CULTURAL ARTS OUTREACH

City of Aurora Cultural Arts offers educational programming in language arts, humanities, and theater. Most programs are available year-round and are adaptable to grade level.

Programs address Colorado curriculum standards. Discounts may be available. Please contact us so we can discuss what kind of programming is right for your school or community group. If we don’t have the resources you need, we will help you find someone who does.

LISA MUMPTON
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WORkSHOP HIGHLIGHTS

THE AURORA POET LAUREATE, offers customizable topic-specific workshops with a strong emphasis on poetry and the literary toolbox. These workshops incorporate interchangeable elements such as performance sharing, drafting personal works, compact craft talks, and full lectures. Workshops are available in 30–60-minute sessions, with prices ranging from $150 to $350.

HULA LESSON, DRUMMING DEMO
The Kalama Polynesian Dancers offer hula lessons and drumming demos.
• $75-$150 depending on the service

JASON LEMIRE THEATRICAL WRITING AND ACTING WORKSHOPS
A series for upper elementary middle and high school students
• “I Wish They Told My Story” - 1-3 hour introduction to playwriting for grades 8-12.
• “Villains Have Feelings Too!” - 1-2 hour villains acting workshop for middle school and high school students.
• “Why Do I Do This Though?” - 1-3 hour fun and engaging introduction to human motivation for high school students (a Social/Emotional Learning workshop).
• “Creative Thinking Bootcamp!” - 1-3 hour series of intro-level theatre games designed to challenge students to expand their capacity for original thinking and public speaking. Grades 3-12.
• $150-$360

GREEK MYTHOLOGY
Students portray the deities, heroes, heroines, villains and victims of the various myths such as Atalanta, Perseus, and Pandora the narrator tells the story. They create their ancient Greek costumes from pieces supplied by the instructor. The 1-hour version of the workshop culminates with a creative interpretation of Pandora’s box. Each student portrays a deity presenting a gift and one of the evils that Pandora unwittingly unleashes into the world.

IMPROVISATION
Embark on a thrilling journey into the world of acting and storytelling as our dynamic instructor leads you through a whirlwind of basic exercises! These exercises serve as the building blocks for mastering the art of improvising dialogues and scenes. Perfect for adventurers aged 9 and up, this workshop promises to ignite your creativity and take your performance skills to new heights!
MUSIC

EL JAVI – FLAMENCO GUITAR
North American guitarist El Javi defies music genres with his unbound exploration of instrumental music. The Denver based composer, producer, and performer incorporates elements of flamenco, progressive rock, classical, folk and world music to shape his compositions.
- 30–60 min., $250-$500

KALAMA POLYNESIAN DANCERS
Experience an enchanting showcase of authentic songs and dances from the islands of Hawai‘i, New Zealand, Samoa, Tahiti, and Tonga, complete with traditional costumes and insightful introductions explaining the cultural significance of each performance. Enjoy 15 to 60 minutes of captivating entertainment, accompanied by your choice of prerecorded music or live musicians.
- 45–60 min., $75-$850

KUTANDARA – MARIMBA ENSEMBLE
Healing the world through music, Kutandara uses the vehicle of joyful, group percussion to create meaningful, personal interactions. Their mission is to provide opportunities for people of all ages to experience the joy and interdependence of music.
- 45–60 min., $250-$1,250

UKULELE SING ALONG
Designed for intimate groups of preschool to 2nd grade, or seniors and individuals in assisted living. The musician/singer duo will conduct an old-fashioned sing along, playing and singing popular songs chosen to appeal to each age group. Songs are preselected.
- 30 min., $150

STORYTELLING, SPOKEN WORD AND THEATRE

AHJA FOX
Aurora Poet Laureate, is a dynamic writer and performer, delivering intimate and captivating performances to any space and audience. Taking factors such as theme, purpose, and desired outcome into account, she offers personalized care, which has earned her many prestigious awards and, most importantly, her role as Aurora’s Poet Laureate. Her heartfelt wish is to spread poetry and the power of words to the masses.
- Suitable for all ages, 5-20 min., $50-$250

MERRY ANDREW AFOOT
an award-winning actor and playwright, is the creative mind behind these intimate theater performances and workshops, specially designed for primary classroom reading curriculum since 1987! Choose from enchanting tales like Stone Soup, A Cowboy’s Tail, Johnny Appleseed and The Three Wishes.
- K-2nd grade, 30 min., $150, classroom performance or small groups

AFRICAN, AFRICAN AMERICAN STORY TELLING
Hugo Jon Sayles, an award-winning actor, director, author, and storyteller, weaves original tales based on African folklore and African American culture. These stories originate from the continent of Africa and have been reimagined through the lens of African American folklore, offering captivating narratives that draw from the rich heritage of both continents.
- K-5th grade, 30–60 minutes, $150-$250

WORKSHOPS AND RESIDENCIES
45-90 min. custom designed workshops to work with your schedule, age/grade ranges, skill levels. $150-$360. These programs can also be developed into before or after school residencies. Our performers and teachers can also teach workshops and residencies.

- Self esteem, creative thinking, problem solving, non-violent conflict resolution
- Communication, public speaking, reading for fluency, poetic interpretation
- Shakespeare, Greek mythology, Norse mythology, fractured fairy tales
- Creative dramatics, improvisation, reader’s theatre, dialects, stage combat
- Middle and High School residencies in story construction, scene, monologue playwriting

INTERACTIVE ASSEMBLIES OR CLASSROOM PERFORMANCES
Available year round, prices may vary, adaptable to most ages and locations.