



Only at Interlochen: 10 Extraordinary Opportunities at Interlochen Arts Academy

Interlochen Arts Academy is a high school like no other. When you choose Interlochen for your high school experience, you'll enjoy access to resources and opportunities you won't find anywhere else. From mentorship with world-class guest artists to professional-grade facilities and equipment, you'll have everything you need to reach your highest potential in the arts and beyond. Here are **10 opportunities** you'll only experience as a student at Interlochen Arts Academy.



10 EXTRAORDINARY OPPORTUNITIES AT INTERLOCHEN ARTS ACADEMY

1. Perform alongside world-famous musicians like Yo-Yo Ma
2. Work with premium theatre equipment like a *Hamilton*-style turntable
3. Participate in the legendary “Elaine’s Week” with a world-renowned museum consultant
4. Work on professional film projects through the Interlochen Cinema Collective
5. Dance in a 25,000 square-foot facility overlooking Interlochen’s Green Lake
6. Draft your novel in The Writing House—the only building in the U. S. dedicated to the craft of pre-college writing
7. Explore the intersection of the arts with a multi-talented Broadway star
8. Tour and perform in world-famous venues
9. Learn from faculty who are renowned in their artistic fields
10. Work with professional-grade resources



1

Perform alongside world-famous musicians like Yo-Yo Ma

In March 2026, famed cellist and champion of arts education Yo-Yo Ma will give the world premiere of a new cello concerto by Wynton Marsalis with the Interlochen Arts Academy Orchestra in side-by-side performances with members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and The Philadelphia Orchestra. These performances are just an example of the many guest artists music students can meet and learn from during their time at Interlochen.

LEARN MORE: interlochen.org/america250



2 Work with premium theatre equipment like a *Hamilton*-style turntable

Thanks to generous donors, Interlochen's theatre students can rehearse and perform with moving stage parts like a push stick and a rotating turntable similar to the one used in Broadway's smash hit *Hamilton*. These top-tier tools allow for creative movement patterns and innovative staging, while giving students hands-on experience with equipment they will encounter in professional theatres.

LEARN MORE: interlochen.org/edmonia



3 Participate in the legendary “Elaine’s Week” with a world-renowned museum consultant

Every fall, Visual Arts majors take a master class with Elaine Gurian, who has served as a senior consultant with the Smithsonian Institution, deputy director for the National Museum of the American Indian, first head of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, and more. She teaches Interlochen students creative installation techniques with a focus on making exhibits accessible to a broad audience. Through interacting with guest artists like Gurian, visual arts students hear industry-leading perspectives and begin to envision how their art will shape and inform culture.

LEARN MORE: interlochen.org/elaine-gurian



4 Work on professional film projects through the Interlochen Cinema Collective

Film & New Media students at Interlochen participate in hands-on projects with the Interlochen Cinema Collective—a network of Interlochen alumni, faculty, students, and visiting artists dedicated to creating fully realized, professional-caliber films. In 2024, their short film “Jedo’s Dead” was the winner of the Texas Shorts Competition at the SXSW Film & TV Festival, earned Best U.S. Short Special Mention at the Palm Springs International Shortfest, and won Best Short at the Minnesota Film Festival. The Collective’s next project, a feature-length documentary about regenerative agriculture, is currently in production.

LEARN MORE: interlochen.org/jedos-dead



5 Dance in a 25,000 square-foot facility overlooking Interlochen's Green Lake

Interlochen's Dance Center features eight-foot-high windows with stunning lakeside views, 16-foot ceilings, sprung floors, and an outdoor deck space. Arts Academy Dance students hone their technique, dance to live accompaniment, and practice for two annual ballets in spacious, light-filled studios. Surrounded by beauty, students are inspired to reach for new technical heights.

LEARN MORE: interlochen.org/dance-center



6 Draft your novel in The Writing House—the only building in the U. S. dedicated to the craft of pre-college writing

In The Writing House, Creative Writing majors enjoy working in cozy nooks by the rustic flagstone fireplace, listening to readings by gifted guest authors in the Great Room, and chatting with friends over coffee or tea in the full kitchen. It's the perfect space for young writers to flourish and find community. Plus, it serves as a home to the in-house publication *The Red Wheelbarrow* and the online journal *The Interlochen Review*.

LEARN MORE: interlochen.org/writing-house



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Explore the intersection of the arts with a multi-talented Broadway star

Interdisciplinary Arts students work with guest artist Sydney James Harcourt, known for starring roles like “Aaron Burr” in *Hamilton*; “Simba” in Disney’s *The Lion King*; and, most recently, “Rum Tum Tugger” in the 2024 Broadway show *Cats: “The Jellicle Ball”*. A talented vocalist, dancer, and actor, Harcourt offers insights from a vibrant career in the arts.

LEARN MORE: interlochen.org/sydney-harcourt



8 Tour and perform in world-famous venues

Students across all majors at Interlochen frequently take their talents on tour across the United States and beyond. Past opportunities have included David Geffen Hall in New York's Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts; the New World Center in Miami, Florida; and the STARMUS Festival in Yerevan, Armenia.

LEARN MORE: interlochen.org/academy-touring



9 Learn from faculty who are renowned in their artistic fields

Interlochen Arts Academy students receive mentorship from arts instructors who are also professionals in their chosen fields. For example, Instructor of Creative Writing Dr. Brittany Cavallaro is a *New York Times* best-selling novelist, while Director of Dance Joseph Morrissey is a sought-after competition adjudicator who has also performed with top ballet companies around the world. As both industry leaders and gifted teachers, Arts Academy faculty are uniquely equipped to instruct and inspire the next generation of young artists.

LEARN MORE: interlochen.org/academy-faculty



10 Work with professional-grade resources

From top-of-the-line film cameras to a studio equipped with Dolby Atmos, Arts Academy students enjoy access to creative tools and professional facilities that most students only see once they reach college. Whether they're planning to pursue a career in the arts or chase other dreams, the skills they develop and the experiences they have set them apart from their peers.

LEARN MORE: interlochen.org/facilities

You won't find another arts high school like Interlochen Arts Academy, where stellar faculty, world-famous guest artists, professional-grade resources, and unmatched performance opportunities combine to create an experience like no other. Come and see for yourself.



APPLY TODAY: interlochen.org/academy

Interlochen Arts Academy is the nation's premier arts boarding high school. Guided by distinguished artists, students pursue pre-professional training in music, dance, theatre, visual arts, creative writing, interdisciplinary arts, and film alongside a robust academic curriculum, preparing them to excel in the arts and beyond. Nestled in scenic northwest Michigan, the Academy has been a leader in arts education since 1962 and has produced 51 Presidential Scholars—more than any other high school in the country.