2025 Classes, Workshops & Events

STUDENT CLASSES

Learn

Who: for 15 to 18 years
What: Explore old & new science and art technologies
When: Sundays from 2pm to 4pm
Cost: Free tuition in June, July & August - supported by the Smithsonian Museum on Main Street (MoMS), Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum, and Raven Hill Discovery Center
Details: Experiment with hands-on activities that make learning exciting. Expand your understanding of old & new technology. Observe patterns in science and incorporate them into the arts . Uncover the technology behind the arts.

Create

Who: for 12 to 14 years
What: Inventions, Innovations and artistic creations
When: Saturdays from noon to 2pm
Cost: Free tuition in June, July & August - supported by the Smithsonian Museum on Main Street (MoMS), Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum, and Raven Hill Discovery Center
Details: Design your own inventions and artistic masterpieces. Construct bridges, sculptures and simple machines. Craft unique art using natural materials. Build amazing projects with recycled materials. Explore traditional art forms from other countries.

Grow

Who: for 9 to 11 years
What: Develop new skills and concepts in art, history and science
When: Weekdays from 2pm to 4pm
Cost: $20 per person per session
Details: Expand your understanding of your world. Develop new skills while having fun. Stretch your imagination with hands-on learning. Deepen your appreciation of science, history & art. Enhance your knowledge and confidence.

Play

Who: for 5-8 years
What: Summer Adventure Classes for Kids (SACK)
When: Weekdays from 10am to 2pm (bring your lunch)
Cost: $40 per day ($20 per half day)
Details: Schedule sessions to fit your needs – by the morning, afternoon, day or week. Try new and exciting activities each visit. Express yourself through art and music. Interact with animals. Move with energy outdoors. Laugh & learn during unforgettable summer adventures.

<u>WORKSHOPS</u> (should be 15 years or older)

April 2025

Ham Radio Workshop with John Clements
Date/s: Tuesdays, April 8, 15, 22, & 29
Time: 6pm to 8pm
Cost: $70 including textbook ($30)
Details: Connect science and history in this fun series! You'll learn the history of radio communications, how to use radios for emergency preparedness, participate in world-wide communications and make friends from all over the planet! Snacks provided during sessions. Technician license test available at end of class sessions for $15.

May 2025

Art on Demand with Raven Hill staff & volunteers
Dates: Saturdays
Time: 2pm to 4pm
Cost: $20 per workshop plus materials
Details: Explore a different art form each week, such as Shibori & French Serti fiber design, rice paper batik, marbled paper, papermaking, fused glass, slumped glass, glass bead jewelry, precious metal clay and copper pendants.
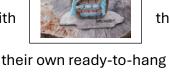
June 2025

Weaving on Driftwood with Jasmine Petrie
Date: Friday, June 20
Time: 10am to noon
Cost: $55 per person
Details: Create a unique piece of art by combining northern Michigan driftwood with the warmth of weaving. Students will learn basic weaving principles and express themselves through the colors and texture of fibers. Everyone will leave class with their own ready-to-hang piece of fiber art. Minimum 5 participants & maximum 10 participants.

Mini-mixed media Workshop with Gayle Levengood
Date: Friday, June 27
Time: 10am to 2pm
Cost: $50 per person
Details: Enjoy designing an artistic composition using our mini-collage kit. Layer related items by combining images and textures to create a cohesive piece. Assemble four miniature panels that can be displayed together or individually. All materials are provided; just bring your creativity!

July 2025

Discovering Poetry at Raven Hill with Holly Sasso
Date: Thursday, July 17
Time: 10am to 1pm
Cost: $30 per person
Details: Bring your own lunch, a notebook & your favorite writing tool. After a brief orientation, we'll take our notebooks on a slow, attentive tour of Raven Hill to find inspiration for a poem or essay, writing about your personal memories, inspirations, or connections that are inspired by what you find or see at Raven Hill. After the tour, writers can then return to places where they felt most inspired or drawn to, spending an hour collecting thoughts on paper and building ideas for their writing. We'll break for a 30 minute lunch at noon to share and be inspired by one another. The final hour will be an opportunity to return to individual writing before one last debrief on progress and departure. Writers will be encouraged to continue writing and revising their efforts at Raven Hill or at home. We invite you to bring your final drafts for display during August & September in Raven Hill's Schoolhouse, inspiring other writers.

Gentle Flow Yoga on the Hill with Holly Sasso
Date/s: Fridays, July 11, 18, & 25
Time: 9am to 10:30am
Cost: $15.00 per person
Details: Bring a yoga mat. For high school and older.

