



# TEEN ARTS + TECH PROGRAM

tuition-free | after school | fall 2023

CREATE ART MAKE FRIENDS CONNECT WITH COMMUNITY ELEVATE YOUR VOICE

**At WMCAT, you're an artist.** Whether you're glazing ceramics, capturing a photo, mixing a beat, designing a mural, shooting a video, or sewing a runway-ready look, the **afterschool Teen Arts + Tech Program** provides the space, industry-quality supplies and equipment, mentorship from local professional artists, and community connections needed for you to explore your creativity while building new skills *and* relationships.

And it's all **tuition-free**. If you're in grades 9–12 in Grand Rapids Public Schools (GRPS), then we have a spot just for you! Enroll to join us after school for the fall 2023 semester. Spots fill up quickly, so sign up today!

We can't wait to see what we'll create together.



fashion design



ceramics



music production



photography



video production



illustration

## WHAT TO EXPECT | TEEN ARTS + TECH PROGRAM

WMCAT's Teen Arts + Tech Program makes space for you to elevate your voice, build creative confidence, and connect with the community through visual arts and digital media.

**Who** – Grand Rapids Public Schools students in grades 9–12.

**Where** – West Michigan Center for Arts + Technology, 614 First St NW #300 (Third Floor), Grand Rapids, MI 49504.

**When** – After school, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. weekly; day(s) of week depend(s) on studio selection. Studios begin the week of September 18 and end the week of December 11.

## transportation

GRPS provides daily yellow school bus transportation (through Dean Transportation) to WMCAT from GRPS high schools and provides a city bus (The Rapid) pass to get home from WMCAT. Details about daily yellow school bus transportation will be communicated with students once enrolled, prior to the program start.

## schedule

Depending on the studio you participate in, studios meet either twice a week on Tuesday and Thursday, or once a week on Monday or Wednesday (please see the studio selection portion of the enrollment form for more information).

When you arrive at WMCAT after school, you'll be greeted by WMCAT Teen Arts + Tech Program staff and teaching artists. We will have a snack offering and an optional activity for you to engage prior to studios. Announcements are shared at 3:30 p.m. and studios begin immediately after. When studios end at 5:30 p.m., we can provide a bus pass for you to take The Rapid home, or you can make your own arrangements to get home.

## studio experience

In your studio, you'll be with up to 11 other GRPS high school students and a teaching artist, allowing you to meet and collaborate with teens from across the city. In addition to gaining skills and completing projects in your studio's visual arts or digital media discipline, you will: go on field trips; explore real-world and career applications of your creative learnings; share your ideas and voice on issues that matter to you; practice giving and receiving feedback; display your work in an exhibition; and have opportunities to participate in other WMCAT Teen Arts + Tech Program activities such as specialty workshops and a year-end trip in spring 2024 (for students who have at least 70% WMCAT attendance through the school year).

## key dates

- August 17 • Priority enrollment deadline for returning students
- August 29 • Back-to-WMCAT celebration and enrollment event
- September 7 • Final enrollment event
- September 7 • Enrollment forms due
- By September 11 • Students receive an email regarding studio placement
- Week of September 18 • Teen Arts + Tech Program begins (exact date dependent upon studio)
- October 31 • No Teen Arts + Tech Program
- November 7 • No Teen Arts + Tech Program
- November 20–24 • Thanksgiving Week, no Teen Arts + Tech Program
- December 14 • Last day of fall semester
- December 14 • Teen Arts + Tech Exhibition at 5:30 p.m., family and friends encouraged to attend

## TO ENROLL

The Teen Arts + Tech Program is tuition-free and open to all Grand Rapids Public high school students in grades 9–12. The priority enrollment deadline for returning students is August 17; enrollment closes for all students September 7

### returning students

*(Students who attended during the 2022–23 year)*

#### ONE STEP TO ENROLL

**1.** Complete a fall 2023 enrollment form with your studio selection, signed by a parent/guardian. Submit by August 17 to secure your spot before new students enroll. You can either:

- Submit the online form at [artstech.wmcat.org/enrollment](http://artstech.wmcat.org/enrollment).
- or*
- Fill out a paper form and:
  - Drop off form at WMCAT during open hours (M–Th, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.).
  - Scan and email form to [teenprograms@wmcat.org](mailto:teenprograms@wmcat.org).
  - Bring form to an enrollment event\* (below).
  - Bring a parent/guardian to an enrollment event\* (below) to complete and sign form at WMCAT.

