

Walton Arts Center **2026/27**

Classroom Series



Parson's Dance

Spotlight on Learning!

Unlock **educational** goals through amazing **arts experiences**.

All Shows
FREE
for K-12
Schools!

Classroom Series



Age Group Symbols - Pick your icon!

Follow these symbols to find the best performance for your students.

LE Lower Elementary

M Middle School

HS High School

UE Upper Elementary

JH Junior High School

Based on a Book

2026

SEPTEMBER

Jake Shimabukuro

SEPT. 16 | **MUSIC**

OCTOBER

Symphony of Northwest Arkansas

OCT. 2 | **MUSIC**

The Snowy Day

OCT. 13-14 | **PUPPETRY**

Joseph Kekuku and the Voice of the Steel Guitar

OCT. 15-16 | **THEATER**

Good Co: A History of Jazz

OCT. 29 | **MUSIC**

NOVEMBER

Time for Three

NOV. 10 | **MUSIC**

DECEMBER

Mariachi Herencia de México

DEC. 3 | **MUSIC**

2027

JANUARY

Pigfoot Mary's Harlem Renaissance

JAN. 19-22 | **THEATER**

FEBRUARY

Baba Yaga and the Firebird

FEB. 1-5 | **PUPPETRY**

Aquila Theater: *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, A Guided Tour*

FEB. 17 | **THEATER**

MARCH

Musicians of Bremen Live!

MARCH 3-4 | **THEATER**

Tall Stories' *The Gruffalo*

MARCH 8-12 | **THEATER**

Piano Battle

MARCH 12 | **MUSIC**

Cirque Kalabanté: *WOW (World of Words)*

MARCH 15 | **CIRCUS**

Kattam and His Tam-Tams

MARCH 17-18 | **MUSIC**

Tutti Frutti's *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*

MARCH 29 - APRIL 2 | **THEATER**

Chanticleer

MARCH 31 | **MUSIC**

APRIL

Parsons Dance

APRIL 7 | **DANCE**

Symphony of Northwest Arkansas

APRIL 9 | **MUSIC**

Ocean Blue

APRIL 21-22 | **PUPPETRY**

Jazz at Lincoln Center presents *What Is Jazz?*

APRIL 26 | **MUSIC**

TheatreSquared presents
A Year with Frog & Toad

APRIL 27-28 | **THEATER**

Classroom Series **Registration**

SCAN FOR
REGISTRATION



Registration requests are accepted through our online portal at edu.waltonartscenter.org beginning Monday, Aug. 10. Homeschool registration will open on Wednesday, Sept. 2.

Questions? Call 479.316.7552 or email schools@waltonartscenter.org.

A growing number of schools are participating in our educational programs, and we often reach capacity for many performances. Please help us accommodate as many students as possible at each performance by following these guidelines:

- + Registrations are not complete until a confirmation email is received. Registrations are processed in the order in which they are received. Due to high volume early in our season, confirmations may take up to two weeks.
- + Adhere to our grade-level recommendations for each performance.
- + Ensure your registration is complete when you submit it. Incomplete registration forms cannot be processed.
- + We do not issue tickets. Seating is general admission and will be determined by order of arrival, necessary ADA accommodations and at the discretion of the House Manager.
- + School groups receive one adult ticket for every 10 student tickets to accommodate teachers, parents and other adult chaperones. We regret that additional parent tickets are unavailable.
- + All schools must submit names of chaperones at least one week prior to their field trip date. Do not bring extra chaperones on the day of the event. We will not seat adults who are not registered by name in advance.
- + Do not bring more students than the number for which you registered. If your class size has grown, call 479.316.7552 or email schools@waltonartscenter.org as soon as possible to see if we can accommodate your additional students.
- + Performances last approximately one hour, unless otherwise noted.
- + Please make every effort to arrive at Walton Arts Center 30 minutes prior to the performance start time.
- + Performance reminders are emailed approximately four weeks and two weeks before your performance. The reminder includes the number of seats reserved and the performance date.
- + Please complete bus, teacher and chaperone information as prompted by reminder emails.

Bus Subsidy

In partnership with J.B. Hunt Transport Services, Inc, Walton Arts Center is pleased to offer the J.B. Hunt Transportation Subsidy to assist with the cost of school bus transportation to Classroom Series performances for the 2026-27 school year. The amount awarded is based on each school's distance from the venue and the number of students attending a performance. Subsidy payments are calculated in May following the final classroom series performances and paid to qualifying schools by July 31, 2027.



music

Jake Shimabukuro

SEPTEMBER 16, 2026 | 10AM

➔ Baum Walker Hall at Walton Arts Center

The ukulele traveled to Hawaii with Portuguese immigrants 125 years ago and Hawaiians have since made the instrument their own. Japanese-American Jake Shimabukuro began to play when he was only 4 years old. Earning comparisons to Jimi Hendrix and Miles Davis, Shimabukuro has been commended for redefining the capabilities of the ukulele and has been declared a “musical hero” by *Rolling Stone*. “If everyone played the ukulele, the world would be a better place,” says Shimabukuro, who encourages young audiences to make good life choices.

