



Programs and Services

COCA offers a wide variety of arts education programs for all ages. Whether designed for a school group, seasoned performers, a curious youngster or a family in need of meaningful experiences, COCA's programs fit the many needs of the people, communities and schools in the greater St. Louis region and beyond. Through these dynamic programs in the arts, COCA transforms lives every day.

Mission

COCA enriches lives and builds community through the arts.

Core Programs



Arts Education At the heart of COCA's education programs are the professional artist-instructors who guide students, young and old, through the creative processes in music, dance, drama, visual arts, circus arts, culinary arts and more. This happens on-site and off in many programs including:

Weekly Classes and Workshops - Day in and day out students are engaged in beginning, intermediate and advanced classes.

Summer Camps - These courses, with a heavy emphasis in multidisciplinary instruction take place at COCA and at satellite locations throughout the area.

Master Classes - Throughout the year, COCA provides specialized and advanced level instruction from some of the world's top artists and performers.

Intensives - As the name implies, intensives are classes that immerse students in a given discipline resulting in more in-depth learning.

Free @ 3 Community Events - These periodic workshops offer a great way for kids and adults to sample a given topic for free.

Student Companies - Four semi-professional student companies in dance, theatre and voice provide training, rehearsal and performance experiences.

Professional Development - COCA is committed to providing teachers with innovative opportunities to expand their teaching abilities.

Urban Arts Urban Arts is a multifaceted outreach program developed in partnership with select St. Louis City Public Schools. Since 1993, the Urban Arts program has made arts education, performance, and hands on experiences available to more than 50,000 children through these programs:

SchoolTime Arts Education - Short and long-term residencies help students gain access to technology, various art forms and collaborative experiences.

After School Arts Classes - These multidisciplinary classes reach low-income students in kindergarten through grade eight.

Pre-Professional Dance - This program allows talented students to prepare for careers in dance through highly individualized training, students may receive fee assistance and free transportation to and from COCA's facilities.

Scholarship Fund - Transportation and fee assistance are provided to approximately 300 students annually, including students in the talent identified program, which provides assistance for exceptional students.

Interchange - In cooperation with 30 area arts organizations, Interchange supports the work of teachers as they engage students in the classroom.

COCA Family Theatre Internationally acclaimed theatre, music and dance performances are presented to 12,000 children, teens and adults each year in COCA's 400-seat Founders' Theatre. Complimentary programs and workshops, as well as performances for school groups are also part of the annual series.

Millstone Gallery at COCA Innovative exhibitions and programs featuring the work of regional, national and international artists are showcased in this contemporary gallery space.

Membership Programs



Individual/Family In addition to supporting arts education in the greater St. Louis area, members enjoy a variety of unique benefits from early registration for the popular camps and classes, to special member-only discounts, to opportunities to attend special events with artists from all over the world.

Corporate Area businesses understand that a quality experience in the arts can build a strong foundation for tomorrow's leaders, and COCA's corporate members enjoy opportunities to engage in the arts in the St. Louis area while helping to fund all COCA programs and services.

Volunteer Programs

Volunteering COCA volunteers support arts education through ushering, office work, assisting in special events, and more.

Internships COCA offers internships in various departments to college students who have an interest in arts management.

Facility Rentals



COCA rents its historic facility to arts organizations and touring companies as well as to individuals for corporate functions and social activities. Year-round availability and central location make COCA an ideal venue for a wide range of rental needs.