

# USDAN SUMMER CAMP FOR THE ARTS

## SUMMER 2025 CALENDAR



Love is \_\_\_\_\_



# Love is the theme for Summer 2025



## WHY A THEME?

A theme offers the whole campus a common creative constraint for critical thinking across studios, departments, and age groups. This shared point of entry creates a sense of unity while illustrating the limitless possibilities in creative practice.



## WHY LOVE?

We chose LOVE as the theme of Summer 2025 because we wanted an antidote to the challenging times through which our students are living. LOVE opposes hate, dissolves conflict, and encourages connection in the face of loneliness. LOVE is already so evident at Usdan and in the art creating process. We hope that choosing LOVE as this summer's theme will multiply its impact on our community.



## INTRODUCING A NEW TRADITION ... AN ELEMENT & AN INSECT!

This year, we are launching an official element and insect of the summer. For those with us in 2022, you may remember the theme of the summer was WATER. Continuing this tradition, we will cycle through the various elements in the years to come, beginning this year with AIR.

We will also feature an insect to encourage our community to appreciate the little creatures with whom we share the campus. We hope a summer insect will soothe the stressful feelings around bugs that we have noticed some students can experience during the summer. We are starting off with an easy insect to love: the BUTTERFLY.

LOVE, AIR, and BUTTERFLY complement each other, reminding us of lightness, transformation, and the ever-evolving process of art making. One might even say, LOVE and BUTTERFLIES are in the AIR this summer.



We are curious what love means to you right now. Fill in the blank(s) below with your family:



Love is \_\_\_\_\_

Love is \_\_\_\_\_

Love is \_\_\_\_\_

Love is \_\_\_\_\_





# Love is our 2025 community gatherings



Everyone is invited to experience the fun, inclusive, and magical environment that is Usdan!

**WED, JUL 23**



**July Community Day**  
Explore on p.5

**SAT, AUG 9**



**Hip-Hop Pool Party**  
Dive in on p.9

**TUE, AUG 12**



**Troupe Show**  
Learn more on p.11

**WED, AUG 20**



**August Community Day**  
Discover more on p.5

**SUN, SEPT 28**



**Re-U-nion Show**  
Find out more on p.13

**JUNE 30**



**Festival Performance**

12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Dan Kiernan

Alumni Performer

First Day of the Season

**JULY 1**



**Festival Performance**

12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
AIM by Kyle Abraham

**JULY 2**



**Festival Performance**

12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
IMGE Dance

Back by Popular Demand

**JULY 3**



**Festival Performance**

12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Zach & Zak

Alumni Performer

Spirit "Friday:" Crazy Sock Day

**JULY 4**

Usdan Closed



## Love is Festival

Since Usdan's founding in 1968, Festival has been a cornerstone of the Usdan experience, giving students the daily opportunity to grow their passion and appreciation for diverse forms of artistic expression. In Usdan's founding documents, Festival, originally named Assembly, was described as a "unifying and stimulating experience for all the campers and staff."

Festival includes professional, staff, and student performances and takes place most days over the course of the summer season. The first show starts at 12:10 p.m. and the second at 12:35 p.m. on the Dale Lewis Stage of the Andrew and Lily McKinley Amphitheater. See the back page for more information on attending Festival.

This year's Festival has been programmed by Usdan's artistic leadership team with advice from Joe Melillo, Charmaine Warren, and Melinda Berk with Mary Rose Lloyd of the New Victory Dance program, NYC.



**JULY 7**



**Festival Performance**

12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Voices of Broadway

Back by Popular Demand

Alumni Performer

First Day of Week 2 Rec Camp

**JULY 8**



**Festival Performance**

12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Harlem Chamber Players

Alumni Performer

**JULY 9**



**Festival Performance**

12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Cocoon Bloom  
Faculty Ensemble

Alumni Performer

**JULY 10**



**Festival Performance**

12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
The Red Trouser Show

Back by Popular Demand

**JULY 11**



**Festival Performance**

12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Adam Cordero  
Arcadia Quintet

Alumni Performer

Spirit Friday: Rainbow Day







## L♥ve is Community Days

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 23**  
**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20**  
**10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.**

Whether you are a current parent/caregiver, a proud alum, a longtime supporter, or a local friend of Usdan, this day is for you! You are part of what makes our community extraordinary. Witness the magic of Usdan's diverse group of passionate young artists while supporting the transformative power of the arts. The day includes: **live performances, a community art project, raffles, treats, and surprises galore!**

All ages are welcome! RSVP and donate at [community.usdan.org](https://community.usdan.org).



