

2025

WINTER CLASSES



MIDDLETOWN
ARTS CENTER

ART

INSTRUCTOR: [Gianna Manzardo](#)**Adventures in Art for Teens | Ages 13+**

Jan 9 - Mar 13 | Thurs 5:00-6:00pm

10 Classes: Members \$140, Non-members \$160

Join Gianna Manzardo for this art sampler class, designed for older students looking to expand their artistic horizons! This class will cover a variety of media, including watercolor, acrylic, colored pencil, and pastel. As we work with the various materials, we will also learn about art history, the elements and principles of design, and how to use them to create dynamic pieces of art.

INSTRUCTOR: [Gianna Manzardo](#)**Art Partners! | Ages 4-6 with Caregiver**

Jan 6 - Mar 10 (No class Jan, Feb 17) | Mon 10:30-11:30 am

8 Classes: Members \$130, Non-members \$145

For children 4-6 years old with a caregiver. Every class offers something new to create a lifelong love of art and a special bonding experience for all involved. The class focuses on energy, FUN, and play to contribute towards the natural development of artistic, cognitive, social, emotional and physical skills.

INSTRUCTOR: [Miss Fish](#)**Watercolors and MORE | Ages 4-8**

Jan 13 - Mar 10 (No Class Jan 20, Feb 17)

CLASS 1: Mon 4:00-5:00 pm**CLASS 2: Mon 5:15-6:15 pm****8 Classes: Members \$115, Non-members \$130**

For those little artists who just LOVE to PAINT and CREATE! Under the loving and expert direction of legendary art instructor, Miss Fish, students will use watercolors to make beautiful paintings and craft projects with clay, cray pas, paper and more. Miss Fish will stir the imagination and bring out the creative best in every child. Each week, students will learn new tips for painting and create their own masterpieces! Supplies included.

INSTRUCTOR: [Miss Fish](#)**FABULOUS Art for FANTASTIC Artists | Ages 8-12**

Jan 5 - Mar 12 | Wed 4:00-5:00 pm

9 Classes: Members \$145, Non-members \$160

Under the loving and expert direction of legendary art instructor, Miss Fish, students will study the elements of art and the creative process in this hands-on, multi-media class. Learn about art fundamentals such as line, shape, composition and color. Students will explore a variety of materials including graphite, charcoal, pastel, paint and more. Miss Fish will stir the imagination and bring out the creative best in every child. Each week, students will learn new tips for painting and create their own masterpieces. Supplies included.

INSTRUCTOR: [Doodle Dude](#)**Cartooning and Clay | Ages 5-12**

Jan 13 - Mar 10 (No class Jan 20, Feb 17) | Mon 4:00-5:00 pm

7 Classes: Members \$115, Non-members \$130

Celebrate Winter with MAC legend, Doodle Dude! Get creative drawing, sculpting, crafting and cartooning your very own artsy and awesome Winter wonderland!

INSTRUCTOR: [Doodle Dude](#)**Painting Palooza! | Ages 5-12**

Jan 15 - Mar 12 | Wed 4:00-5:00 pm

9 Classes: Members \$145, Non-members \$160

Back by popular demand! Have a blast using different paint media including watercolors, acrylics and gouache, while learning about the world's most famous artists like Picasso, Dali, Warhol, Basquiat, O'Keefe and more! What you create will AMAZE you!

INSTRUCTOR: [Doodle Dude](#)**The Art of Gaming | Ages 5-12**

Jan 16 - Mar 13 | Thurs 4:00-5:00 pm

9 Classes: Members \$145, Non-members \$160

Do your kids love video games? Minecraft, Roblox, Fortnite, Among us, Pokémon and of course, Sonic! Well, let's get them off the consoles and onto the drawing board! Painting, Drawing, Animatics, Video Game and Character Design... PLUS clay and 8 bit art!





DANCE

INSTRUCTOR: [Njelama Dacas Johnson](#)

Pre-Ballet | Ages 4-6

Jan 11 - Mar 22 (Bi-weekly) | Sat 9:00-10:00 am

6 Classes: Members \$85, Non-members \$100

This fun and engaging class was specially designed for younger beginning dancers, ages 4-6. Under the caring, expert instruction of Njelama Dacas Johnson, students will be introduced to the fundamental building blocks of movement, rhythm/musicality, as well as begin to create movement of their own. Students will develop understanding of movement concepts, flexibility, balance, and coordination through specific ballet-based movements and creative exploration.

