

# WONDERWORKS

PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAMS IN ARTS, LITERATURE,  
AND FILM FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON  
AND RICE UNIVERSITY

11 JUNE – 13 JULY 2018

# Six Cures for the Summertime Blues

*Soak up something besides rays this summer with Wonderworks' annual offering of programs for talented, intellectually curious high school students. Expand your cultural and artistic horizons through learning experiences that are intense yet relaxed, challenging yet fun, and way too cool for school. Tuition waivers are available for (but limited to) academically well-qualified Houston-area and Texas students who demonstrate financial need.*

Roy Lichtenstein  
*Girl with Tear I*, 1977  
Oil and Magna on canvas  
70 x 50 inches (177.8 x 127 cm)  
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York  
Gift of the artist, by exchange, 1980 80.2732



ARCHITECTURE  
FILMMAKING  
THEATER  
ART HISTORY  
FICTION/FILM STUDIES  
NONFICTION/JOURNALISM  
plus *College Essay Workshop*

Admission is competitive – Wonderworks requires at least a 3.0 cumulative grade-point average plus a high level of achievement in relevant core subjects and PSAT scores consistent with the College Board's benchmark criteria for college readiness in order to *consider* an application. **Enrollment is limited to students who will be entering grades 10, 11, or 12 next fall or who will have just graduated from high school this spring.** Wonderworks offers day programs only; no residential accommodations are available.

Parents, teachers, and counselors should bear in mind that **Wonderworks' enrichment programs approach a near-college level of complexity and are intended for mature, self-motivated, intellectually curious, and academically proficient students.** Applicants who have not taken the PSAT or SAT may submit the results of the ACT equivalents of those tests. If none of these tests has been taken, applicants may submit the results of another nationally administered and normed test, such as Stanford or Iowa.

**All admissions decisions are made on a need-blind basis** – we don't take into account whether you can or cannot afford the tuition; we're just looking for the very

best students, period. **Tuition waivers are made available to academically well-qualified Houston-area and Texas high school students who demonstrate financial need** according to criteria specified in the financial aid section of the application form. To sustain this policy, no other financial aid is offered. If you truly need a tuition waiver, ask for it and show us why, but if you don't need assistance, don't ask for it – we need to save it for those who do.

As a rule of thumb, if you receive either a federally-funded free or reduced-cost lunch at school or if you are enrolled in the state Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), you automatically qualify for a tuition waiver, subject to verification. Students whose family's adjusted gross income is within four times the federally-defined poverty level also qualify for full-tuition waivers (<https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines>). If your parents are divorced, financial information must be submitted by **both** parents.

To be considered for admission and need-based financial aid, if required, please fill out the application form and then have your school submit it along with an unofficial transcript and unofficial copies of test score reports, plus any supporting

documentation necessary to demonstrate financial need. Additional copies of the application form may be downloaded as PDFs from [wonderworkshouston.org](http://wonderworkshouston.org) if you choose not to apply online.

**For full consideration, applications must be received by 4 May 2018; all applicants will be notified of acceptance by 28 May.** Late applications will be considered only if space remains available. Wonderworks considers applications on a rolling basis beginning in February.

Early applications are encouraged and will receive early decisions. If you have further questions, please e-mail [info@wonderworkshouston.org](mailto:info@wonderworkshouston.org) or call 713.301.4882.

*Wonderworks Summer 2018 is made possible in part by support from*

HOUSTON ENDOWMENT  
THE ELKINS FOUNDATION  
THE BROWN FOUNDATION, INC.

**Wonderworks, PO Box 667550  
Houston, Texas 77266-7550  
[wonderworkshouston.org](http://wonderworkshouston.org)**

## ARCHITECTURE

### BY DESIGN

*in association with the  
Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture and Design,  
University of Houston*

Design studio, lectures, and field trips.

Working with chipboard study models, yellow-trace, and your own hands, you'll originate designs for small building projects ranging from fast-food stands and studio dwellings to modest civic, cultural, and commercial buildings. Daily lectures, presentations, and films will introduce key concepts in architectural history and building practices, along with profiles of architects past and present and case studies of exceptional and representative buildings. Field trips will give you a first-hand look at architects' offices and buildings of special note in Houston, Fort Worth, Dallas, San Antonio, and Austin. Concludes with a portfolio workshop and studio visit/reception for friends and family. No prior experience in architecture or drafting required.

