

**THE COOPER UNION  
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT  
OF SCIENCE AND ART**

# High School Outreach Opportunities

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The Cooper Union was founded in 1859 with the commitment to advance diverse and fair access to education in architecture, art, and engineering. Cooper's High School Outreach programs aid in the institution's mission by supporting college readiness and nurturing intellectual and creative interests among students from a wide range of backgrounds.

## **STEM SATURDAYS**

STEM Saturdays is a free program open to New York City high school students (grades 9 to 12) with priority given to students who identify with a group underrepresented in engineering careers. It is taught by Cooper Union staff, undergraduates, and graduate students, and meets during the school year for 6 or 8 sessions. Students develop design, engineering, and entrepreneurial skills as they create "technology for good" to solve a current or emerging problem for their community.

## **SUMMER STEM**

Summer STEM provides an opportunity for high school students (grades 9 to 11) from the New York region to tackle research and engineering design in a college setting. Students work in teams alongside Cooper Union faculty, staff, and undergraduates on hands-on projects that allow them to explore high-tech fields such as robotics, data science, alternative energy, and urban infrastructure, with nine course options and three-, four-, or six-week programs from which to choose.

## **STEM DAYS**

STEM Days is a field trip program for third through 12th graders where students are exposed to the diversity and impact of the STEM fields on modern society. The day includes a tour of the Albert Nerken School of Engineering and ends in a research lab. In the lab students work on an engineering challenge guided by faculty, technical staff, and current Cooper students.

## **STEM INVENTORS**

Stem Inventors gives middle and high school students in The Cooper Union's surrounding neighborhood a chance to participate in multi-day design and engineering workshops. Students are immersed in a hands-on engineering project that broadens their understanding of engineering and design concepts, developing skills through problem solving.

## **STEM SCHOLARS**

STEM Scholars is a paid internship and mentoring program for New York City 10th and 11th grade students participating in the six-week Summer STEM program. Selected students learn leadership skills, develop a peer and professional network, and participate in community service projects.

## **SUMMER ART INTENSIVE**

The Cooper Union Summer Art Intensive program offers high school students (rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors) the opportunity to immerse themselves in artmaking with professional artists as their instructors. Over a four-week period, students learn alongside peers who share their passion for art and design. Cooper Union undergraduate students serve as teaching assistants to enrich the student experience.

## SUMMER ART INTENSIVE (CONTINUED)

Students in the program choose from a concentration in:

**Drawing | Animation | Digital Photography | Graphic Design | Studio Practice (available to rising seniors)**

Students participate in weekly workshops and attend field trips to museums, galleries, and artists' studios. In the final week of the program, an exhibition will be mounted, showcasing program-created student work for a celebratory event with friends and family.

All materials and museum entry fees are included in the tuition.

Students from New York City public schools are eligible to apply for scholarships that cover tuition and materials for the program.

## SATURDAY PROGRAM

The Cooper Union's Saturday Program offers eight free studio art courses to New York City public high school students. Saturday Program students attend weekly, full-day sessions during the academic year for in-depth instruction in one of the below studio courses.

**Architecture | Digital Media (New Forms) | Drawing | Graphic Design | Painting | Sculpture (New Materials) | Senior Studio Visual Art (12th grade only) | Senior Studio Design (12th grade only)**

Courses are taught in Cooper's art studios by undergraduate art majors with guided instruction by School of Art faculty and visiting professional artists, focusing on skill development and technique refinement.

Writing workshops are integrated into the curriculum to bridge visual and written thinking. Students take multiple field trips to New York City museums, galleries, and artist studios. The program culminates with a showcase exhibition of students' work for friends and family.

High school seniors may take a specialized "Senior Studio" college preparation course and produce a competitive portfolio for the college admission process to art and architecture schools.

## INTRODUCTION TO ARCHITECTURE

The Introduction to Architecture summer program provides high school students with an introduction to the field of architecture and the means for expressing their ideas in a variety of media.

It's an intensive, five-week course offered to rising junior and senior high school students and taught by faculty in The Irwin S. Chanin School of Architecture. The aim is to familiarize students with architectural thinking and design while developing a portfolio of projects and taking advantage of the school's location in downtown Manhattan by exploring local architecture. The program includes lectures, workshops, and tutorials concentrating on the key principles of architectural design—geometry, structure, and function. The goal is for students to learn how to translate their ideas into three-dimensional form.



THE COOPER UNION

### LEARN MORE:

[cooper.edu/academics/outreach-and-pre-college](https://cooper.edu/academics/outreach-and-pre-college)

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