Ballet 1 | Ages 7-9

Jan 11 - Mar 22 (Bi-weekly) | Sat 10:00-11:00 am

6 Classes: Members \$85, Non-members \$100

This fun and engaging class was specially designed for dancers, ages 7-9. Under the caring, expert instruction of Njelama Dacas Johnson, students will be introduced to the fundamental building blocks of movement, rhythm/musicality, as well as begin to create movement of their own. Students will develop understanding of movement concepts, flexibility, balance, and coordination through specific ballet-based movements and creative exploration.

Ballet 2 | Ages 10-12

Jan 8 - Mar 12 (No class Jan 29) | Wed 4:30-5:30 pm

9 Classes: Members \$100, Non-members \$125

This fun and engaging class was specially designed for dancers ages 10-12. Under the caring, expert instruction of Njelama Dacas Johnson, students will be introduced to the fundamental building blocks of movement, rhythm/musicality, as well as begin to create movement of their own. Students will develop understanding of movement concepts, flexibility, balance, and coordination through specific ballet-based movements and creative exploration.

Ballet 3 | Ages 13+

Jan 8 - Mar 12 (No class Jan 29) | Wed 5:45-6:45 pm

9 Classes: Members \$100, Non-members \$125

This fun and engaging class was specially designed for dancers ages 13+. Under the caring, expert instruction of Njelama Dacas Johnson, students will be introduced to the fundamental building blocks of movement, rhythm/musicality, as well as begin to create movement of their own. Students will develop understanding of movement concepts, flexibility, balance, and coordination through specific ballet-based movements and creative exploration.

Modern Dance 1 | Ages 7-9

Jan 9 - Mar 13 (No class Jan 30) | Thurs 4:30-5:30 pm

9 Classes: Members \$120, Non-members \$135

This fun and exploratory class is an opportunity to engage in the art of modern dance and movement. Under the caring, expert instruction of Njelama Dacas Johnson, students will be introduced to the fundamental building blocks of modern dance technique and movement concepts. Students will grow their technical ability as well as discover improvisation and choreography experiences, also placing emphasis on flexibility, balance, and coordination. Students will develop their own individuality and style through movement as well as work collaboratively with one another.

Modern Dance 2 | Ages 10+

Jan 9 - Mar 13 (No class Jan 30) | Thurs 5:45-6:45 pm

9 Classes: Members \$120, Non-members \$135

Under the caring, expert instruction of Njelama Dacas Johnson, students will continue to build their understanding of modern dance technique and movement concepts. Students will grow their technical ability as well as discover improvisation and choreography experiences, also placing emphasis on flexibility, balance, and coordination. Students will develop their own individuality and style through movement as well as work collaboratively with one another.

INSTRUCTOR: [Marissa Finkelstein](#)

Intro to Jazz + Broadway Dance | Ages 7-9

Jan 6 - Mar 10 (No class Jan, Feb 17) | Mon 5:30-6:15 pm

8 Classes: Members \$105, Non-members \$120

A perfect class for musical theater performers or new dance students (ages 7-9) who love Broadway and want to learn the many different styles from their favorite shows. Learn how to pick up combinations quickly and perform them with confidence!

Jazz + Broadway Dance LEVEL TWO | Ages 10-14

Jan 6 - Mar 10 (No class Jan, Feb 17) | Mon 6:15-7:00 pm

8 Classes: Members \$105, Non-members \$120

Perfect for musical theater performers or continuing dance students (ages 10-14) who love Broadway and want to learn the many different styles from their favorite shows. Learn how to pick up combinations quickly and perform them with confidence!

Tap | Ages 10-14

Jan 6 - Mar 10 (No class Jan, Feb 17) | Mon 7:00-7:45 pm

8 Classes: Members \$105, Non-members \$120

A highly energetic class in the timeless art of Tap. Under the skilled instruction of Marissa Finkelstein beginning and intermediate students will have a blast while learning and improving foundational rhythms and classic combinations, in a variety of tap styles from Broadway to Rhythm and Contemporary Tap.

MUSICAL THEATER

Due to the incredible popularity of our Musical Theater Production program, we are **THRILLED** to offer **TWO** incredible classes: *SEUSSICAL, JR.* (Ages 9-12) and *13: THE MUSICAL* (Ages 13+).

INSTRUCTOR: [Kathy Connolly](#)

Perform *SEUSSICAL, JR.* at the MAC! | Ages 9-12

Jan 15 - Mar 23 | Wed 6:00-8:00 pm

Auditions: Wed, Jan 8 | 5:00-7:00 pm

Performances: Fri, Mar 21 (7:00 pm) | Sat, Mar 22 (2:00 pm & 7:00 pm) | Sun, Mar 23 (2:00 pm)

Students must be available through Mar 23.

