



Pacific Symphony

arts-X-press

In Celebration of Cole Carsan St.Clair

A Transformational Experience

arts-X-press is a summer arts immersion program where middle schoolers come together to explore the arts, be themselves and make lasting friendships. Attending arts-X-press is a rare privilege—just 100 students from throughout Southern California are selected each summer. **You have been nominated to apply for the chance to be part of this diverse community of artists and creative thinkers!**

During this five-day residential program, students sleep overnight in the dorms and eat meals in the campus cafeteria at Concordia University Irvine. Our professional staff and enthusiastic counselors live on campus with the students, leading them in arts workshops in state-of-the-art facilities and in attending professional performances with a chance to check out what happens behind-the-scenes. Unlike many arts programs, at arts-X-press, everyone gets the opportunity to play music, sing, make art, act, dance, and write throughout the course of the program – all in a supportive, non-competitive environment that values each student's individuality.

“This program is perfect for kids who want to express their talent and to connect with people who have passion for art. When I came to arts-X-press, I felt safe and connected to people...I felt like I belonged here.”

Cost: Financial aid is available to all students, based on need, and we are committed to making it possible for all accepted students to attend. The full tuition for arts-X-press is \$1200, which covers all costs for the program including room, board and performance tickets. Applications for financial aid will be sent with acceptance letters.

How to apply: Applicants must currently be in **6th, 7th or 8th grade**. No previous arts training is necessary. You can go online to www.PacificSymphony.org/arts-x-press and apply there, or download and fill out the application and return it to your teacher or the Symphony office by the deadline.

For more information on arts-X-press, visit our website at www.pacificsymphony.org/arts-x-press where you can apply, view a **video** about the program, and find answers to **frequently asked questions**.

Don't miss out on the magic of arts-X-press! [Apply now!](#)



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Application Instructions

1. Fill out **BOTH pages** of the application completely.
2. Provide **contact information** for at least ONE parent or guardian.
3. **Provide an e-mail address** if you have one. We will send important updates about arts-X-press via email. We promise we won't use it to send you junk mail!
4. Please circle **no more than three art forms** you are most interested in exploring at arts-X-press. During arts-X-press, students will get a chance to experience all five of these art forms, but preferences are taken into consideration for primary workshop placement.
5. Indicate your availability for all the arts-X-press sessions you are available for. Remember, the **greater your availability, the more likely it is that we will be able to find a spot for you**. If your availability changes later on, we can almost always arrange a session change.

Financial Aid

All students are eligible for financial aid. Financial aid applications will be sent with welcome letters to accepted students.

**Households earning less than \$30,000 annual income
qualify for full tuition scholarships**

This tuition reduction will be credited to students who qualify and provide necessary proof. All families can also apply for additional financial aid to reduce the cost of tuition further.



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2026 Application

Please complete both pages and return your application to the Symphony office, or email to arts-x-press@pacificsymphony.org.

CONTACT INFORMATION (please print)

Student's Name: _____ Gender: _____

Grade Student is in right now: 6 7 8 (applicants must currently be in 6th, 7th or 8th grade)

School Name: _____ School District: _____

Nominator: _____ Nominator's email _____

(Applicants may be nominated by a classroom or after-school program teacher, private lesson instructor, coach, etc.)

If you were **not** nominated by a teacher, please provide the name of a teacher/adult mentor who can serve as a reference.

Reference name: _____ Reference email: _____

Primary Parent/ Guardian Contact (who should arts-X-press staff contact if we have questions about your application?)

Primary Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Street Address: _____ Apt. #: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

The best way to contact me during the day is: home phone work phone cell phone e-mail

I prefer to receive my paperwork and phone communication in: English Spanish Vietnamese Chinese

Emergency Contact (someone we can call other than a parent/primary guardian in case of emergency)

Name: _____ Relationship to Student: _____ Phone: _____

AVAILABILITY AND INTEREST

I am available for the following sessions of arts-X-press 2026 (check all that apply):

Session #1 (June 21-26, 2026)

Session #2 (June 28-July 3, 2026)

Please circle THREE art forms you have the most interest in participating in during arts-X-press:

visual art theater dance vocal music instrumental music

If you selected instrumental music:

What instrument does your child play? _____ # of years: _____

Does your child know how to read music? yes no Will your child be able to bring their instrument? yes no

*****CONTINUED ON PAGE 2*****

Please indicate if you have participated in any of the following **Pacific Symphony programs** before:

Family Musical Mornings: yes no
Class Act: yes no
Lantern Festival: yes no

Strings for Generations: yes no
Santiago Strings: yes no
Santa Ana Strings: yes no

Do you have a sibling who has attended arts-X-press? yes no Name: _____

STUDENT INFORMATION

STUDENT RACE AND/OR ETHNICITY (please check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian, Alaska Native, or First Nations | <input type="checkbox"/> Middle Eastern or North African |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> South Asian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Filipina/o/x | <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnamese |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Korean | <input type="checkbox"/> White |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Latina/o/x | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)_____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Decline to respond | |

ARTS INFORMATION

Does your child play any instrument? yes no

Which instrument? _____ For how many years? _____

Does your child know how to read music? yes no

Will your child be able to bring their instrument? yes no

Does your child sing with a group? yes no Where? _____ # of years: _____

Does your child study dance? yes no What type? _____ Where? _____ # of years: _____

Is your child involved in theater? yes no Where? _____ # of years: _____

Has your child had art lessons? yes no Where? _____ # of years: _____

Student and Parent Agreement for Participation in arts-X-press

Both the student and parent *must* sign this agreement for the application to be considered.

I understand attending arts-X-press is a special privilege. I understand that if accepted, I am expected to attend the entire program. I accept responsibility for completing all paperwork, attending all orientation meetings, and I understand the importance of this commitment. If for any reason, at any time, I cannot fulfill my obligations to arts-X-press I will notify Pacific Symphony immediately so another deserving student can have this opportunity.

Participation is subject to the guidelines and policies of Pacific Symphony and Concordia University Irvine. All requested documents and waivers must be supplied during the registration process before participation can take place.

Student's Signature: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Check this box to receive more information about financial aid