Children’s Programming

Build a Kinetic Sand Castle
Come experience the fun of kinetic sand with A Kid Again and make your own unique sand creations! Kinetic sand is crumbly yet durable enough to hold its own shape. A Kid Again exists to foster hope, happiness and healing for children and families with life-threatening conditions.

If You Build It They Will Come!
Discover architecture by exploring with the American Institute of Architects (AIA). Create alongside professional architects and architectural students while learning about the profession of architecture. AIA provides education and services to support the architecture profession.

It’s In the Bag (FRI. & SAT.)
Got some new art to carry home? Decorate your own bags with Art Garden Academy! The Academy offers open studios and classes in Gahanna for kids and adults to help grow art appreciation and personal skills.

Dance to Your Own Beat
Try out tap dance for the first time in a fun environment with Artisan Tap Ensemble! They will have tap shoes and tap boards ready for you to make a rhythm. Artisan Tap offers dance classes, competition team opportunities and their very own ballet academy.

An Art Piece + You = Beautiful
The Arts & College Preparatory Academy invites you to contribute to a collaborative art piece led by their students. ACPA is dedicated to empowering its students with an arts and college preparatory education in an environment of safety and inclusion.
Print your heART out!
Join the Central Ohio Education Association to learn a simple relief printmaking technique using foam and markers. Great for kids and the young at heart.

Get Into Character
Join Columbus Children’s Theatre for hands-on adventures in castle creation and stained-glass art. Up your acting game with CCT’s theater activities, from improv workshops to onstage performances featuring highlights from their upcoming 2023-2024 season.

Columbus Skyline Jumble (SAT. & SUN.)
Join Columbus Music and Art Academy in creating your own version of the Columbus skyline. The Academy offers the award-winning Columbus International Children’s Choir, art classes, music theory classes and singing lessons for kids ages 4-18 in greater Columbus.

Explore the Art of Printmaking
Learn letterpress techniques on an antique Kelsey Excelsior printing press with Columbus Printed Arts Center. Join them to print your own postcard using hand-set lead and wooden type and learn more about CPAC’s studio, education and exhibition offerings.

Collage like Matisse!
Henri Matisse was a French visual artist, known for his use of bold creative color. Join Columbus Recreation and Parks and create your own colorful cut out paper collages inspired by Matisse’s later works.

Meet Your Favorite Zoo Animals
The Columbus Zoo & Aquarium is home to more than 10,000 animals representing more than 600 species worldwide. Stop in and play Plinko for prizes and an occasional meet and greet with some of the Zoo’s favorite costumed characters.

Woof, Woof!
Build your own dog with the Franklin County Auditor’s Office using precut construction paper, glue and other arts and craft materials, or explore the dog-themed activity book with puzzles and coloring pages. K-6th grade students will also have the opportunity to draw and submit a picture of themselves and the dogs they own or care for as part of the auditor’s office annual “Me and My Pal” drawing contest.

Fly Your Flag (SAT.)
Color your own identity flag with Kaleidoscope Youth Center. Other activities include pre-printed coloring pages with LGBTQ+ related content, such as famous LGBTQ+ icons and the Gender Unicorn. Kaleidoscope is youth-informed and youth-led, helping young people find everything in a center designed by, and for, them.
Choose Your Own Art Adventure

The Ronald McDonald House’s amazing group of volunteers will be offering various craft projects and interactive arts over the weekend, including banner-making, circus arts, music, improvisation, physical theater, magic, quilting, Art by Kyoko and performing characters.

BE KIND and BE-JEWELED!

Use supplies provided by KINDkamp to make your very own beautiful, beaded bracelet that says ‘BE KIND.’ They’ll also provide affirmation coloring books to take home. KINDkamp helps young girls to lead from a place of confidence, self-awareness, independence and individuality.

If You Could be Any Animal...

Always a family favorite, Salon Schools’ talented volunteers will make you up as an animal or anything your imagination can dream up. Salon Schools Group provides training that is complete, relevant and inspiring for careers that make people look and feel better.

Unlock a World of Your Own (SAT. & SUN.)

If you like to create stories, make Mad Libs, play with craft supplies or just have fun, check out Thurber House. Thurber House celebrates the written word for the education and entertainment of the broadest possible audience and continuing the legacy of James Thurber.

Quilt Your Own Keychain

Make a two-inch key fob using an embroidery machine with Quilt Beginnings. You can select your material, thread color, border design and initials and take home a completed key fob with key ring.

Shake It Up

Join Kindermusik with Listen Sing & Grow to create your very own tambourine. Simple items like paper plates, twist ties and jingle bells will be transformed into a beautiful instrument, perfect for creating a parade with friends, jamming in a band or celebrating special occasions.

Color Your World (FRI. & SAT.)

Join National Youth Advocate Program (NYAP) for fun with coloring sheets featuring friends and family. NYAP provides opportunities and resources to youth and families through their innovative programs and services.

Cubist Collage (FRI.)

Make your own Picasso-inspired collage face artwork with Ohio Craft Museum. Use a variety of materials including pre-made shapes, paper, sharpies and more. Explore like Picasso without worrying about scale or perspective—mismatching is encouraged.
ADULT/TEEN PROGRAMMING

The Adult/Teen programming in the Hands-On Activities Village consists of local professionals providing in-depth crafting and arts activities with Festival attendees. Due to the limited size of these programs, those interested in these activities must register. Use the QR codes to register in advance or, if space allows, you can register at the Festival.

Cookie-Palooza! (FRI.)
Get plenty o’ smiles when you learn to decorate sugar cookies with Plenty O’ Cookies! They will look great and taste even better! Register by scanning the QR code >

This One’s For You (SAT.)
Join Kym’s Kanvas in making pieces of art that are uniquely you! Located in Gahanna, Kym’s Kanvas’ philosophy is one of inclusion, acceptance and the courage to artistically express oneself. Classes are scheduled at specific times. Register by scanning the QR code >

Bloom Baby Bloom (SUN.)
Petals that Inspire will help you make your own floral arrangements. A portion of all sales supports workforce development for those with barriers to employment in our community. Register by scanning the QR code >

CCT Onstage
Columbus Children’s Theatre educates and involves young people of all backgrounds in the theater arts. Through their programs they foster self-esteem and self-discovery by emphasizing discipline, integrity, team building and communication skills in a positive and creative environment. Their onstage performances will feature highlights from their upcoming 2023-2024 season.

Also Onstage Through the Weekend:
- Musicologie
- Kindermusik with Learn Sing & Grow
- Artisan Tap Ensemble
- Ron Spangler Magic
- Artega Wright
- Steve & the Nacho Band with Ronald McDonald House
- And more!

GALLERIES FOR KID AND TEEN ART COLLECTORS

Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
The Children’s Gallery has been a Festival favorite for years because we believe you’re never too young to start collecting art. Saturday and Sunday kids 12 and under can shop a special collection of artwork by Festival artists but priced $5 and under. Come early for the best selection! New this year! Teen Art Gallery for young art enthusiasts aged 13-17.