UE M JH HS

BEST FOR: Upper Elementary and up

Fine Arts Music: PR.4, RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Vocal Ensemble: RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Instrumental Ensemble: RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Music Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Music Technology: RE.7 and 8. Theatre Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11. Social Studies: C.5.6, H.2.6



Symphony of Northwest Arkansas

Symphony of Northwest Arkansas (SoNA)

OCTOBER 2, 2026 & APRIL 9, 2027 | 10AM

➔ Baum Walker Hall at Walton Arts Center

Through education outreach concerts, SoNA gives students in Northwest Arkansas the chance to see a live performance by a professional symphony orchestra during the school day, with an audience of their peers. These performances are crafted specifically for youth featuring accessible and relatable music and themes. The education outreach concerts are designed for young audiences to gain insight into live performance from SoNA's assistant conductor, Sarah Pearson, and education director, Natalie Fernandez.

M JH HS

BEST FOR: Middle School and up

Arkansas Learning Standards: Fine Arts Music: PR.4, RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Vocal Ensemble: RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Music Appreciation: CR.2, PR.6, RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Theatre: CR.3.1, PR.4.1, RE.7.1 and 2, RE.8.1 and 2, RE.9.1, CN.10.1, CN.11.1 and 2. Theatre Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11.1, CN.11.1 and 2. Theatre Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11.



Jake Shimabukuro



Good Co

Good Co: A History of Jazz

OCTOBER 29, 2026 | 10AM

➔ Baum Walker Hall at Walton Arts Center

Seattle's Good Co is the first American Electro Swing band. Combining the sounds of 1920s and '30s jazz with the electronic music of today, Good Co uses live horns, vintage samples and funky beats to create a whole new type of dance party. In their *A History of Jazz* concert, Good Co will explore the history and fundamentals of jazz and how it revolutionized music. Students will learn about the origins of jazz and blues in African-American and immigrant culture, the unique function of improvisation and cooperation in jazz music and how these styles led to rock 'n' roll and other contemporary music genres.

UE M JH HS

BEST FOR: Upper Elementary and up

Arkansas Learning Standards: ELA: SL.9-10.D, SL.11-12.D; SL.9-10.2, SL.11-12.2 Fine Arts Standards Music: PR.4, RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Instrumental Ensemble: RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Music Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11 Jazz Band: CR.1.JB, RE.7.JBI.1 and 2; R.E8.JBIII.1 History: Era 5.5

Time for Three

NOVEMBER 10, 2026 | 10AM

RUNTIME 82 MINUTES

➔ **Baum Walker Hall at Walton Arts Center**

Time For Three stands at the intersection of Americana, modern pop and classical music. To experience their music live is to hear the various eras, styles and traditions of Western music fold in on themselves and emerge anew. Bonded by an uncommon blend of their instruments fused together with their voices, Charles Yang (violin, vocals), Nicolas "Nick" Kendall (violin, vocals) and Ranaan Meyer (double bass, vocals) have found a unique voice of expression to share with the world, free of conventional practices and full of electrifying energy.

UE M JH HS

BEST FOR: Upper Elementary and up

Arkansas Learning Standards: Fine Arts Music: PR 4; RE 7; RE 8; CN 10; CN 11; Vocal Ensemble: PR4.2; RE.7; RE.8; CN.10; CN.11. Music Appreciation: CR.2, PR.6, RE.7-9, CN.10-11. Fine Arts Theatre: CR.3.1, PR.4.1, RE.7.1 and 2, RE.8.1 and 2, RE.9.1, CN.10.1, CN.11.1 and 2. Theatre Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11.

Show Underwriter:
Paula Jenkins & Leo Brown



Mariachi Herencia de México

DECEMBER 3, 2026 | 10AM

➔ **Baum Walker Hall at Walton Arts Center**

Mariachi Herencia de México is a group of young Mariachi musicians from the Mexican-American barrios of Chicago. The group's focus is on honoring the past and the culture of Mexico, promoting cultural pride among people of Mexican descent, and developing new material to take the 200-year-old tradition of mariachi music into the future. They have performed with artists such as Lila Downs, Aida Cuevas and Javier Limon, who produced their Latin Grammy nominated album "Nuestra Herencia." Their songs range from spirited sones to tender boleros and thrilling jarocho melodies.

UE M JH HS

BEST FOR: Upper Elementary and up

Arkansas Learning Standards: Fine Arts Music: PR 4, RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11. Vocal Ensemble: RE.7-9, CN.10-11. Instrumental Ensemble: RE.7-9, CN.10-11. Music Appreciation: CR.2, PR.6, RE.7-9, CN.10-11. Theatre: CR.3.1, PR.4.1, RE.7.1 and 2, RE.8.1 and 2, RE.9.1, CN.10.1, CN.11.1 and 2. Theatre Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11. Arkansas World Languages: CMC.1.3, CMC.2, CLT.1.1, CLT.2.1, CNN.1, CNN.2.1, CMP.1.1, CN.10-11. Music: RE.7, 8 and 9.



Time for Three

Piano Battle

MARCH 12, 2027 | 10AM

➔ **Baum Walker Hall at Walton Arts Center**

Piano Battle is a unique concert experience featuring international pianists Andreas Kern and Paul Cibis. This show is a head-to-head competition, presenting a diverse range of pieces across several rounds, each highlighting a distinct musical style and including improvised requests from the audience. Student participation is a key element of Piano Battle. Attendees are invited to vote on the pianists' performances to determine the ultimate winner. This concert is a blend of serious classical recital and playful performance, designed to captivate both the ear and the eye.

