepted to the program attend three **Saturday Workshops** during the spring semester previous to the summer program. For **2017**, these dates are: **February 11, March 11, and May 13**, all from **9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.** During these Saturday Workshops, students experience all the classes they will be taking during the summer program. They will also meet the faculty they will be working with.

What happens during a typical day?

Students spend the first part of the day (5 periods) in a variety of instructional opportunities in their **major** art area. See the list below for a listing of representative classes. The guiding philosophy of what experiences we offer includes familiar classes along with experiences that may not be available at their local schools. Not all classes are offered every year.

For the final period of each day, each student is required to participate in a “minor arts area” that he/she selects.

DANCE

African Dance
Conditioning
Creative Movement
Ballet Pointe
Ballet Repertory
Ballet Technique
Dance on Film
Jazz Repertory
Jazz Technique
Modern Repertory
Modern Technique
Musical Theatre
Tap
Umfundalai (Contemporary African)
Wild Card
Dance Minor

MUSIC

Advanced Guitar
Advanced Piano Class
Intermediate Ukulele
African Drumming
Band
Beginning Guitar
Beginning Piano
Beginning Ukulele
Brass Class
Chorus
Composition
Exploring Musical Creativity
Handbells Class
Intermediate Piano Class
Jazz Combos
Music Fundamentals
Music Theory
Percussion Class
Sight-Singing & Ear Training 1
Sight-Singing & Ear Training 2
Song Writing Techniques
Strings Class
Video & Film Scoring
Voice Class 1
Voice Class 2
Woodwinds Class
Music Minor

DRAMA

Acting 1
Acting 2
Acting 3
Advanced Movement
Directing
Improvisation 1
Improvisation 2
Introduction to Design
Introduction to Theatre
Introduction to Voice & Movement
Masks
Makeup
Musical Theatre
Musical Theatre Voice
Physical Comedy
Puppetry
Stage Combat
Drama Minor

VISUAL ARTS

Architecture
Catawba Pottery
Clay
Drawing
Furniture
Masks
Metal Working/Welding
Mixed Media
Painting
Photography (Traditional/Digital)
Printmaking
T-Shirt Design and Production
Videography
Visual Arts Minor

Are there special performances to attend?

Special performances are also an integral part of the summer program, and have brought to campus many regional and national organizations: the Battery Dance Company and Anthony Morgan Dance Company of New York, the Troika Balalaikas of Atlanta, Silent Partners Mime Duo of Asheville, the Charlotte Shakespeare Company, , Wicklothian (a Celtic music duo), Transactors Improv Company of Chapel Hill, Viva Klezmer! of Charlotte, Irish Celtic music by Flora MacDonald Gammon, internationally known African drummer Mohammed da Costa (Guinea) and his Boke Dance Company, DM Dance Company of New York, African mbira player Chartwell Dutiro (Zimbabwe), Jazz Dance Theatre South of Atlanta, Chopstick Theatre of Charleston, Children's Theatre of Charlotte, the Brosseau Danceworks of Charlotte. Presentations and performances by the ST-ARTS faculty are also included.

For additional information, contact:

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For specific information regarding screening requirements, bus schedules (Clover, Lancaster, and York districts only), eligibility, and final screenings schedule, please contact the following representatives at your local school district:

Clover School District

Melanie Wall (803.810.8021) melanie.wall@clover.k12.sc.us
Donna Thomas (803.810.8008) donna.thomas@clover.k12.sc.us

Fort Mill School District

Marty McGinn (803.548.2527) mcginnm@fortmillschools.com
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Lancaster County School District

Tom McDuffie (803.285-8430) tmcduffi@lcsdmail.net
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Rock Hill School District

Bill Cook (803.981.1055) wcook@rhmail.org
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York School District

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