

STORM KING ART CENTER

FACT SHEET EDUCATION AT STORM KING ART CENTER



OVERVIEW:

Storm King Art Center is committed to offering a robust and dynamic roster of education and public programs for its growing and diverse community of visitors. By activating experiential learning through site-specific programming, hands-on exploration, and movement outdoors, Storm King's Education programs provide visitors with inroads for understanding more about modern and contemporary art in a multisensory and multidisciplinary context. Programs include concerts and performances, lectures and artist talks, family programs, summer camps, tours for school and adult groups, moonlit walks, bird walks, yoga, and beekeeper tours. On the whole, strategic and serendipitous partnerships play a key role in strengthening ties between Storm King and its audience.

RECENT GROWTH:

Over the past several years, Storm King has experienced a surge in popularity. Visitorship has more than doubled since 2011. In 2015 and 2016, Storm King welcomed over 144,000 visitors in each year—a 15% increase from the 2014 season. At the same time, Storm King's educational and public programs have grown and expanded, especially as increased funding has allowed for additional education staff to further establish these expanded initiatives.

SCHOOL GROUPS:

Each year, Storm King welcomes thousands of school children, with numbers steadily increasing. A special focus is reaching underserved students from Title I schools. Through the benefit of free admission, visits by Title I students have tripled since 2014. Additionally, Storm King is proud to offer free admission to all public schools in Orange, Putnam, Dutchess, Ulster, and Sullivan counties.

Experiencing art and the outdoors is at the core of an ongoing partnership with Horizons-on-the-Hudson, an elementary school in Newburgh, NY. The success of the partnership stems from extensive dialogue and planning, in-classroom teaching, teacher workshops, funding for and scheduling of buses, and special family days at Storm King.

SUMMER CAMPS:

Each year, Storm King offers outdoor, weeklong summer camps for elementary, middle, and high school students. 'Project Write: Becoming Authors and Artists,' offered in partnership with the Hudson Valley Writing Project, invites middle school students to engage in place-based writing surrounded by sculpture, rolling hills, meadows, and woodlands. Participation by children of migrant laborers, through the Migrant Educational Outreach Program (MEOP), has been a highlight of this successful camp. 'The Art of Scientific Observation: From Microecology to Monumental Sculpture', offers teens the unique opportunity to combine field ecology and artistic practice. The intensive program sharpens participant's observation skills and provides them with a pre-college level of education.

'Storm King Young Explorers,' a new camp for 7 to 9 year-olds, encourages students to confidently explore the outdoors and modern and contemporary art, while learning to use a compass and other tools of exploration. More information about the four camps offered at Storm King this season is available at: stormking.org/summercamp

PUBLICATIONS:

Recent [Storm King publications](#) and activity guides also contribute to learning at the Art Center. In 2015, with support from the National Endowment for the Arts, Storm King published its first print and online guide to the collection. Based on the success of summer camps and ongoing school and family programs, Storm King's Education Department produced a free "Field Guide for Young Explorers". Created with Hara Woltz, an artist and conservation biologist, the extensive, hand-illustrated guide is a tool for young visitors and encourages an adventurous and interactive investigation of art, ecology, and landscape design.

ADULTS AND FAMILIES:

Storm King's public programs invite contemplative, creative, and joyful participation from a diverse cross section of visitors. Artists, scholars, teachers, students, families, community organizers, and other cultural organizations are critical partners in both creating and participating in programming. The Art Center offers a number of public programs throughout the season, as well as in the off-season. In keeping with the Storm King's founding vision as a center for the arts, public programs include other artistic disciplines, such as music, performance, and poetry. Alongside more experimental formats, exhibition-inspired talks and tours remain part of programming. Highlights from the past few years have included artist talks by Lynda Benglis, David Brooks, Mark Dion, Mark di Suvero, Josephine Havorson, Corin Hewitt, Virginia Overton, Luke Stettner, Erin Shirreff, and Mierle Ukeles, among many others. Programs for children and families are offered every Sunday, from May through November. These hands-on experiences are created and led by artists, conservators, arts educators, and environmental educators. Participants of all ages are welcome in these drop-in workshops. Since 2013, Storm King has presented more than 20 outdoor concerts. Headliners have included Lee Renaldo, The Feelies, Felice Brothers, Frankie Cosmos and Porches, among others. Storm King has also offered large-scale events such as film rambles with Rooftop Films, music festivals, and performances co-presented with the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival.

ARTIST-DRIVEN PROGRAMS:

Initiated in 2013 by the Art Center, *Wanderings & Wonderings* invites visitors to engage with artists in creative and unexpected ways. Participating artists have created tours, maps, performances, poetry and movement workshops, new media, and deeply thoughtful conversations. Since 2015, *Wanderings & Wonderings* has been co-presented with Nicholas Weist, Director of The Shandaken Project at Storm King, and features select alumni residents and their collaborators.

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