M JH HS

BEST FOR: Middle School and up

Arkansas Learning Standards: Learning Standards: Fine Arts Music: PR 4, RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Vocal Ensemble: RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Music Appreciation: CR.2, PR.6, RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Theatre: CR.3.1, PR.4.1, RE.7.1 and 2, RE.8.1 and 2, RE.9.1, CN.10.1, CN.11.1 and 2. Theatre Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. RE.7 - 9, CN.11. Music: RE.7 - 9, CN.10, CN.11. Music Appreciation: RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11.

Piano Battle



music

Kattam and His Tam-Tams

MARCH 17-18, 2027 | 9:30AM & 11:30AM

➔ Baum Walker Hall at Walton Arts Center

Join percussionist Kattam and his monkey Takoum to discover Africa, the Middle East and India through rhythm, song and dance! Kattam – who is part Quebecois and part Moroccan – was trained in classical music before encountering the exciting sounds of world music. This performance allows children to discover and experience different cultures – from African rap and desert dance to trance Sufi rhythm and Bollywood dance – with the aim of fostering a love for music, discovery and self-expression. Kattam is here to teach us all that beyond cultural differences lies shared humanity.

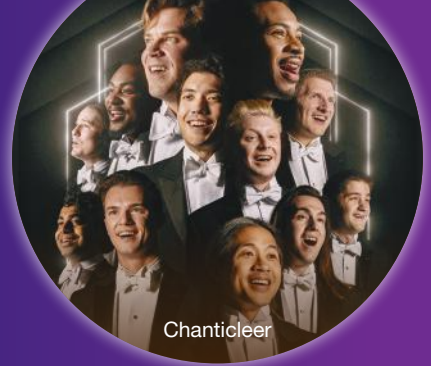
LE UE

BEST FOR: Lower and Upper Elementary

Arkansas Learning Standards: Fine Arts Theatre: CR.3.1, PR.4.1, RE.7.1 and 2, RE.8.1 and 2, RE.9.1, CN.10.1, CN.11.1 and 2. Theatre Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11. Music: RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11. Dance: RE.7-9, CN.10 – 11. Performance Dance: PR.4, RE.7, RE.8, RE.9, CN.10, CN.11. Dance Appreciation: RE.7-9, CN.10 – 11. English Language Arts: RL.6.7, RL.6.9, SL.6.1, SL.6.2, SL.6.5. World Languages CMP.2; CMN.1. Social Studies: G.1.3.5, G.1.4.5, G.1.K.9, G.1.2.10., G.3.5.4



Kattam and his Tam-Tams



Chanticleer

Chanticleer

MARCH 31, 2027 | 10AM

➔ Baum Walker Hall at Walton Arts Center

Chanticleer's mission is to present choral music at the highest level of excellence and to encourage worldwide appreciation for the art of ensemble singing through live performances, recordings and education. Named for the "clear-singing" rooster in Geoffrey Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, Chanticleer first became known for its interpretations of Renaissance music and was later a pioneer in the revival of the South American Baroque. The Grammy Award®-winning ensemble with its seamless blend of 12 male voices now performs a repertoire spanning 10 centuries from Gregorian chant to contemporary pop music.

M JH HS

BEST FOR: Middle School and up

Arkansas Learning Standards: Fine Arts Music: PR.4, RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Vocal Ensemble: RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Music Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Music Technology: RE.7 and 8. Theatre Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11

Jazz at Lincoln Center Presents: *What Is Jazz?*

APRIL 26, 2027 10AM

➔ Baum Walker Hall at Walton Arts Center

Bring the excitement of live jazz and arts education with *What Is Jazz?*, an engaging school program from Jazz at Lincoln Center presents. Designed for K-12 audiences, this interactive performance introduces students to the history, cultural roots and core elements of jazz through live music, storytelling and audience participation. *What Is Jazz?* helps students develop a deeper understanding of creativity, collaboration and the rich artistic traditions that continue to shape American culture.

UE M JH HS

BEST FOR: Upper Elementary and up

Arkansas Learning Standards: Fine Arts Music: PR.4, RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Vocal Ensemble: RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Instrumental Ensemble: RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Music Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Music Technology: RE.7 and 8.



What is Jazz?

Show Underwriter:

Wendy Jean Bennett

theater

Joseph Kekuku and the Voice of Steel Guitar

OCTOBER 15-16, 2026 | 10AM

➔ Baum Walker Hall at Walton Arts Center

The 1800s. It's a time of invention—trains, steamboats, cameras, even electricity is new at the King's palace in Honolulu. An 11-year-old native Hawaiian boy, Joseph Kekuku, accidentally strikes the strings of his guitar with a bolt from a railroad track and unlocks a brand-new sound. Hawaiian music—and the music of America—is never the same. Based on a true story, this new play uses a live slide guitar soundtrack and projections to trace the incredible invention of the steel guitar from the taro fields to vaudeville halls to blues, country, rock 'n' roll music and beyond.

