

Teen Studio Art Exhibition 2026 is organized for the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis by Brandon Barr, Teen and Adult Programs Manager.

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### Learn More

Visit our website for more information about *Teen Studio Art Exhibition 2026*, including an **audio guide** from our Learning & Engagement team.



**Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis**  
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St. Louis, MO 63108  
314.535.4660

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**Gallery Guide**  
Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis

March 6–August 9, 2026



# Teen Studio Art Exhibition 2026



Teens in the New Art in the Neighborhood Fall 2025 program with Resident Teaching Artist Ahlam Khamis. Photo: CAM Staff.

This annual exhibition presents work made by artists in CAM's Teen Studio Art programs—LEAP Middle School Initiative and New Art in the Neighborhood (NAN). Each program is taught by members of our Resident Teaching Artist (RTA) cohort and provides participants with the opportunity to learn new skills and work creatively. Programs are held in our Learning & Engagement Studio, tuition-free with all project materials provided.

*Teen Studio Art Exhibition 2026* features work made by students in 2024 and 2025. RTAs designed unique curricula centered on the themes of “confluence” and “collaborative futures,” inviting students to engage

with the many meanings of water within artistic practice—as material, as metaphor for change and connection, and as a lens for understanding ongoing community development in St. Louis. Students engaged with local groups, including leaders of the Brickline Greenway, and used art making to imagine more connected and equitable futures for themselves and their communities.

## LEAP Middle School Initiative

LEAP is a ten-week after-school program for middle school artists (grades 6–8), offering focused exploration of contemporary art practices through close mentorship with professional artists and educators based in St. Louis. Students explore a different artistic discipline each semester. This program is tuition-free with all project materials included.

During the 2024–25 school year, Resident Teaching Artists Simiya Sudduth, Misty Long-Donoho, and Anna Katz created collaborative murals, ice dyed silk, and ceramic projects that explore the themes of “confluence” and “collaborative futures.”

Under the instruction of RTA Simiya Sudduth, the participants created a collaborative mural using a grid format to provide connecting points for each individual’s composition. This allowed them to see how their individual voices can become part of a larger entity and artwork.



LEAP students participating in a team building exercise with Misty Long-Donoho. Photo: CAM staff.

RTA Misty Long-Donoho used various media like wool and the practice of ice dying, which uses pigment powders and ice cubes to dye the fabric as the ice melts, to provide a foundational understanding of material process. As students expanded their knowledge, they also sharpened their conceptual thinking skills by exploring the theme of confluence through abstract collage.

RTA Anna Katz gave the students a deep dive into ceramics, teaching core techniques through collaborative projects that explored the ecological and communal impact of outdoor spaces on the Great Rivers Greenway. The class took a field trip to the Cortex Metro Station’s outdoor space along the Brickline Greenway where they created charcoal rubbings of different textures they observed. The works were later used as sources of inspiration in a ceramic project that involved sculpting, glazing, and collaboration amongst the students.



Fall LEAP Students visit the Great Rivers Greenway with Resident Teaching Artist Anna Katz. Photo: CAM staff.

**2024–25 LEAP artists include:** Hana Al Harash, Mina Bailey, Chloè Blue, Maggie Brigman, Aidan Bright, Dante Charleston, Charlotte Goddard, Ehron Gottfredsen, Juniper Hamon, Wilhelmina Herman, Aly Holmes, Khalifa Jdia-Bernhardt, Mabel Kanak, Danilo Kepecs, Lydia Lockhart, Carmen López, Brynn McDonough, Crosby Miller, Sarah Monshausen, Karma Nenninger, Lola Nunez, Aiden Oliver, Colin Oliver, Ana Rhim, Avennah Scholl, Kaylah Scholl, Christian Stavro, Luke Stavro, Cora June Toney, Maya Turner, Nadia Turner, Bix Winter, Evalea Woody, Jibron Yasein, and Nicholas Yates

**Applications for the fall 2026 LEAP program open July 13 and close August 23. Apply at [camstl.org/leap](https://camstl.org/leap)**



LEAP students working on a ceramic project with Anna Katz. Photo: CAM staff.

## New Art in the Neighborhood

Since 1993, New Art in the Neighborhood (NAN) has supported the creative development of high school artists (grades 9–12) by combining project-based learning with open studio exploration. Selected through a competitive application process, up to 15 teens receive art instruction from Resident Teaching Artists, Museum staff, and visiting artists. This 12-week program is tuition free with all project materials included.

During the 2024–25 school year, Resident Teaching Artists Dee Levang, Adrienne Outlaw, and Ahlam Khamis created encaustic prints, recycled artworks and mythological installations that explored the themes of “confluence” and “collaborative futures.”

RTA Dee Levang introduced the students to encaustics and other mediums while using the Japanese principle of *wabi-sabi* to highlight the beauty of imperfection as a defining aspect of the artwork.



NAN students Dani Fu (left) and Ivy Kanak (right) with recycled artworks inspired by *Great Rivers Biennial 2024* artist Saj Issa. Photo: CAM staff.

RTA Adrienne Outlaw had the students investigate the intersection of natural and human-made objects through recycled materials. From recreating artworks in the galleries in bottle caps to fusing together plastic bags into abstract compositions, every project encouraged the students to reflect on the environment and how to envision a better future.

RTA Ahlam Khamis provided the students with new experiences through live performances, musical collaborations, and installations. One project integrated contemporary fictional characters like Slender Man, Marvel villains, and historical mythological creatures. After creating their own artworks, the class cohesively blended the works together within a larger dynamic artwork designed specifically for CAM’s Education Galleries.



*Great Rivers Biennial 2024* artist Saj Issa visits NAN. Photo: CAM staff.

**2024–25 NAN artists include:** Tanshire Anderson, Amiyah Arend, Kingston Collins, Caroline Entrup, Emma Fair, Bennett Fleschert, Dani Fu, Norah Goetz, Breonna Gray, Leanna Haynes, Amani Hindmon, Kennedi Jones, Fern Kanak, Finn Kanak, Ivy Kanak, Eavan Kryah, Salem Lambert, Trent’Zell Miller, Isaiah Morrow, Tamani Sauls, Jules Sawabini, Kylee Smith, Tariq Upchurch-Bey, Jovi Vaughn, Moth Whittenburg, Jacob Williams, Benjamin Yates, and Terilynn Zimmerman

**Applications for the fall 2026 NAN program open July 13 and close August 23. Apply at [camstl.org/nan](https://camstl.org/nan)**



NAN student Trent’Zell Miller with a recycled artwork inspired by *Shinichi Sawada: Agents of Clay*. Photo: CAM staff.