Portraiture Workshop with Elaine
Date/s: Thursday & Friday, July 24 & 25
Time: 10am to 3pm
Cost: $150
Details: For teens and adults—this class is designed to be beginner-friendly but is also welcome for accomplished artists. In class students will learn how to draw and ink portraits of real people. Session #1 will begin with an introductory follow-along tutorial on how to draw and ink a portrait based on a photo. Students will learn how to outline the contours of the face, head, neck, and shoulders. Then, using ink in a similar method to watercolors, they will learn how to map out the values of the image. In Session #2, students will be asked to bring in their own printed out, black and white, high resolution image to draw from. Extra print-outs will be provided just in case, but it is encouraged to bring your own. Using the knowledge learned in the first session along with added guidance from the instructor, students will create a second ink portrait of whomever they please. Minimum 6 participants & maximum 15 participants

Supplies list:

- hot press watercolor paper or Bristol paper (3-5 pieces)
- tracing paper
- printed out, black and white, high resolution image of someone's face including the entire head, neck, and shoulders
- pencil + eraser
- sketchbook

- Higgins black magic ink (or equivalent)
- paintbrushes
- paper towel
- ceramic or plastic bowl (or an empty watercolor palette)
Optional:
- white colored pencil
- black markers/pens

August 2025

Clay Whistle Making Workshop with Sally Brayton
Dates: August 2nd and 9th
Time: 1pm-4pm
Cost: $60 per person-includes supplies, firing and use of safety gear. Wear closed toed shoes,
 long **cotton** pants & shirts for Session #2.
Details: You will create your whistles during the first session and fire them during the second one.
Session #1 – Hand build 2-3 of your own clay whistles such as a pig, frog, bird, unicorn, robot or
whatever you want to create.
Session #2 - Experience the fast, exciting method of firing your whistles. The raku method of firing
involves taking glazed pieces out of a kiln at 1800°F with large tongs and putting them into a metal
can containing straw or leaves; putting a lid on the can; and letting the smoke penetrate the clay
and glazes. You will be able to take your whistles home with you after Session #2. Must be 12
years or older to participate. Minimum 5, maximum 10 participants

3D Printer Build with John Clements
Dates: Tuesdays – August 7, 14 & 21
Time: 6pm to 8pm
Cost: To Be Determined (Approximately $250 per printer)
Details: 3D Printing has become affordable and popular with hobbyists and businesses, giving
people the ability to make almost anything you can think of. 3D printing is an additive process
which extrudes thin lines of material (plastic) layer by layer until the final design is achieved. In a
series of three sessions, we will go over what 3D printing is and how to start printing and designing.
Note: A laptop with Windows, Linux, or Mac OS is recommended but not required. The sessions
will include installing software and initial usage for 3D printing and designing.
Session 1: What is 3D printing and how to get started
Session 2: Setup and first operation of your new 3D printer
Session 3: Follow-up questions and how to start creating your own designs

September 2025

Art on Demand with Raven Hill staff & volunteers
Dates: Saturdays
Time: 2pm to 4pm
Cost: $20 per workshop plus materials
Details: Join like-minded adults to explore science, history and the arts as they have changed over
time. Enjoy spirited conversation and take your creations home with you.

EVENTS

DumDum's 20ᵗʰ Birthday
Date: Sunday, July 20
Time: 2pm to 4pm
Cost: Donation $20 per family
Details: DumDum came to life in 2005. Michigan artist Lori Hough carved the Moai out of Styrofoam and then collaborated with middle school girls to complete the sculpture. In the process, the girls learned the chemistry of cement and the physics of simple machines. Join us in celebration of our beloved DumDum's 20ᵗʰ birthday!

Night Skies & Meteors with Rod Cortright
Date: Tuesday, August 12
Time: 9pm to midnight
Cost: Donation $5 per person
Details: Local astronomer Rod Cortright will present a short indoor program on meteors at 9pm and then everyone will gather outdoors to explore the night skies at Raven Hill's Observatory up by the Schoolhouse.

Space Week
Dates: Wednesday to Saturday, August 13 to 16
Time: Noon to 4pm
Cost: $10 per person per day (included with daily regular admission)
Details:
August 13 - Rocket Day – build and launch foam or stomp rockets
August 14 – Solar Day – hands-on solar activities
August 15 – Astronaut Day – train on our astronaut obstacle course
August 16 – NASA Day – explore spinoffs from the space program

Community mural painting with Kelly Boyle
Date: Saturday, August 16 (during NASA Day of Space Week)
Time: noon to 4pm
Cost: $10 per person per day (included with daily regular admission)
Details: Artist Kelly Boyle will lead a Community Mural Painting. Visitors can participate in painting a space mural to be displayed on the Connections Trail.