UE M

BEST FOR: Upper Elementary and Middle School

Arkansas Learning Standards: English Language Arts: 4.RC.7.RL, 4.RC.8.RL, 4.RC.9.RL, 4.RC.11.RL, 5.RC.9.RL, 5.RC.10.RL, 5.RC.11.RL, 5.RC.12.RL, 6.RC.10.RL, 6.CC.7.SLC, 7.RC.6.RL, 7.RC.8.RL, 7.RC.10.RL, 7.CC.4.SLC, 8.RC.5.RL, 8.CC.4.SLC, 9.RC.4.RF, 9.V.5, 9.CC.6.SLC, 10.RC.6.RL, 10.RC.7.RL, 10.V.5, 10.CC.6.SLC, 11.RC.5.RL, 11.RC.8.RL, 11.V.2, 11.CC.6.SLC, 12.RC.5.RL, 12.RC.7.RL, 12.V.2, 12.CC.6.SLC. Fine Arts Theatre: CR.3.1, PR.4.1, RE.7.1 and 2, RE.8.1 and 2, RE.9.1, CN.10.1, CN.11.1 and 2. Theatre Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11.



Joseph Kekuku

Pigfoot Mary's Harlem Renaissance

JANUARY 19-22, 2027 | 9:30AM & 11:30AM

➔ Starr Theater at Walton Arts Center

Pigfoot Mary, secretly wealthy from her popular food stand, dreams of California's skies and awaits news on a property sale that could mark her departure from Harlem. But leaving isn't easy—her world includes Hot Fingers the Piano Player, the elaborate parades of the Garveyites, author Zora Neale Hurston and the famous poet Langston Hughes. Should she stay in this world, or follow a new dream? Inspired by Lillian Harris Dean, one of Harlem's most successful early entrepreneurs in the 1920s, this lively two-actor play bursts with jazz, vibrant characters and dances of the Harlem Renaissance.

UE M JH

BEST FOR: Upper Elementary through Junior High

Arkansas Learning Standards: English Language Arts: 4.RC.7.RL, 4.RC.8.RL, 4.RC.9.RL, 4.RC.11.RL, 5.RC.9.RL, 5.RC.10.RL, 5.RC.11.RL, 5.RC.12.RL, 6.RC.7.RL, 6.RC.8.RL, 6.RC.10.RL, 7.RC.8.RL, 7.RC.10.RL, 7.CC.1.SLC, 8.RC.6.RL, 8.RC.7.RL, 8.RC.8.RL, 8.RC.10.RL, 8.CC.5.SLC. Fine Arts Music: PR.4; RE.7; RE.8; CN.10; CN.11; Vocal Ensemble: PR.4.2; RE.7; RE.8; CN.10; CN.11. Music Appreciation: CR.2, PR.6, RE.7-9, CN.10-11. Fine Arts Theatre: CR.3.1, PR.4.1, RE.7.1 and 2, RE.8.1 and 2, RE.9.1, CN.10.1, CN.11.1 and 2. Theatre Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11. Fine Arts Dance: RE.8; RE.9; CN.10; CN.11.



Pigfoot Mary's Harlem Renaissance

Show Underwriter:

William & Eneida Silcott | Elaine Briggs & Carol Sheehan

Aquila Theater: *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, A Guided Tour*

FEBRUARY 17, 2027 | 10AM

➔ Baum Walker Hall at Walton Arts Center

Aquila Theatre presents a dynamic one-hour adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's classic novella *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, specially designed for student audiences. Follow Dr. Henry Jekyll as he tries to separate good and evil within human nature and instead unleashes Edward Hyde, a darker alter ego whose growing power leads to a gripping struggle for control. This performance brings Stevenson's Gothic story to life through Aquila's signature style of bold physical storytelling, inventive staging and exceptional acting. There will be a question-and-answer session following the show to reflect on the play, ask questions about the story and its themes and learn more about the process of bringing classic literature to the stage.