10 Classes: Members \$585, Non-members \$625

Students will have voice, acting and dance training culminating in four fully staged performances of *SEUSSICAL, JR.* Although students will audition for roles, every student will receive a part. Each child will receive two free tickets to the performance and a T-shirt. Additional tickets will be available for \$10 per ticket. **CLASS LIMIT: 40**

INSTRUCTOR: [Kathy Connolly](#)

Perform *13: THE MUSICAL* at the MAC! | Ages 12+

Jan 30 - Apr 5 | Thurs 6:00-8:00 pm

Auditions: Wed, Jan 30 | 6:00-8:00 pm

Performances: Fri, Apr 4 (7:00 pm) | Sat, Apr 5 (2:00 pm & 7:00 pm)

Students must be available through Apr 5.

10 Classes: Members \$585, Non-members \$625

Students will have voice, acting and dance training culminating in three fully staged performances of *13: THE MUSICAL*. Although students will audition for roles, every student will receive a part. Each child will receive two free tickets to the performance and a T-shirt. Additional tickets will be available for \$10 per ticket.

CLASS LIMIT: 15

INSTRUCTOR: [Kathy Connolly](#)

Winter Mini-Musical Theater Intensive | Ages 6-9

Jan 9 - Mar 13 | Thurs 4:00-6:00 pm

10 Classes: Members \$385, Non-members \$420

This exciting class is for younger performers ages 6-9. Using a professional conservatory approach, the students will take individual classes in Acting, Dance, Improv, Scenic Design and Voice. Under the expert instruction of award winning Director and teaching artist, Kathy Connolly and our team of professional theater artists, and visiting Master Class presenters, the students will explore their creativity and develop their confidence and skills in a fun and nurturing environment!

THEATER

INSTRUCTOR: [Kathy Connolly](#)

Acting | Ages 9-12

Jan 10 - Mar 14 | Fri 4:00-5:30 pm

10 Classes: Members \$250, Non-members \$275

In this fun and exciting class, students will study the fundamentals of acting technique and theater through theater games, scene work and improvisation. Under the expert instruction of award-winning director and teaching artist, Kathy Connolly, students will work on monologues and scenes in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere. While the focus is always on fun, this class also has wonderful additional benefits including strengthened self-esteem, improved reading comprehension and the continuing development of positive social skills.

INSTRUCTOR: [Felicia Russell](#)

Beginning Acting with Felicia Russell | Ages 6-8

Jan 10 - Mar 14 | Fri 4:00-5:00 pm

10 Classes: Members \$150, Non-members \$175

Students will have a blast and build confidence exploring theater games, storytelling, improv & more! Under the nurturing instruction of NJ performer and Teaching Artist, Felicia Russell (a proud MAC alum!), students will learn the fundamentals of acting technique and theater in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere. Students will also get guest instruction from award-winning Director and Teaching Artist, Kathy Connolly, to work on monologues and scenes and even collaborate to create new short pieces together!



MUSIC



INSTRUCTOR: [Lisa Zwerin](#)

ZUMBINI | Ages 0-4

Jan 11 - Mar 30 | Thurs 10:00-10:45 am

8 CLASSES: Members \$120, Non-members \$135 | NO CHARGE FOR SECOND CHILD!

A child-focused journey into the world of music, movement and dance, a Zumbini class is a celebration of the power of music to enhance our lives, stimulate learning, inspire dance movement and strengthen the bond between parent and child. What is Zumbini you ask? A 45-minute music and movement experience, which is developmentally appropriate for the age range of the class. Every class, designed for children 0-4 years-old with a caregiver, includes dancing, singing and playing instruments. A bonding experience for all is involved, including caregiver to child, child to child, and caregiver to caregiver. The class focuses on energy, fun, and play to contribute toward the natural development of cognitive, social, emotional and physical skills.



INSTRUCTORS: [Miss Peggy](#) | [Melanie Colby Morgan](#)

Private In-Person Piano or Voice Lessons | All Ages

Start playing songs or improve your singing from your very first lesson! Under our nurturing instruction, you'll learn to read, understand and create beautiful music from day one!

No matter what your skill level, in these 30 or 60-minute sessions, students will learn a combination of exercises and approaches to improve confidence, proper technique and overall musicality.

Miss Peggy and Miss Melanie make learning piano or voice accessible and fun for everyone!

NEW STUDENTS: Please email artscenter@middletownnj.org for more details or to schedule a lesson.