**JULY 14**



**Festival Performance**  
12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Junior & Senior  
Creative Writing  
Majors & Minors

First Day of Week 3 Rec Camp

**JULY 15**





**Festival Performance**  
12:10 p.m.  
Junior Vocal Ensemble  
Majors & Minors  
12:35 p.m.  
Senior Vocal Ensemble  
Majors & Minors

**JULY 16**



**Festival Performance**  
12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Senior Orchestra Majors

 **10:30 a.m.**  
"RENT"  
Senior Musical Theater


 **1:30 p.m.**  
"RENT"  
Junior Musical Theater

5-Year Lunch for 4A Students  
Camp Kindness Day

**JULY 17**



**Festival Performance**  
12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Senior Band Majors

 **10:30 a.m.**  
"Spamalot"  
Senior Musical Theater

**JULY 18**



**Festival Performance**  
12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
"RENT" highlights  
Musical Theater Majors

 **10:30 a.m.**  
"Beetlejuice"  
Senior Musical Theater

 **1:30 p.m.**  
"Beetlejuice"  
Junior Musical Theater

Spirit Friday: PJ Day

## Love is the Theater Season

This summer the Usdan Theater Department has fully embraced the theme of LOVE. The 2025 Season's selections — including two commissioned musicals premiering July 24 and August 21 — clearly reflect the powerful ways in which love transforms, inspires, and energizes the lives of very different characters in diverse situations. Love between friends, classmates, siblings, colleagues, adventurers, children, and parents becomes the heartbeat of our stages. We hope you enjoy our theatrical offerings this summer.



Livestream all Festival Performances on YouTube @UsdanCenter.

**JULY 21**



**Festival Performance**

12:10 p.m.  
Junior Orchestra Majors  
12:35 p.m.  
Junior Band Majors

First Day of Week 4 Rec Camp

**JULY 22**



**Festival Performance**

12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Select Junior & Senior  
Dance Majors & Minors

**10:30 a.m.**  
"Something Rotten"  
Senior Musical Theater

**1:30 p.m.**  
"Something Rotten"  
Junior Musical Theater

**1:30 p.m.**  
"The Addams Family"  
Children's Theater

**JULY 23**



**Community Day**

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Fun free community day.  
All welcome. RSVP & donate  
at [community.usdan.org](http://community.usdan.org).

**All Day Events**  
Exhibitions, Fashion Show  
& Comic Con in the  
Art Department

Performances in the  
Dance, Theater  
& Music Departments

Studio Visits  
Throughout Campus

**Plus**  
Raffles  
Community Art Project  
& More!

**Festival Performances**

12:10 p.m.  
Junior Festival  
Junior Student Dance  
Performance  
Alumni Award:  
**Hannah Berson**

12:35 p.m.  
Senior Festival  
Senior Vocal Ensemble &  
Select Instrumentalists  
Community Award:  
**Russell & Marilyn Albanese**

**JULY 24**



**Festival Performance**

12:10 p.m.  
Junior Intro to DJ'ing  
Minors  
12:35 p.m.  
Senior Classical  
Composition Majors

**10:30 a.m.**  
"Aviva vs. the Dybbuk"  
Senior Musical Theater  
**World Premiere**

**11:00 a.m.**  
Discovery Performance &  
Exhibition

**1:30 p.m.**  
"Aviva vs. the Dybbuk"  
Junior Musical Theater

**1:30 p.m.**  
"All Shook Up"  
Children's Theater

**JULY 25**



**Festival Performance**

12:10 p.m.  
4A Lifer &  
Closing Ceremony

**10:30 a.m.**  
"The Outsiders"  
The Actor's Group

Spirit Friday: LOVE, AIR,  
BUTTERFLY Day (See p.1)

Last Day of 4A Session  
Enroll for 2026 at  
[usdan.org/return2u](http://usdan.org/return2u)





**JULY 28**



**Festival Performance**  
12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
The Red Trouser Show

Back by Popular Demand

First Day of 4B Session  
Week 5 Rec Camp

**JULY 29**



**Festival Performance**  
12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Billy Recce & Special Guest

**JULY 30**



**Festival Performance**  
12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Natie

**JULY 31**



**Festival Performance**  
12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
JRose  
Kyra Leeds

Alumni Performer

**AUGUST 1**



**Festival Performance**  
12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Voices of Broadway

Back by Popular Demand

Alumni Performer

Spirit Friday: Dream Job Day







# Love is THE HIP-HOP POOL PARTY

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 2025\***

**12:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.**

**THROWN BY DJ KOOL HERC AND  
THE “FIRST LADY OF HIP-HOP” CINDY CAMPBELL**



Grab your bathing suit, shake off your dance moves, and save the date for what promises to be a party for the history books. For the second year in a row, Usdan Artists in Residence and the founders of Hip-Hop are throwing an epic pool party at Usdan. Enjoy live music, food trucks, performances, art experiences, and more!