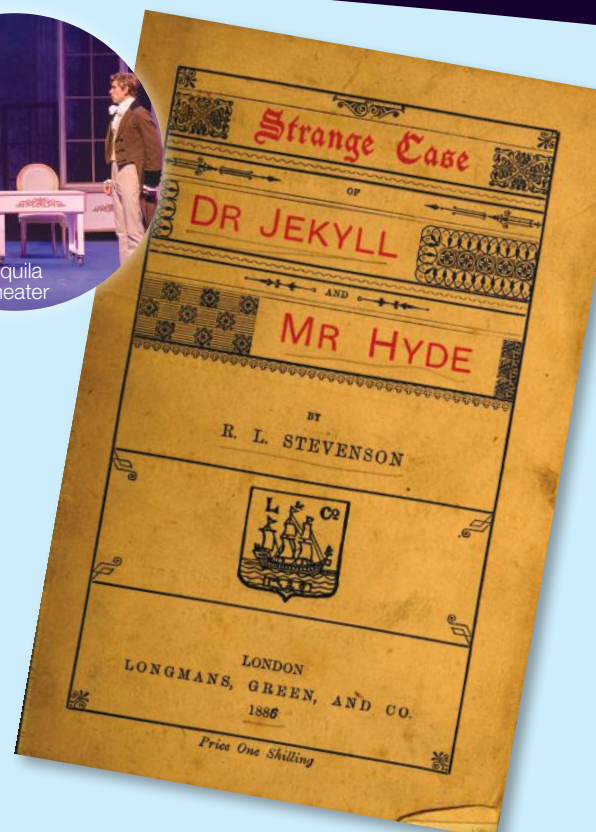
JH HS

BEST FOR: Junior High and up

Arkansas Learning Standards: English Language Arts: 6.RC.7.RL, 6.RC.8.RL, 6.RC.10.RL, 7.RC.8.RL, 7.RC.10.RL, 7.CC.1.SLC, 8.RC.6.RL, 8.RC.7.RL, 8.RC.8.RL, 8.RC.10.RL, 8.CC.5.SLC, 9.RC.5.RL, 9.RC.10.RL, 10.RC.5.RL, 10.RC.10.RL, 10.CC.1.SLC, 11.RC.5.RL, 11.RC.9.RL, 11.CC.1.SLC, 12.RC.10.RL, 12.RC.11.RL, 12.CC.5.SLC. Fine Arts Theatre: RE.7.1 and 2, RE.8.1, RE.8.2, RE.9.1, CN.10.1, CN.11.1, CN.11.2. Theatre Appreciation: RE.7-9, CN.11.



Aquila Theater



theater

Musicians of Bremen Live!

MARCH 3-4, 2027 | 9:30 & 11:30AM

➔ Baum Walker Hall at Walton Arts Center

Inspired by the Grimm's Fairy Tale *The Town Musicians of Bremen*, this swashbuckling musical follows four very different characters—Hen, Mule, Bobcat and Coyote—each on their way to a new life. The four musicians first struggle with their differences but soon discover how to work together and become a famous band! Cahoots NI brings this epic tale to life, following our animal musicians from dusty crossroads to the bright lights of the big city. Students will learn the excitement of chasing big dreams in this musical celebration featuring popular genres from rock to blues to country.

LE UE

BEST FOR: Lower and Upper Elementary

Arkansas Learning Standards: English Language Arts: 4.RC.7.RL, 4.RC.8.RL, 4.RC.9.RL, 4.RC.11.RL, 5.RC.9.RL, 5.RC.10.RL, 5.RC.11.RL, 5.RC.12.RL, 6.RC.10.RL, 6.CC.7.SLC, . Fine Arts Standards Theatre: RE.7.1 and 2, RE.8.1 and 2, RE.9.1, RE.9.2, CN.10.1, CN.11.1 and 2. Musical Theatre: RE.7.1, RE.7.3, RE.7.4, RE.8. Theatre Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Music: RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10, CN.11.

Tall Stories' *The Gruffalo*

MARCH 8-12, 2027 | 9:30 & 11:30AM

➔ Starr Theater at Walton Arts Center

Mouse is hungry, and ventures into the forest for supper. Searching for hazelnuts, Mouse meets the cunning Fox, the eccentric old Owl and the party mad Snake. Will the story of the terrifying Gruffalo save Mouse from ending up as dinner for these hungry woodland creatures? After all, there's no such thing as a Gruffalo – is there? Join Mouse on a daring adventure through the deep, dark wood in Tall Stories' magical, musical adaptation of the classic picture book by Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler. *The Gruffalo* is full of songs, laughs and "scary" fun for everyone aged 3 and up.

LE

BEST FOR: Lower Elementary

Arkansas Learning Standards: English Language Arts: K.RC.8-12.RL, K.RC.1-3.RF; 1.RC.1-3.RF, 1.RC.7-12.RL, 1.CC.1-3.P; 2.RC.1-3.RF, 2.RC.7-12.RL, 2.CC.1-2.OL; 3.RC.1-2.RF, 3.RC.7-8.RL, 3.CC.1-2.OL; 4.RC.1-2.RF, 4.RC.7-11.RL, 4.CC.1-2.OL. Fine Arts Standards Theatre: CR.3.1, CR1.4.1, CR1.5.1; PR.4.1; RE.7.1, RE.7.2; RE.8.1, RE.8.2, R.9.1; CN.10.1, CN.11.1; CN.11.2. Theatre Appreciation: PR.4; RE.7, 8 and 9; CN.10-11. Music: RE.7, 8 and 9.



The Musicians of Bremen



The Gruffalo

Tutti Frutti Productions: *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*

MARCH 29-APRIL 2, 2027 | 9:30AM & 11:30AM

➔ Baum Walker Hall at Walton Arts Center

Silas is from a family of shepherds and must watch their sheep up on the mountain over the winter. But he's bored, lonely, and missing out on the annual knitting competition in town, so he cries—"Wolf!" Playwright Mike Kenny adapts Aesop's famous fable into a wintery tale about a boy who learns that "nobody believes a liar, even when they're telling the truth." The ensemble of actor-musicians plays instruments and sings live as they embody all the delightful characters, including hip-hopping sheep and perhaps a scary wolf or two, all set in a village of knitters where every new jumper tells a tale!