**M-F, 9 AM – 3 PM, PLUS FIELD TRIPS; \$900**

The word Architecture has...the meaning of the art of building nobly and ornamentally. Now, I believe the practice of this art to be one of the most important things which man can turn his hand to, and the consideration of it to be worth the attention of serious people, not for an hour only, but for a good part of their lives, even though they may not have to do with it professionally.

**WILLIAM MORRIS**, "The Prospects of Art in Civilization," 1881, *Hopes and Fears for Art*

In high school...my teacher of art, William F. Gray... gave a course in architecture...that just made my really strong desire to be a painter, fade. Architecture struck me between the eye and the eyeball...I was struck by...this art...that...you can *walk around and be in*.

An architect does not develop *easily*, because there is so much...that a talent must go through.... I believe it takes a long time to be an architect.

**LOUIS I. KAHN**, *The Pennsylvania Gazette*, December 1972

## FILM MAKING

### MOVING PICTURES

*in association with the Jack J. Valenti School of Communication, University of Houston*

Production workshop and film screenings.

Learn on the job as you work in small groups to script, act, film, and digitally edit short narrative films. You'll also cover the principles of story-boarding, lighting, photography, continuity, sound, and other fundamentals. Each afternoon you'll watch one of the most extraordinary movies ever made, such as *Citizen Kane*, *The Rules of the Game*, *Casablanca*, *Nights of Cabiria*, *The Shop Around the Corner*, *The Searchers*, *The Apartment*, *The 400 Blows*, *M\*A\*S\*H*, *The Godfather*, *The Big Lebowski*, and *Rushmore*, introduced and discussed by presenters from UH, the Rice University Cinema, and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. Concludes with a screening of student films for friends and family. No prior filmmaking experience required.

**M-F, 9 AM – 4 PM; \$750**

Apply online ☺ or by mail! Need-based scholarships available for ac

WONDERWORKS

## ART HISTORY

### CLOSER LOOKS

*in association with the Department of Art History,  
Rice University*

Lectures, discussions, films, and field trips.

Through in-depth explorations of paintings, sculptures, drawings, prints, and photographs, you'll acquire and refine critical looking skills. You'll delve into the work of masters you know and some you may not, from Phidias to Picasso, Hogarth to Hopper, Raphael to Rauschenberg. What's more, you'll benefit from the insights of eminent historians and critics, following in the slipstream of Vasari, the inventor of modern art history (spiced with gossip), who took it upon himself, while the Renaissance was still a work in progress, to: "note somewhat carefully the methods, manners, processes, behavior, and the mind of the painters and sculptors, investigating into the causes and roots of things." Includes behind-the-scenes visits to museums in Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth, and elsewhere.

**M-F, 10 AM – 4 PM, PLUS FIELD TRIPS; \$500**

...no generation is interested in Art in quite the same way as any other; each generation, like each individual, brings to the contemplation of art its own categories of appreciation, makes its own demands upon art, and has its own uses for art.

**T. S. ELIOT**, "Matthew Arnold," 3 March 1933, *The Use of Poetry and the Use of Criticism*

Taste can't help you understand what art can be. The difficulty is to make a painting that is alive, so when it dies in fifty years, it goes back to the purgatory of art history. As far as art history is concerned, we know that in spite of what the artist said or did, something stayed on that was completely independent of what the artist desired; it was grabbed by society, which made it its own. *The artist doesn't count*. He does not count. Society takes what it wants.

**MARCEL DUCHAMP**, Calvin Tomkins, *Marcel Duchamp: The Afternoon Interviews*, 1964

## FICTION / FILM STUDIES

### STORY LINES

*in association with the Department of English and the Creative Writing Program, University of Houston*

Readings, lectures, discussions, and film screenings.

Storytelling is common to all cultures, springing from the experience and imagination of narrators and auditors, writers and readers, movie-makers and -goers alike. You'll experience the magic of such masters as Guy de Maupassant, Nikolai Gogol, Anton Chekhov, Virginia Woolf, Ring Lardner, Raymond Chandler, Eudora Welty, Muriel Spark, Philip Roth, and Alice Munro. Besides reading short stories, long stories, and short novels, each afternoon you'll also watch films adapted from or created as fiction, including *The Lady Eve*, *Stagecoach*, *Bicycle Thieves*, *It Happened One Night*, *Small Change*, *Election*, *Winter's Bone*, and *E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial*. For avid readers (and watchers) only!