All ages are welcome! Purchase tickets at [usdan.org/poolparty](https://usdan.org/poolparty).

\*Rain date is Saturday, August 16.



## AUGUST 4



**Festival Performance**  
12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Brown Rice Family Band

Back by Popular Demand

First Day of Week 6 Rec Camp

## AUGUST 5



**Festival Performance**  
12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Sam Dillon Quartet

Back by Popular Demand

Alumni Performer

5-Year Lunch for  
8 Week and 4B Students

## AUGUST 6



**Festival Performance**  
12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
42nd Division Infantry Band

Alumni Performer

## AUGUST 7



**Festival Performance**  
12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Cocoon Bloom  
Faculty Ensemble

Alumni Performer

Red Object Exchange

## AUGUST 8



**Festival Performance**  
12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Nai-Ni Chen Dance

Spirit Friday: Nature Day



## AUGUST 9\*

**Hip-Hop Pool Party**  
12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
All ages welcome.  
Purchase tickets at  
[usdan.org/poolparty](https://usdan.org/poolparty).

\*Rain date August 16



Visit [usdan.org/calendar](https://usdan.org/calendar) for the most up-to-date information.



## AUGUST 11



### Festival Performance

12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
"Into the Woods" highlights  
performed by the  
Usdan Troupe

First Day of Week 7 Rec Camp

## AUGUST 12



### Love is "Into the Woods"

10:30 a.m.  
"Into the Woods"  
The Usdan Troupe  
1:15 p.m.  
"Into the Woods"  
The Usdan Troupe

See blue box below for more info

## AUGUST 13



### Festival Performance

12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Junior & Senior  
Creative Writing  
Majors & Minors



10:30 a.m.  
"Ranked"  
Senior Musical Theater



1:30 p.m.  
"Ranked"  
Junior Musical Theater

## AUGUST 14



### Festival Performance

12:10 p.m.  
Senior Orchestra Majors  
12:35 p.m.  
Senior Band Majors



1:30 p.m.  
"All Shook Up"  
Children's Theater

## AUGUST 15



### Festival Performance

12:10 p.m.  
Junior Orchestra Majors  
12:35 p.m.  
Junior Band Majors



10:30 a.m.  
"Joseph & the Amazing  
Technicolor Dreamcoat"  
Senior Musical Theater



1:30 p.m.  
"Joseph & the Amazing  
Technicolor Dreamcoat"  
Junior Musical Theater

Spirit Friday: Crazy Hat Day

## Love is "Into the Woods"

This summer, our most prestigious theater group, the Usdan Troupe, will perform Stephen Sondheim's classic musical "Into the Woods" on the Dale Lewis stage of the McKinley Amphitheater. For the very first time in Usdan's history, the entire campus will have the opportunity to attend a full-length Troupe performance on the big stage. These shows will take the place of Festival programming Tuesday, August 12.

"Into The Woods" re-invigorates the classic fairy tales of the Brothers Grimm. Using those old and familiar tales, the show explores universal themes and highlights the notion that true happiness, even in the presence of love, requires facing difficult truths and challenges.



Livestream all Festival Performances on YouTube @UsdanCenter.



## AUGUST 18



### Festival Performance

12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
The Knights

Back by Popular Demand



**10:30 a.m.**  
"Spamalot"  
Senior Musical Theater

First Day of Week 8 Rec Camp

## AUGUST 19



### Festival Performance

12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Senior Classical Composition  
Music Performed by  
The Knights



**10:30 a.m.**  
"Oliver!"  
Senior Musical Theater



**1:30 p.m.**  
"Oliver!"  
Junior Musical Theater

## AUGUST 20



### Community Day

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Fun free community day.  
All welcome. RSVP & donate  
at [community.usdan.org](http://community.usdan.org).

### All Day Events

Exhibitions, Fashion Show  
& Comic Con in the  
Art Department

Performances in the  
Dance, Theater  
& Music Departments

Studio Visits  
Throughout Campus

### Plus

Raffles  
Community Art Project  
& More!

**Festival Performance**  
12:10 p.m. & 12:35 p.m.  
Select Junior & Senior  
Dance Majors & Minors



**10:30 a.m.**  
"Between the Lines"  
Senior Our Little Theater



**1:30 p.m.**  
"Between the Lines"  
Junior Our Little Theater

## AUGUST 21



### Festival Performance

12:10 p.m.  
Junior Vocal Ensemble  
Majors & Minors

12:35 p.m.  
Senior Vocal Ensemble  
Majors & Minors



**10:30 a.m.**  
"KABLAM!"  
Senior Musical Theater  
**World Premiere**



**11:00 a.m.**  
Discovery Performance &  
Exhibition



**1:30 p.m.**  
"KABLAM!"  
Junior Musical Theater



**1:30 p.m.**  
"The Addams Family"  
Children's Theater



**1:45 p.m.**  
Art Parade

## AUGUST 22



### Festival Performance

12:10 p.m.  
Closing Ceremony &  
Lifer Celebration

Spirit Friday: U-Pride Day

Last Day of Season  
Enroll for 2026 at  
[usdan.org/return2u](http://usdan.org/return2u)