LE UE

BEST FOR: Lower and Upper Elementary

Arkansas Learning Standards: Language Arts: K.RC.8-12.RL, K.RC.1-3.RF; 1.RC.1-3.RF, 1.RC.7-12.RL, 1.CC.1-3.P; 2.RC.1-3.RF, 2.RC.7-12.RL, 2.CC.1-2.OL; 3.RC.1-2.RF, 3.RC.7-8.RL, 3.CC.1-2.OL; 4.RC.1-2.RF, 4.RC.7-11.RL, 4.CC.1-2.OL. Science: LS3.A-B, 3-LS2-1, 3-LS4-3. Fine Arts Theatre: RE.7.1 and 2, RE.8.1 RE.8.2, RE.9.1, CN.10.1, CN.11.1, CN.11.2. Theatre Appreciation: RE.7 – 9, CN.11. Music: RE.7 – 9, CN.10, CN.11. Music Appreciation: RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11. Visual Art: RE.7-9. CN.10, CN.11

Show Underwriter:

Carole & Jim Williamson



The Boy Who Cried Wolf



A Year with Frog and Toad

TheatreSquared Presents: *A Year with Frog and Toad*

APRIL 27-28, 2027 | 9:30AM & 11:30AM

TS TheatreSquared

Best friends Frog and Toad celebrate the year together in this jazzy, upbeat musical based on Arnold Lobel's beloved books. Cheerful Frog and grumpy Toad take us through all four seasons, from flying kites in spring, to swimming in the summer, to telling stories by the fire in winter. These two friends show us that life's best moments happen when you're together—even if you're totally different. With whimsical songs and gentle humor, this is the perfect introduction to theatre for young audiences.

LE

BEST FOR: Lower Elementary

Arkansas Learning Standards: English Language Arts: K.RC.8-12.RL, K.RC.1-3.RF; 1.RC.1-3.RF, 1.RC.7-12.RL, 1.CC.1-3.P; 2.RC.1-3.RF, 2.RC.7-12.RL, 2.CC.1-2.OL; 3.RC.1-2.RF, 3.RC.7-8.RL, 3.CC.1-2.OL; Fine Arts Standards Theatre: CR.3.1, CR1.4.1, CR1.5.1; PR.4.1; RE.7.1, RE.7.2; RE.8.1, RE.8.1; RE.8.2, R.9.1; CN.10.1, CN.11.1; CN.11.2. Theatre Appreciation: PR.4; RE.7, 8 and 9; CN.10-11. Music: RE.7, 8 and 9.

Show Underwriter:
Ann Marie Ziegler

circus



WOW (World of Words)

Cirque Kalabanté: *WOW* (World of Words)

MARCH 15, 2027 | 10AM

ST Starr Theatre at Walton Arts Center

Get ready for a vibrant stage experience that transcends language itself. *World of Words* begins with the obstacle of an unknown spoken language but is quickly overtaken by the universal languages of gesture, rhythm and sound. Double Dutch skipping ropes, bungee straps and rope-based contortion turn into pathways of communication. Three guiding figures representing Trust (W), Respect (O) and Wisdom (W) lead the journey. *WOW (World of Words)* is more than a show—it's an encounter, a bridge between two worlds through acrobatics and choreography.

UE M JH

BEST FOR: Upper Elementary through Junior High

Arkansas Learning Standards: Fine Arts Theatre: RE.7.1 and 2, RE.8.1 RE.8.2, RE.9.1, CN.10.1, CN.11.1, CN.11.2. Theatre Appreciation: RE.7 – 9, CN.11. Dance Appreciation: RE.7-9, CN.10, Music: RE.7 – 9, CN.10, CN.11. Music Appreciation: RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11. Visual Art: RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11. Social Studies: C.1.K.2; C.1.1.2; C.1.K.4; C.1.1.5; C.1.2.5; C.1.3.5; C.1.4.5; G.1.K.5; G.1.1.5; G.1.2.5; G.1.3.5; G.1.4.5; H.1.K.1; H.1.1.1; H.1.2.1; H.1.3.1; H.1.4.1; G.3.5.4; G.3.5.9.

puppetry



*The Snowy Day
and Other Stories*



Ocean Blue

APRIL 21-22, 2027 | 10AM

➔ Baum Walker Hall at Walton Arts Center

Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia's new production *Ocean Blue* brings the mystery and majesty of our oceans to life through spectacular puppetry, immersive design, and heartwarming storytelling. Young crab Charlie tumbles into "The Gully," a deep-sea trench in the Atlantic Ocean where alien-like creatures glow in the darkness and Northern bottlenose whales dive to extraordinary depths. Journeying through the Atlantic, Arctic and Pacific oceans, Charlie travels alongside migrating whales and sea turtles, and learns to navigate the vast underwater world with the help of their kindness and friendship.

LE UE

BEST FOR: Lower and Upper Elementary

Arkansas Learning Standards: Fine Arts Theatre: CR.1.3, CR.2.2, CR.3.1, PR.4.1, PR.4.2, PR.5.3, RE.7.1 and 2, RE.8.1 and 2, RE.9.1, RE.9.2, CN.10.1, CN.11.1 and 2. Theatre Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11. Music: RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11. Dance: CR.1, PR.5 and 6, RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Science: K-LS1, K-ESS2-3, 1-LS1-3, 2-LS2.A-C, 3-LS1, SL1.5. Visual Art: PR.4,5 and 6, RE.7 and 8.