*\*Returning students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) are not required to attend an enrollment event but are welcome to!*

### new students

#### TWO STEPS TO ENROLL

**1.** Complete a fall 2023 enrollment form with your studio selection, signed by a parent/guardian, by September 7. You can either:

- Submit the online form at [artstech.wmcat.org/enrollment](http://artstech.wmcat.org/enrollment).
- or*
- Fill out a paper form and:
  - Drop off form at WMCAT during open hours (M–Th, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.).
  - Scan and email form to [teenprograms@wmcat.org](mailto:teenprograms@wmcat.org).
  - Bring form to an enrollment event (below).
  - Bring a parent/guardian to an enrollment event (below) to complete and sign form at WMCAT.

**2.** Attend one of the enrollment events in the section below so you can see WMCAT’s space, meet program staff and teaching artists, and ask questions.

*You will not be enrolled until both steps are completed.*

### enrollment events

*Required for new students. Returning students welcome.*

*Enrollment events are held at WMCAT, 614 First St NW #300 (Third Floor), Grand Rapids, MI 49504.*

- **Tuesday, August 29, 3:30–5:00 p.m.** — Back-to-WMCAT Celebration and Enrollment Event. See WMCAT’s space, meet staff and teaching artists, and turn in enrollment forms while enjoying refreshments. Open house style; tours every 20 minutes. Busing from schools to WMCAT provided; see the WMCAT poster at your school’s main office for details.
- **Thursday, September 7, 3:30–5:00 p.m.** — Teen Arts + Tech Program Enrollment Event. See WMCAT’s space, meet staff and teaching artists, and turn in enrollment forms. Open house style; tours every 20 minutes. Busing from schools to WMCAT provided; see the WMCAT poster at your school’s main office for details.

**New students:** If you are unable to attend any of the enrollment events, please contact Program Coordinator Carolina at 616-454-7004 or [teenprograms@wmcat.org](mailto:teenprograms@wmcat.org).



# TEEN ARTS + TECH PROGRAM FALL 2023 ENROLLMENT FORM

## student information (Please print clearly in pen or type)

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Last name \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred name (if different) \_\_\_\_\_ Personal pronouns (he/she/they) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth (month/date/year) \_\_\_\_\_ Current grade level \_\_\_\_\_

High school name \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (for program confirmation and updates) \_\_\_\_\_

Best phone number \_\_\_\_\_  cell or  home?

Home street address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirt size:  adult S  adult M  adult L  adult XL  adult 2XL  adult 3XL

Please list any accommodations needed for your learning environment, as well as food allergies and health issues we should be aware of:

## parent/guardian contact information

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Last name \_\_\_\_\_

Best phone number \_\_\_\_\_  cell or  home?

Email address (for program announcement and updates) \_\_\_\_\_

## secondary emergency contact information (not parent/guardian listed above)

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Last name \_\_\_\_\_

Best phone number \_\_\_\_\_  cell or  home?

## for collective reporting purposes only (data will not be used to identify individuals)

Student race or ethnicity:

Asian or Pacific Islander  Black  Hispanic or Latinx  Multiracial  Native American or Indigenous  White

Student sex:  male  female  intersex

Language spoken at home \_\_\_\_\_ Number of people in household \_\_\_\_\_

Annual household income level:  under \$15,000  \$15,001-25,000  \$25,001-50,000  \$50,001-75,000  \$75,000+

How did you hear about WMCAT?  friend  school event  school staff  family  online  other \_\_\_\_\_

## PERMISSION FORM + WAIVERS

The undersigned legal guardian and student participant agree to this permission waiver as follows:

### EVALUATION

- I understand that for WMCAT to improve, staff and/or professional external evaluators may make observations during activity times, conduct interviews, and administer questionnaires in which my student is asked about their experiences at WMCAT.

### FIELD TRIPS

- I give permission for my student to participate in WMCAT’s Teen Arts + Tech afterschool program. I understand that this signed form is a general permission slip which extends to all WMCAT-related student activities and field trips unless otherwise noted by me below. I give permission for my student to be bused or driven by WMCAT staff.