**M-F, 10 AM – 4 PM; \$500**



Optional COLLEGE ESSAY WORKSHOP for rising 12th grade Wonderworks students

## THEATER

### PLAY BY PLAY

*in association with the Department of English,  
Rice University*

Acting workshop, plays on film, and criticism.

Theater is one of the liveliest and oldest forms of human interaction, in which the pleasures of performing and beholding join together, assisted by artifice and suspension of disbelief. It may also have been the first of the arts to elicit a written tradition of criticism as a supplement to word of mouth. Here you'll get the opportunity to assume the roles of performer, spectator, and critic – a multi-tasking trifecta that will have you learning lines and eventually stealing extra bows in a very, very off-Broadway showcase production for friends and family, while also watching and reacting to some of the most compelling plays and performances ever captured on film. No prior dramatic or comedic experience required, but please don't chew the scenery.

**M-F, 9 AM – 4 PM; \$750**

I got into directing by getting a little 8mm Kodak movie camera and making little movies. I used to just crank them out, little one-reelers, one after the other. They were just little dramatic exercises. It was a hobby and nothing more, although subconsciously I was beginning to take it seriously. I began to experiment and ran the gamut of what I now call the student film when I was about fourteen. [...]

The films grew larger and larger until one day I made a feature that ran all of two and a half hours. I had the Eastman lab apply a sound strip and I rented a machine called a Bolex Sonorizer and post-synched the whole film. The actors came in and watched their lips move and went through one or two rehearsals before they spoke to themselves on the white screen sheet. It was my first feature, a science-fiction picture. I get a kick out of seeing it every now and again. It's in the left-hand drawer of my bureau at home. Four dusty little reels.

**STEVEN SPIELBERG**, 1978, *The Great Moviemakers: The Next Generation*

There's no business like show business.

**IRVING BERLIN**, *Annie Get Your Gun*, 1946

Even in aristocratic nations, plays constitute the most democratic part of literature. No literary pleasures are more accessible to the crowd than those that come from seeing a play. To experience them requires neither study nor preparation. They grip you in the midst of your preoccupations and your ignorance. [...] The theaters of aristocratic nations have always been filled with non-aristocrats. Only in the theater did the upper classes mingle with the middle and lower classes and agree, if not to accept their opinion, then at least to suffer them to express one. It is in the theater that scholars and men of letters have always had the greatest difficulty establishing the supremacy of their taste over that of the people and resisting the influence of the people's taste on their own. The pit has often imposed its law on the boxes.

**ALEXIS DE TOCQUEVILLE**, "Some Observations on the Theater of Democratic Peoples," *Democracy in America*, Vol. 2, 1840

academically well-qualified Houston-area and Texas high school students.

**HOUSTON.ORG**

## NONFICTION / JOURNALISM

### STRANGER THAN FICTION

*in association with the Jack J. Valenti School of  
Communication, University of Houston*

Readings, lectures, discussions, and film screenings.

The art of nonfiction is no less demanding and intricate than that of fiction, not to mention the extra-added leg/wing work of following the facts around the corner or around the world. Although the economics of traditional media are undergoing internet induced transition, the audience for well constructed, observed, and researched non-fiction and journalism persists, just as films based on true stories have become a staple not only of documentarians and independent filmmakers but Hollywood too. You'll read articles and selections from books by an all-star cast of writers and watch and dissect films such as *All the President's Men*, *The Insider*, *The Social Network*, *Erin Brockovich*, *Spotlight*, *The Big Short*, and *Bernie*. For avid readers (and watchers) only!

**M-F, 10 AM – 4 PM; \$500**

I think we erroneously give pride of place to the act of writing rather than the act of reading....but a certain kind of reading is a very high-level intellectual process. I have such reverence for that kind of sensitive reading – it is not just absorbing things and identifying what's wrong but a much deeper thing.... Anyway, this separation is fairly recent: not long ago the great readers were the great writers, the great critics were the great novelists, the great poets were the great translators. People didn't make these big distinctions about which one was more thrilling than the other.

**TONI MORRISON**, *Paris Review* 132, 1994

I believe that we are losing our interest in reading and that many people no longer have time for the isolation and concentration that preserve the personal space surrounding the act of reading.

**JULIA KRISTEVA**, *L'Humanité*, 27 May 1994

Truth is stranger than fiction, but it is because Fiction is obliged to stick to possibilities; Truth isn't.