LE

BEST FOR: Lower Elementary

Arkansas Learning Standards: Language Arts: K.RC.8-12.RL, K.RC.1-3.RF; 1.RC.1-3.RF, 1.RC.7-12.RL, 1.CC.1-3.P; 2.RC.1-3.RF, 2.RC.7-12.RL, 2.CC.1-2.OL; 3.RC.1-2.RF, 3.RC.7-8.RL, 3.CC.1-2.OL; 4.RC.1-2.RF, 4.RC.7-11.RL, 4.CC.1-2.OL. Fine Arts Theatre: RE.7.1 and 2, RE.8.1 RE.8.2, RE.9.1, CN.10.1, CN.11.1, CN.11.2. Musical Theatre: RE.7.1, RE.7.3, RE.7.4, RE.8. Theatre Appreciation: RE.7-9, CN.11. Music: RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11. Music Appreciation: RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11. Visual Art: RE.7-9. CN.10, CN.11.

Baba Yaga and the Firebird

FEBRUARY 1-5, 2027 | 9:30AM & 11:30AM

➔ Starr Theater at Walton Arts Center

The world of *Baba Yaga and the Firebird* bursts forth from the pages of a pop-up book and tells the story of a princess and a pauper who take a fantastical journey to beg the witch, Baba Yaga, for a firebird. Along the way, the wonder of the natural world and the enchanting people who inhabit it come alive through a musical form that is both unique and rooted in the oral tradition of storytelling. Based on the original Slavic folktale, this show features two performers playing over 15 roles, with the help of puppets.

LE

BEST FOR: Lower Elementary

Arkansas Learning Standards: English Language Arts: K.RC.3.RF, K.RC.8-11.RL, K.RC.13.RI, K.CC.1-2.OL, K.CC.3.P; K.CC.5.P, 1.RC.1-3.RF, 1.RC.7-12.RL, 1.CC.1-3.P; 2.RC.1-3.RF, 2.RC.7-12.RL, 2.CC.1-2.OL, 2.CC.3.P, 2.CC.5.P; 3.RC.1-2.RF, 3.RC.7-8.RL, 3.CC.1-2.OL, 3.CC.3.P; 3.CC.5.P. Fine Arts Standards Theatre: RE.7.1 and 2, RE.8.1 and 2, RE.9.1, RE.9.2, CN.10.1, CN.11.1 and 2. Musical Theatre: RE.7.1, RE.7.3, RE.7.4, RE.8. Theatre Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Music: RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10, CN.11.



*Baba Yaga and the
Firebird*

Parsons Dance Company

APRIL 7, 2027 | 10AM

📍 Baum Walker Hall at Walton Arts Center

Parsons Dance is a contemporary American dance company, internationally renowned for its energized, athletic ensemble work. Their mission is to bring life-affirming performances and joy to audiences worldwide and, through education and outreach programs, to sustain an appreciation for dance. This year, their tour includes works choreographed to a diverse array of music from Beethoven to Skrillex. Founded in 1985 by Artistic Director David Parsons and Lighting Designer Howell Binkley, the company embraces the power of diversity to engage with audiences of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.

M JH HS

BEST FOR: Middle School and up
Arkansas Learning Standards:

Arkansas Learning Standards: Fine Arts Theatre: CR.3.1, RE.7.1 and 2, RE.8.1 and 2, RE.9.1, RE.9.2, CN.10.1, CN.11.1 and 2. Theatre Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11. Music: RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11. Dance: RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11. Performance Dance: RE.7, RE.8, RE.9, CN.10, CN.11. Dance Appreciation: RE.7, 8 and 9, CN.10 and 11.



Parson's Dance Company

Stage to Studio

Stage to Studio is a collaborative program between Walton Arts Center and our resident fine arts partner, Community Creative Center (CCC). This program enhances the Classroom Series experience by offering students the opportunity to explore performance themes and related learning standards through hands-on visual arts activities led by CCC teaching artists

CCC, based in the Nadine Baum Studios on Walton Arts Center's Fayetteville campus, specializes in studio arts education. Past Stage to Studio workshops have included puppet making, clay hand-building and wearable art projects. Participating schools receive Classroom Series performance tickets, a workshop, catered lunch and bus transportation reimbursement – all at no cost. The program is open to public school groups of up to 60 students in grades K–8, and is primarily intended for Title I schools.

Arkansas Learning Standards: Fine Arts Theatre: PR.5.3; RE.7.1-2; RE.8.1; RE.8.2; RE.9.1; RE.9.2. Fine Arts Visual Art: CR.1-3; PR.5; RE.7-9; CN.10-11.



Bring Hip-Hop to your School!

FALL 2026 & SPRING 2027

In 2024, Walton Arts Center launched Hip-Hop 101, a program that brings professional teaching artists into schools to teach the core elements of hip-hop through no-cost, after-school programs. Last year, we expanded that program with Hip-Hop Knowledge Drop, a day-long immersive arts education experience that connects students to the creative, cultural and historical foundations of hip-hop through music, visual art and dance. We are pleased to continue this no-cost offering in the 2026-2027 school year! Professional teaching artists lead hands-on workshops that foster creativity, collaboration, communication and self-expression while supporting academic learning objectives across multiple subject areas:

- + Music – students write their own rap and perform in front of their class
- + Dance – students learn the four groove foundations of hip-hop dance and group improvisation
- + Graffiti – students create stylized graffiti lettering in a visual arts class

Reserve your Hip-Hop Knowledge Drop residency today!