### MEDIA

- I understand that photographs and videos may be taken during WMCAT programming. I understand media and artwork produced by my student may be used for educational, funding, promotional or other purposes and may be sold on behalf of WMCAT. I give WMCAT my permission to use, in part or whole, the name, picture, performance, photograph and/or taped voice for my student. WMCAT is released from any monetary compensation and any and all claims resulting from such use. I waive any right to inspect or approve the finished photography or video or audio recording.

### MEDICAL CARE

- In the event of a medical emergency, I authorize WMCAT staff to secure medical attention or hospitalization for my student. I understand that WMCAT does not provide medical insurance for my student, and I am solely responsible for providing such insurance and for payment of any medical treatment expenses for my student that are not covered by insurance.

### SOCIAL SERVICE PARTNERSHIPS

- I understand that WMCAT works in partnerships with other social service agencies such as Arbor Circle to provide supportive services and programming for WMCAT students and their families. Services provided by Arbor Circle may include community resource referrals, psycho-educational groups, and counseling services.

### SUPERVISION

- I understand that my student will be working in studios, such as fashion, ceramics, and photography, where contact with mechanical equipment and/or chemicals may be involved.
- I understand that WMCAT is not responsible for any items that are damaged, lost, or stolen.
- I understand that WMCAT will supervise my student during program hours at its facility and on field trips. I am responsible for coordinating transportation for my student to get to WMCAT and to get home from WMCAT. I will set boundaries and consequences if my student leaves WMCAT during program hours without my permission.

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Student printed name

Student signature

Date

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Parent/guardian printed name

Parent/guardian signature

Date

## STUDIO SELECTION

All studios are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Please note, WMCAT reserves the right to rearrange studio placements or place students on a waiting list as necessary.

Choose up to two studio selections **in the boxes below and on the next two pages** with 1=1<sup>st</sup> choice and 2=2<sup>nd</sup> choice. If your 1<sup>st</sup> choice is full, you will be placed in your 2<sup>nd</sup> choice, so make sure your 2<sup>nd</sup> choice is a studio you're excited about and available to participate in.

Please read all studio offerings carefully:

- All Tuesday and Thursday studios meet twice a week and are open to all experience levels and grades 9-12.
- All Monday and Wednesday studios have grade or experience requirements and meet only once per week on Monday or Wednesday. If you are interested in a studio on one of these days, please make sure you are eligible and understand the once-weekly schedule.

### monday studio options

#### EXPLORE THE WORLD OF POTTERY

Frequency: Weekly on Mondays  
 Eligibility: 11th–12th grade GRPS students (or 10th grade GRPS students who have completed at least one semester in ceramics)  
 Teaching Artist:obby Cornwa

Discover endless possibilities in the world of pottery! Build on your foundational skills and expand your ceramics toolkit by exploring new materials and techniques. From molds and full-size bust sculptures to larger-scale vessels and colored clay making, you'll broaden your artistic horizons. An optional open studio will be available on Wednesdays for students in this studio.

FULL

#### WMCAT RADIO HOUR

Frequency: Weekly on Mondays  
 Eligibility: 10th–12th grade GRPS students  
 Teaching Artist: Brandon Copeland

Create an eight-episode radio show exploring the topics you care about. You'll learn the art of recording, editing, and producing to captivate your audience, while sharing ideas and exploring the power of perspective. Work collaboratively to let your voice be heard as you connect with listeners.

#### DIGITAL ILLUSTRATION + PRINTING

Frequency: Weekly on Mondays  
 Eligibility: 10th–12th grade GRPS students  
 Teaching Artist: George Oberhardt

Explore how to translate your digital artwork into physical prints on posters, t-shirts and more! In this hands-on experience, you'll learn to use digital art tools like Photoshop and the art of screen printing. Express yourself, print your message, and unleash your creativity.

FULL

## tuesday + thursday studio options

### FASHION DESIGN

Frequency: Twice weekly on Tuesday and Thursday  
 Eligibility: 9th–12th grade GRPS students  
 Teaching Artist: John Cox

Enter the world of fashion and create your wearable designs! Develop your fashion idea from concept to production, including illustrating your design, creating prototypes, and sewing your idea into reality. You'll connect with the Grand Rapids Art Museum for inspiration for your final designs which will then be modeled at a fashion show in spring 2024.