ART

INSTRUCTOR: [Gianna Manzardo](#)**Adventures in Art for Adults | Ages 18+**

Jan 2 – Mar 12 | Wed: 10:30-11:30am

10 Classes: Members \$150, Non-members \$165

Join Gianna Manzardo for this art sampler class, designed for adult students looking to expand their artistic horizons! This class will cover a variety of media including watercolor, acrylic, colored pencil and pastel. As we work with the various materials, we will also learn about art history, the elements and principles of design and how to use them to create dynamic pieces of art.

INSTRUCTOR: [Gianna Manzardo](#)**Art Partners! | Ages 4-6 with Caregiver**

Jan 6 – Mar 10 (No class Jan, Feb 17) | Mon 10:30-11:30 am

8 Classes: Members \$130, Non-members \$145

Every class offers something new to create a lifelong love of art and a special bonding experience for all involved. The class focuses on energy, FUN, and play to contribute towards the natural development of artistic, cognitive, social, emotional and physical skills.

INSTRUCTOR: [Laura Mandile](#)**Classic Watercolor Still Life | 18+**

Jan 8 – 22 | Wed 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

3 Classes: MAC or ASMC Members \$90, Non-members \$105

This class is for new to intermediate watercolor painting students. Using different watercolor techniques, as well as a combination of watercolor and ink sketching, students will have an opportunity to paint classic still lifes, which we will set up in class and work from life. We will discuss color mixing, composition, light and shadow.

[CLICK HERE](#) for required materials list.**INSTRUCTOR:** [Laura Mandile](#)**Watercolor Portraits | 18+**

Jan 29 – Feb 12 | Wed 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

3 Classes: MAC or ASMC Members \$90, Non-members \$105

This class is for new to intermediate watercolor painting students. Using different watercolor techniques, as well as a combination of watercolor and ink sketching, students will be introduced to painting watercolor portraits and have an opportunity to paint their own portraits. We will discuss color mixing, composition, light and shadow.

[CLICK HERE](#) for required materials list.**INSTRUCTOR:** [Grace Graupe-Pillard](#)**Painting Workshop**

Jan 7 – Feb 18

Tues 9:30-11:30 am | 12:00-2:00 pm | 2:30-4:30 pm

7 Classes: Members/Non-members \$140

Painting workshop participants will be taught to use paints (either oil or acrylic) and will be instructed on color, form and space. Since this is a workshop, the instruction is individualized and Grace strongly believes that her job is to teach people “to see” the subtlety and nuances of what makes a good work of art in a fresh and original way. This workshop is for all levels from the rank beginner to professional artists and teachers who come for feedback in an environment conducive to serious study.

**INSTRUCTOR:** [June Wilson](#)**Evening Painting Workshop**

Jan 6 – Feb 10 | Tues 7:00-9:00 pm

6 Weeks: Members, Non-members \$120

Join artist June Wilson for this EVENING Painting Workshop! Adult participants will be taught to use paints (either oil or acrylic) and will be instructed on color, form and space. Since this is a workshop, the instruction is individualized and is welcome to all levels from beginner to professional artists and teachers who come for feedback in an environment conducive to serious study.

THEATER

INSTRUCTOR: [Trish Tyler](#)**IMPROV**

Jan 6 – Feb 10 | Mon 7:00-9:00pm

6 Classes: Members \$210, Non-members \$225

Would you like to reduce stress while having a blast? Do you want to grow your creativity? If so, this two-hour improv class taught by renowned improv performer instructor, Trish Tyler, is for you! Learn how to use scene work and group exercises to explore the joy of improvisation. Be more confident and trusting on stage. Learn classic games and trust yourself, all while making people laugh and having a lot of fun! Whether you've never done improv before, or you'd like to revisit the fundamentals from another perspective, this class provides an inclusive, safe and fun environment. Wear loose, comfortable clothing. No previous improv experience necessary!

The class culminates in an informal live performance on Feb 10 for friends and family!

DANCE

INSTRUCTOR: [Marissa Finkelstein](#)

Jazz + Broadway Dance | Ages 18+

Jan 8 - Mar 10 | Wed 8:00-9:00 pm

10 Classes: Members \$140, Non-members \$155

A perfect class for musical theater performers or new adult dance students (who love Broadway and want to learn the many different styles from their favorite shows. Learn how to pick up combinations quickly and perform them with confidence!

INSTRUCTOR: [Marissa Finkelstein](#)

Tap | Age 18+

Jan 6 - Mar 10 (No class Jan 20, Feb 17) | Mon 7:45-8:45 pm

8 Classes: Members \$115, Non-members \$130

A highly energetic class in the timeless art of Tap. Under the skilled instruction of Marissa Finkelstein, beginning and intermediate adult students will have a blast while learning and improving foundational rhythms and classic combinations, in a variety of tap styles from Broadway to Rhythm and Contemporary Tap.