Arkansas Learning Standards: Fine Arts Theatre: CR.3.1, PR.4.1, RE.7.1 and 2, RE.8.1 and 2, RE.9.1, CN.10.1, CN.11.1 and 2. Theatre I-IV: CR.1.2; CR.2.3; PR.5.3; RE.7.2-5; RE.8.1; CN.10.1; CN.11.1 - 4. Theatre Appreciation: PR.4, RE.7-9, CN.10, CN.11. Music Appreciation: CR.2, PR.6, RE.7-9, CN.10-11. African American History: H.5.AAH.1 and 8, H.5.AAH.10; JU.7.AAH.1-3.

For more information on any of these offerings, please contact: schools@waltonartscenter.org

HIP-HOP KNOWLEDGE DROP



Broadway for High School

Through Broadway Bridges on the Road and negotiations with touring shows, Walton Arts Center provides high school student groups in Northwest Arkansas access to discounted tickets for select Broadway shows. The program enriches students' arts education, promotes cultural equity, and cultivates a diverse future audience for live theatre. High School groups of 10 or more 9th-12th graders are eligible for discounted tickets. Teachers interested in bringing their students to Walton Arts Center may email diamondawards@waltonartscenter.org for more information.





**From your high
school musical to the...**

DIAMOND AWARDS

MAY 23, 2027

The Diamond Awards is our region's high school musical theatre awards program and a proud participant in the National High School Musical Theatre Awards®, also known as the Jimmy Awards®. The program celebrates excellence in both individual and ensemble performances across multiple categories and showcased in the Diamond Awards Show on May 23, 2027.

Student performances are evaluated by theater professionals. The best lead actress and actor winners will advance to New York City to compete with peers from 58 regional programs at the Broadway League Foundation's National High School Musical Theatre Awards®.

We are proud to shine a spotlight on Arkansas' talented students. High school theatre programs interested in participating must register with Walton Arts Center. Registration opens August 2026.

Ceremony Underwriters: *Margaret & Dick Rutherford*

...to the

**JIMMY
AWARDS™**

National High School
Musical Theatre Awards



**SCAN for
more info**



ARTS INTEGRATION

Professional Development

Time at school should be rich and rewarding. When children's imaginations and humanity are engaged in learning, the classroom is where they want be. Walton Arts Center has been training teachers to incorporate the arts into the curriculum and improve learning outcomes for 35 years. Arts integration training for teachers transforms how they instruct as well as how students learn, what students remember and ultimately what they know. Walton Arts Center is proud to play a role in strengthening our schools and supporting our teachers to make the classroom a dynamic arts-filled place that nurtures a child's imagination and academic skill.



SmART Residency

The SmART Residency is a year-long professional development residency supporting and encouraging teachers to integrate the arts in different ways within the curriculum, helping students develop literacy skills and strengthening their ability to collaborate. Walton Arts Center's 2026-27 SmART Residency will provide teachers with 25 contact hours of arts integration instruction. Live performances at Walton Arts Center and arts integration role modeling in 19 classrooms will impact 500 elementary school students. Activities train grade-level teaching teams to understand, value, use and increase the frequency of arts integration instruction, and support student achievement while creating a collaborative classroom culture through arts integration.

Sponsored by



Support for the SmART Residency is provided, in part, by the Arkansas Arts Council,



Who gets to participate? Why does it matter?

These questions are at the core of Walton Arts Center's advocacy for students. School boards, superintendents, curriculum leaders, principals, teachers and parents are the gatekeepers to arts field trip participation—unless they value the benefits of participation, too many students lose.

When students learn through the arts they develop the critical thinking, collaborative and creative skills necessary to succeed. When students explore their community's cultural amenities including Walton Arts Center, they build cultural capital to help them reach the dreams of adulthood.

Walton Arts Center envisions a community where every child participates in high-quality arts experiences, both in school and in the community. It will take all of us working together to realize this vision of a well-rounded education that every child in Northwest Arkansas, no matter where they go to school, deserves.



Backstage Tours

AVAILABLE BY REQUEST

Your school groups are invited to explore the behind-the-scenes world of Walton Arts Center! During this 60-minute experience, members of the Learning & Engagement team guide students on a tour that highlights the history of Walton Arts Center, its three unique theaters and its strong connections with community members and partner organizations. The tour concludes with an interactive session on the Baum Walker Hall stage, where students will learn about sound, lighting, scenery and special effects through live demonstrations led by our professional production team. If you would like to schedule a tour for your students, let us know on your portal registration and we will contact you.

Arkansas Learning Standards: FFine Arts Theatre: CR.2.2; PR.5.1; PR.5.3; RE.7.1; RE.7.2; R.9.1.; Theatre I-IV: CR.1.2; CR.2.3; PR.5.3; RE.7.3; RE.7.4; RE.7.5; RE.9.1; CN.10.2; CN.11.1; CN.11.2; CN.11.5. Theatre Appreciation: PR.4; RE.7, 8 and 9; CN.10-11.



Walton Arts Center

495 W. Dickson St. | Fayetteville, AR 72701
waltonartscenter.org | 479.443.5600

Walton Arts Center 2026/27 Arts Education
programming is **generously supported by:**



The Starling Family

Friends of Walton Arts Center

Our *Friends* annual giving program helps make our arts education and access programs possible. You can help spark conversations, broaden perspectives and inspire creativity in our community by making a *Friends* gift today! Visit waltonartscenter.org/friends to learn more.

Education Partners:

Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art
Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative
The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
UA Center for Children & Youth