**MARK TWAIN**, *Following the Equator: A Journey Around the World*, 1897

I write about very dry things—baseball, statistics, subprime-mortgage crisis, high-frequency trading—who cares, really? If you came and told me, The stock market is rigged, and here's how it's rigged, and now, Michael, you can go explain to the world how it's rigged, I'm not sure I'd have any interest. I don't care that much that the stock market's rigged. I care a little bit, but not enough to sit down and write about it. Where I start to care is when a character walks into this world and discovers it's rigged. I care how he behaves once he has the understanding. The moral choices he makes—no question about it—those are what engage my emotions. And I guess I tend to like brave people who, somehow, are at odds with the environment in which they find themselves.

only; keyed to 2018-19 Common Application prompts. 16-20 JULY; M-F, 10 AM – 3 PM; FREE

**1 GENERAL INFORMATION**

To be completed by the student:

Which program are you applying for? (circle one)

- By Design: **ARCHITECTURE**
- Moving Pictures: **FILMMAKING**
- Closer Looks: **ART HISTORY/APPRECIATION**
- Story Lines: **FICTION/FILM STUDIES**
- Stranger than Fiction: **NONFICTION/JOURNALISM**
- Play by Play: **THEATER**

name (last, first, middle)

street address

city/zip code

e-mail (your own or that of a parent or teacher – specify)

home telephone

cell telephone

date of birth

sex

high school

grade you will enter next fall (10, 11, 12, college)

school district

mother/female guardian's name

address

telephone

e-mail (if any)

occupation

college graduate?

father/male guardian's name

address

telephone

e-mail (if any)

occupation

college graduate?

**2 NEED-BASED FINANCIAL AID**

To be completed by the student and parent or guardian ONLY if applying for financial aid:

Do you receive a federally subsidized free or reduced-cost lunch at school?  yes  no

If yes, have a school official verify below:

signature of school official

printed name of school official

title

As proof, please also attach a copy of the official determination of eligibility.

Are you enrolled in the Texas Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)?

yes  no

• Be sure to redact Social Security numbers from all copies of documents submitted •

If yes (and you do *not* receive a free or reduced cost lunch), please attach a copy of the enrollment certificate.

If the answer to either question above is yes, you qualify for a tuition waiver, and need not provide family income information below.

If the answer to both questions is no, but your family cannot afford the tuition, please provide the following information:

**My family's ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME for 2017 (or 2016 if the 2017 return has not been filed—circle one) was: \$ \_\_\_\_\_.**

As documentation, you MUST attach a copy of a signed and filed first page of Form 1040EZ or the first two pages of Form 1040 or 1040A and, if self-employed, Schedule C "Profit or Loss from Business" from Form 1040. If parents are divorced and/or file separately, **both** must provide copies of tax returns.

**For all tuition waiver applicants:**

I affirm that the information provided above is true and correct and that this is a full disclosure of our family's financial circumstances and also that we truly need assistance.

signature of parent or guardian

printed name of parent or guardian

All information provided in this section is subject to independent verification. False or misleading statements and/or material omissions will cause the application for enrollment as well as financial assistance to be denied.

**3 ACADEMIC PROFILE**

To be filled out by a teacher who knows you well and/or a counselor. Your teacher or counselor should then mail this application, along with an unofficial transcript and unofficial copies of PSAT score reports plus any supporting documentation for financial aid, directly to:

**Wonderworks, PO Box 667550  
Houston, Texas 77266-7550**

Your application cannot be processed without an unofficial transcript and PSAT scores.

Cumulative grade point average: \_\_\_\_\_  
(If other than 4 point scale, please specify.)

Class ranking (approximate):

- top 10 percent  other (explain)
- top 25 percent

PSAT	Score	Percentile
Reading/Writing	_____	_____
Mathematics	_____	_____
Combined	_____	_____

Month and year taken \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide unofficial copy of score report.

The student's curriculum can best be described as:  honors/gifted  college prep  regular

The student's behavior is:

- always courteous and respectful
- usually courteous and respectful (explain)

Overall I would recommend this student:

- most highly
- highly
- with reservations (explain)

Any additional comments you feel would help us assess the student's abilities. (Attach a separate sheet if necessary.)

signature

printed name

title

daytime and evening telephone numbers

e-mail address



**Have you remembered to include an unofficial transcript and an unofficial copy of PSAT score reports?**

**EARLY DECISIONS FOR EARLY APPLICATIONS** ☺