

# 2024 FALL TERM CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

Register at  
[inner-cityarts.org/institutes](https://inner-cityarts.org/institutes)

6<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADES  
**SATURDAYS**  
**SEPT. 14-NOV. 23**

## Advanced Rock Band

Grades 9-12 • 3:30-5 p.m.

Teaching Artist: **Matías Anaya**

You choose your instrument — guitar, bass, drums or keyboard — and join a three- to five-piece band that will write at least one original song. Your band will record its original song in the studio and perform at the term's culmination concert. Advanced Bands will also be encouraged to learn existing songs and put together a 15-minute set list in order to enjoy opportunities to perform off campus at community events!

**Prerequisites: Beginning Rock Band or prior musical experience. Instructor placement for enrollment**

## Amazing Automata! Bringing Sculptures to Life

Grades 6-8 • 10-11:30 a.m.

Teaching Artist: **Jen Lathrop**

Discover the enchanting world of automata (mechanical toys) where you will combine art and engineering to create animated sculptures. Known for their whimsical and quirky appeal, automata blend creativity and craftsmanship. Learn to design and construct your own automata using materials such as wood, wire, cardboard, and 3D-printed components.

## Architecture and Design for Community Impact

Grades 9-12 • 2-3:30 p.m.

Teaching Artist: **Jen Lathrop**

Enhance your creative problem-solving and critical thinking skills while learning about the core principles of architecture and design. Working individually and collaboratively, students will explore 2D and 3D design strategies through hand-sketching, collaging, model-making, and photography. The session will include an opportunity for students to work with non-profit partner Architecture+Advocacy to design and build a community-impact project.

## Beginning Rock Band

Grades 6-12 • 12:30-1:45 p.m.

Teaching Artist: **Matías Anaya**

You will choose an instrument — guitar, bass, drums, or keyboard — and learn a song of the instructor's choice that will strengthen your foundational skills on your instrument. Together with your peers, you will perform this song at the term's culmination concert.

## Intermediate Improv: Elevating Scene Work and Finding the Fun

Grades 9-12 • 1:30-3 p.m.

Teaching Artist: **Tom Simmermaker**

This course is perfect for anyone with some acting experience who is ready for the next step in their performance journey! We will hone the fundamentals (acceptance, intuition, yes/and, and group mind) as we deeply explore scene work, form, and finding the fun in improvisation. Focusing heavily on two-person and three-person scenes, this class is sure to bring your acting skills to the next level!

## Intermediate Rock Band

Grades 9-12 • 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Teaching Artist: **Matías Anaya**

Choose an instrument — guitar, bass, drums or keyboard. You will be part of a three- to five-piece band and choose at least one existing song to learn together. Your band will rehearse for performance in the term's culmination concert.

**Prerequisites: Beginning Rock Band or prior musical experience; instructor placement for enrollment**

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## Intro to Improv: Instant Acting for All

Grades 6-12 • 10-11:30 a.m.  
Teaching Artist: Tom Simmermaker

Improvisation is the art of making things up on the spot. While this may sound intimidating, people improvise in real life all the time! Come explore improv comedy and its many forms to discover the foundations of performance. You will overcome shyness, play theater games, meet new friends, and build confidence for any situation in life. Improvisation is a must-have skill for anyone interested in acting!

## Introduction to Digital Art

Grades 6-12 • 1:30-4:30 p.m.  
Teaching Artist: Los Angeles City College Instructors

Learn the fundamental concepts, practices, and theories of digital art production with college-level instructors! Topics include integration of traditional design, color, and compositional principles with contemporary digital tools. This course is designed to prepare students for creative fields in art, graphic design, print design, entertainment, and marketing/web design.

## Introduction to Street Photography

Grades 6-8 • 10-11:30 a.m.  
Teaching Artists: Daniel Curtis

Dive into a hands-on exploration of the essential concepts of photography, from camera settings to composing stunning shots. You will explore the vibrant world of street photography, learning to capture candid moments, unique perspectives, and the everyday beauty of life.

## Logo Design

Grades 6-12 • 1:30-3p.m.  
Teaching Artists: Ashley Margo

Design your own logo and develop personal expression through typography! In this graphic design workshop, you will explore visual communication design, develop an understanding of the relationship of contemporary to classic graphic production techniques, and examine logos of significant LA sports teams, movie studios, and more! You will experiment with handmade and digital techniques.

## Music Production

Grades 6-12 • 10:30-11:45 a.m.  
Teaching Artist: Matías Anaya

Come make beats! You will learn to create music using Soundtrap. Listen closely to your favorite songs and learn to understand the roles of every instrument — from drums and percussion to bass, guitars, and even sound effects. You will combine samples and digital instruments to create your own original track by the end of the term.

## Photography: Lighting Techniques

Grades 9-12 • 1:30-3 p.m.  
Teaching Artist: Daniel Curtis

Take your photo skills to the next level with a comprehensive class on advanced lighting techniques for high school students. This course will go deep into the science and art of lighting, covering everything from natural light manipulation to advanced studio setups.

**Prerequisites:** Basic photography or art skills and comfort interacting in the studio

**For questions about enrollment or getting started, email [programs@inner-cityarts.org](mailto:programs@inner-cityarts.org)**