# L♥ve is all year long



## ATTEND AN AUTUMN GATHERING

### September 28, 2025 | Re-U-nion Show



While the summer season wraps on August 22, the creativity continues. On September 28, the artistry of Summer 2025 takes the Dale Lewis Stage of the McKinley Amphitheater for the final student show of the year. This performance offers students an opportunity to reflect on and remember the summer's growth and friendships.

### Fall 2025 | The RISE of the Jack O'Lanterns

Long Island's most visited fall event — the World's Longest Jack O'Lantern Trail — returns to Usdan in 2025! The RISE is an opportunity to experience the campus at night in all its spooky and autumnal glory.

Visit [usdan.org/jackolanterns](https://usdan.org/jackolanterns) for tickets.

### November 13, 2025 | The Alumni Engagement Party

Join a NYC cocktail party celebrating Usdan's beloved alumni community! Reconnect with fellow alumni and indulge in nostalgia.

Email [development@usdan.org](mailto:development@usdan.org) to be added to the invite list.



## PARTNER WITH USDAN

Looking for a space to host a dance recital, graduation, or community event? Bring it to Usdan's beautiful campus.

Email [events@usdan.org](mailto:events@usdan.org) to start the conversation.



## STAY CONNECTED



Engage with us on your preferred social media platform for Usdan-related news and features on students and alumni throughout the year!

**Instagram:** @usdanarts | **TikTok:** @usdanarts | **YouTube:** @UsdanCenter | **LinkedIn:** Usdan Center for the Creative & Performing Arts



## REGISTER FOR SUMMER 2026

Parents and students often say: "We are counting down the days till next summer!" Trust us when we say, we are too. Register for Summer 2026 by September 28, and lock in the lowest prices. Visit [usdan.org/Return2U](https://usdan.org/Return2U) for more info.





## Love is Usdan swag

Get your Usdan swag today! Whether it is your favorite department's iconic "U" t-shirt, this year's exclusive bandana, or the newest portable fans, you will not want to miss this year's merch.

The Usdan Store is open from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday during the summer season.





# Love is a visit to Usdan

185 Colonial Springs Road, Wheatley Heights, NY 11798 | Phone: 631.643.7900

## How do I get to campus?

Usdan is easily accessible from the Long Island Railroad. Travel to Wyandanch LIRR Station from Penn Station, Grand Central, Atlantic Terminal, Jamaica, Woodside, or Forest Hills. Take an 8-minute rideshare from Wyandanch or enjoy a 15-minute bike ride.

For driving directions, visit [usdan.org/directions](https://usdan.org/directions). Parking is available. Please allow at least 20 minutes to get from Usdan's entrance gate to your destination.

## When should I visit?

We love visitors! Families and friends of Usdan are invited to attend all Festivals, performances, exhibitions, and events throughout the summer. Community members will receive a weekly email reminder of upcoming events along with notifications of any changes to this calendar.

## Should I let someone know that I am visiting?

**Families** — On regular camp days, you do not need to inform us of your arrival, just bring your 2025 Access Pass to ensure smooth entry onto campus. If your guests are coming without an Access Pass, email [rsvp@usdan.org](mailto:rsvp@usdan.org) to add them to the guest list. See inside for more information about visiting during Community Days and the Hip-Hop Pool Party.

**Supporters** — Current and prospective supporters are encouraged to visit and see your impact firsthand. Please contact Kyra Leeds at 631.643.7900 or send a note to [development@usdan.org](mailto:development@usdan.org) to schedule your visit.

**Alumni, Artists, and Friends** — Please email [rsvp@usdan.org](mailto:rsvp@usdan.org) so that we can add you to our guest list.

## What should I do for lunch?

On most days the Usdan Leadership Team hosts lunches for Usdan parents, supporters, grandparents, and caregivers. Lunchtimes are set so as not to conflict with the show you are coming to see. If you would like to join us for lunch, email [rsvp@usdan.org](mailto:rsvp@usdan.org). You are also welcome to bring a bagged lunch to enjoy at one of our picnic table areas on campus.

## Is there Wi-Fi or cell service on campus?

There is spotty cell service throughout campus. There is no public Wi-Fi on campus. Please plan accordingly. The campus is device-free for students.

## Can I call a rideshare from campus?

Yes — please visit the Administration Office when calling your ride so that we can alert security.