### DIGITAL ILLUSTRATION

Frequency: Twice weekly on Tuesday and Thursday  
 Eligibility: 9th–12th grade GRPS students  
 Teaching Artist: George Berhardt

Bring drawing to life through digital illustration! With a focus on character illustration, you'll learn traditional illustration techniques and apply your skills in the digital world, creating characters using Photoshop and other digital art tools. Experience what's possible when you go from pen and paper to creative technology.

### CERAMICS

Frequency: Twice weekly on Tuesday and Thursday  
 Eligibility: 9th–12th grade GRPS students  
 Teaching Artist: Abby Conway

Join us on an exciting creative journey and explore a wide range of techniques in a welcoming environment. You'll learn the basics of hand-building — to create trinket dishes, plates, bowls, and small-scale sculptures — before creating symmetrical pieces like cups, vessels, and vases on the pottery wheel. Let your imagination soar through clay.

### MUSIC PRODUCTION

Frequency: Twice weekly on Tuesday and Thursday  
 Eligibility: 9th–12th grade GRPS students  
 Teaching Artist: Brandon Copeland

Experience the excitement of the music industry! Discover music creation techniques from writing to producing, mixing, and mastering. You'll apply those techniques and learn recording basics, beat making, and sound design as we collaboratively create an album together. Bring inspiration from your favorite music and meet local artists.

### PHOTOGRAPHY

Frequency: Twice weekly on Tuesday and Thursday  
 Eligibility: 9th–12th grade GRPS students  
 Teaching Artist: Dennis Grantz

Release your inner photographer and discover ways to bring an artistic perspective to your images. Learn how to use professional-level cameras and discover design, composition, lighting, and other techniques to make your photos truly stand out. You'll use Photoshop for digital editing and also experience the magic of the traditional photo darkroom. Explore interesting places and capture Grand Rapids through your lens!

### VIDEO PRODUCTION

Frequency: Twice weekly on Tuesday and Thursday  
 Eligibility: 9th–12th grade GRPS students  
 Teaching Artist: Mike Saunders

Get your start in video production! Discover the fundamental elements of storytelling, acting, camera techniques, and sound design to bring a narrative to life. Learn how to refine your videos to perfection through skills in editing and graphics. You'll pair your new video skills with professional equipment to create a reverse video, movie trailer, and original short.



## wednesday studio options

### PROJECT JUNKWAY

Frequency: Weekly on Wednesdays  
Eligibility: 10<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> grade GRPS students  
Teaching Artist: John Cox

Ever wish you could alter a piece of clothing to really express yourself? Through upcycling and reconstruction, learn how to turn old clothing and repurposed fabrics into a fashion statement. You'll learn design skills such as sewing, alterations, embroidery, and appliqué to make a bag out of recycled materials, reconstruct a shirt or pullover, and complete a project of your choice. Reimagine your clothing!

### DIGITAL ILLUSTRATION

Frequency: Weekly on Wednesdays  
Eligibility: 10<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> grade GRPS students  
Teaching Artist: George Eberhardt

Bring drawing to life through digital illustration! With a focus on character illustration, you'll learn traditional illustration techniques and apply your skills in the digital world, creating characters using Photoshop and other digital art tools. Experience what's possible when you go from pen and paper to creative technology.

### ARTISTRY IN MOTION: 3D MODELING AND ANIMATION

Frequency: Weekly on Wednesdays  
Eligibility: 10<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> grade GRPS students  
Teaching Artist: Brandon Copeland

Dive into the world of 3D Modeling where you'll create characters and art in immersive 3D space. You'll learn how to develop 3D art using software like Blender and Polycam and export your 3D art to be used in video games, virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) applications. The semester will culminate with an augmented reality (AR) final project. Bring your ideas to life in a whole new dimension!

### STORYTELLING THROUGH VIDEO

Frequency: Weekly on Wednesdays  
Eligibility: 11<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> grade GRPS students (or 10<sup>th</sup> grade GRPS students who have completed at least one semester in video production)  
Teaching Artist: Mike Saunders

Learn the art of storytelling through video. You'll learn to conduct meaningful interviews and enhance group work skills in a writers' room environment. Dive into hands-on video production projects — including a sketch comedy and a documentary — honing your abilities to create a narrative and gaining a deeper understanding of yourself and others, while connecting with professional studios in the local arts community.