

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.

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.

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**



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.

*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.

*Rain date August 16



Visit 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.
Select Senior Classical
Composition Music Minors'
Original Work
Performed by The Knights

12:35 p.m.
Senior Classical
Composition Music Majors'
Original Work
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.

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



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 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 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 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 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. 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 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 to schedule your visit.

Alumni, Artists, and Friends — Please email 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. 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.