



## **2026-27 Arts Discovery Days at Confederation Centre**

### **Arts Discovery Days: Real-World Arts Learning for Your Students**

Arts Discovery Days is a **free, full-day, hands-on arts experience** offered to Grade 4 and Grade 8 classes across Prince Edward Island. Hosted at the Confederation Centre of the Arts, **this program takes students out of the traditional classroom setting and immerses them in the real-world practice of the arts:** through workshops, backstage tours, and live interaction with working artists and arts professionals.

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### **Direct Curriculum Connections**

Arts Discovery Days is designed to support and enrich PEI curriculum outcomes by linking the arts directly to themes in social studies and existing school arts programs (where applicable):

#### **Grade 4 curriculum tie-in examples:**

- **Social Studies:** Identity, community, culture, and the diversity of human experience
- **Visual Arts:** Creative expression, visual storytelling, and critical response to artworks

#### **Grade 8 curriculum tie-in examples:**

- **Social Studies:** Canadian identity, citizenship, cultural perspectives
- **Visual Arts:** Mixed media, visual literacy, and responding to art in context
- **Career Exploration:** Exposure to arts-based careers in production, design, performance, and gallery operations

Students see first-hand how the arts are integrated into social and professional life, aligning with general curriculum outcomes and expanding their understanding of how creativity intersects with society, identity, and work.

Arts Discovery Days are **currently only available to Grade 4 and Grade 8 students**. For other school group activities at Confederation Centre, visit this website for more information:

<https://confederationcentre.com/arts-education/school-groups/>

**The November and February sessions will be conducted in English only** and are therefore not suited to students from the French language or French Immersion programs.

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### **Program Components**

- **Interactive Workshops** in the performing arts, visual arts and Canadian/PEI history
  - **Backstage Tours:** Lighting, stage management, set design, and technical crew roles
  - **Professional Insight:** Students engage with practicing artists and behind-the-scenes professionals
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### **Program Logistics**

- **Who:** Grade 4 (English & French) and Grade 8 classes
- **Where:** Confederation Centre of the Arts, Charlottetown
- **When:**
  - **Grade 8 (English): November 17, 18, 19, 2026** (storm dates November 24, 25, 26)
  - **Grade 4 (English): February 16, 17, 18, 2027** (storm dates February 23, 24, 25)
  - **Grade 4 (French): April 13, 14, 15, 2027** (storm dates April 20, 21, 22)



- **Time: Arts Discovery Days typically run from 9:30 – 1:30 pm**, to accommodate bus schedules. Earlier starts or later end times can be discussed but need to be confirmed at the time of registration.
- **Cost:** Free (made possible by the Confederation Centre's sponsors). Schools must supply bussing and substitute teachers, if required.
- **Capacity:** 3-4 classes per day (depends on class size)
- **Registration:** Required in advance – spaces fill quickly. Places will be given on a first come, first served basis, with priority to schools who have not recently attended an Arts Discovery Day.

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### Why Participate?

- Enrich your students' understanding of culture, identity, and community through active participation in the arts
- Inspire curiosity about real-world careers in creative industries
- Provide meaningful cross-curricular connections in a dynamic setting
- Support arts appreciation as a tool for expression and engagement with the world

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### How to Register

If you would like to have your class participate, please contact Dawn Ward-Dames, Arts Academy Administrator, at **902-628-6134 or e-mail [dward@confederationcentre.com](mailto:dward@confederationcentre.com)** and include the following details:

1. Your name and lead teacher for the day (if you will not be in attendance)
2. School Name
3. Number of classes attending
4. Total number of children **and** number per class
5. Preferred date to attend and an alternate date in the event your preferred date is not available
6. Any additional logistical information, like if it is a split class, or sharing a bus with another school, or open to sharing with another small class from another school, etc.

**Please note that sending an email request does not confirm participation – you must wait for a confirmation email with a participation date to be sent to you.** Classes can request to be waitlisted and can be notified as soon as 48 hours prior to the start date if a space is available.

We hope that you will join us this year!

Francesca Perez  
Director, Arts Academy  
office (902) 629-1178  
[fperez@confederationcentre.com](mailto:fperez@confederationcentre.com)