INSTRUCTOR: [Njelama Dacas Johnson](#)

Ballet

Jan 8 - Mar 12 | Wed 7:00-8:00 pm

10 Classes: Members \$140, Non-members \$155

Individuals of all levels and prior experience welcome. The class will explore the art of ballet through ballet barre, center floor, and across the floor exercises, placing emphasis on alignment, breath, centering and balance.

INSTRUCTOR: [Njelama Dacas Johnson](#)

Modern Dance

Jan 8 - Mar 12 | Thur 7:00-8:00 pm

10 Classes: Members \$140, Non-members \$155

This fun and exploratory class is the perfect opportunity for adults to engage in the art of modern dance and movement. Under the expert instruction of Njelama Dacas Johnson, students will be introduced to the fundamental building blocks of modern dance technique and movement concepts. Students will grow their technical ability as well as discover improvisation and choreography experiences, also placing emphasis on flexibility, balance, and coordination and working collaboratively with one another.



MOVEMENT

INSTRUCTOR: [Mimi Cross](#)

Yoga

This gentle but stimulating Yoga class will allow individuals of all levels and fitness experiences to engage in the practice of Yoga. Yoga is an ancient form of full body exercise that focuses on core strength, balance, control, and breath. Exercises can be modified for injuries and all bodies. No previous experience required.

Please bring a mat.

NEW THURSDAY YOGA

Jan 9 - Mar 6 | Thurs 9:00-10:00 am

9 Classes: Members \$160, Non-members \$175

SATURDAY YOGA

Jan 11 - Mar 8 | Sat 8:30-9:30 am

9 Classes: Members \$160, Non-members \$175

SATURDAY YOGA + 25 MINUTE MEDITATION PERIOD

Jan 11 - Mar 8 | Sat 8:30-9:55 am

9 Classes: Members \$225, Non-members \$240

Mimi's weekly class PLUS an additional guided deep meditation and relaxation period.

Register by phone, in person or online at www.middletownarts.org

You do not need to be a resident of Middletown to participate in the Middletown Arts Center's programs. Please note that Member and Non-Member rates relate to membership in the Middletown Township Cultural and Arts Council (MTCAC). The MTCAC is the non-profit 501c3 organization that operates the Middletown Arts Center. Membership is optional and benefits include discounted rates on classes, camps, and workshops. Memberships are annual from the date of enrollment.

Become a MEMBER today and receive discounts on classes, events and more!

Tax-deductible membership levels:

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP: • \$60 Family • \$30 Adult • \$25 Student/Senior

LEADERSHIP MEMBERSHIP: • \$1000 Benefactor • \$500 Patron • \$250 Friend • \$100 Supporter

All members receive:

• Membership card(s) • Discounts on select MAC events and all classes • Invitations to Member only events

About Us

The mission of the Middletown Township Cultural and Arts Council, Inc. (MTCAC), the nonprofit 501(c)3 organization that operates the Middletown Arts Center, is to enhance the quality of life of all area residents by supporting and promoting the arts throughout our large, diverse community. The needs of our community drive our arts program planning. The MTCAC began in 2002 in response to a need for arts programming in the township, home to over 68,000 residents and covering approximately 42 square miles. The MTCAC worked jointly with Middletown Township to create the beautiful, award-winning Middletown Arts Center.

Security

Both Locations keep all exterior doors locked with the exception of the main entry doors. During class hours, these doors will be manned so that any visitors are monitored. Adults (including parents) will not be allowed in the classroom spaces with the exception drop-off and pick-up. Children are always escorted to the bathrooms by our teachers and assistants. Children will not be released to anyone other than those designated. Any changes in dismissal routine must be made in writing.

Attire

If your child is registered in the arts and crafts classes, please send them "dressed for mess"! If they are registered in the performing arts or dance classes, campers should wear comfortable clothes and sneakers. Please no flip-flops or sandals. Both facilities are air-conditioned and can be chilly – you should send a sweater or sweatshirt. Please remember to check our Lost and Found boxes for misplaced items. We have quite a collection of clothes, lunch boxes and assorted items!

Now offering scholarships and payment plans!

Please call 732.706.4100 for more information.



Middletown Arts Center | 36 Church Street in Middletown, NJ (next to the Middletown Train Station)
MAC Annex Education Building | 121 Kings Highway, Middletown, NJ (next to Middletown Reformed Church)