

building BOATS building KIDS



CHICAGO
MARITIME
Arts Center

Our 2019 Programs



Boat Building programs for students ages 11 - 17 years offers hands-on woodworking skills, problem solving, and how to work well with others, and a connection to the Chicago waterways through building small boats. They also learn about career options that don't require looking at a video screen every day.



These 40 hour programs take students on a journey to measure and fit parts, assemble and finish a small rowing skiff, then launch and row their boat on the Chicago River or a Lakefront harbor. For many kids, this may be their first time on the water.



The Boating Skills and Marine Ecology program teaches kids safe boat-handling, how to measure water quality and what we can do to improve it. Kids will also learn knot-tying, how to moor, row and steer a boat and the fun of exploring one of Chicago's finest natural harbors - Jackson Park.

Our Mission

To bring kids to the lake and river that made Chicago, to teach the maritime arts and marine ecology and to help kids find themselves and new pathways by learning to build boats.



Rewarding Career Options

Since 1990, Chicago Public School students taking vocational training have declined from over 15,000 to a few hundred. Yet despite the emphasis on college prep, more than 80% of CPS students who graduate from high school do not complete a four year college.



Boat-building teaches team-work, STEM skills and the safe use of hand tools such as hammers, saws, screw drivers and hand planes. Through this experience students learn there are rewarding and vibrant career options which do not require four years of college training and the debt that often goes with it.

2019 Program Schedule

March 26 - June 1

After School Boat Building Program at Eleanor Boat House - Park No. 571

2754 S. Eleanor Street, Chicago, IL 60608

Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:30 - 6:30pm - 10 weeks

For Teens ages 11-15 years old

May 6 - May 18

In school Boat Building Program at Urban Prairie Waldorf School

Class limited to UPWS students

May 11

Chicago River Day with Friends of the Chicago River at Canal Street Marina

2129 S. Canal Street, Chicago, IL 60616

Saturday, May 11 from 9 am - Noon

For Teens & Adults - Ages 11 years and up

June 19 - 30

Summer Boat Building Camp at Southern Shore Yacht Club

6401 S. Richard Drive, Chicago, IL 60649

Wednesday - Saturday from 10 am - 3 pm - week one and Monday - Friday from 10 am - 3 pm - week two

For Teens ages 11-15 years old

July 15 - 27

Summer Boat Building Class at Chicago Sailing

3161 N Elston Avenue, Chicago, IL 60618

Mon.-Fri. 10 am - 3 pm - 2 weeks

For Teens ages 11-15 years old

July 29 - August 2

Summer Boating Skills/Marine Ecology Program at Southern Shore Yacht Club

6401 S. Richard Drive, Chicago, IL 60649

Monday - Friday from 10 am - 3 pm - 1 week

For Teens ages 11-15 years old

August 5 - 17

Summer Boat-building Class at Carpenter's Union Apprentice Training Center

2141 S. Union Ave., Chicago, IL 60616

Monday - Friday from 10 am - 3 pm - 2 weeks

For Teens ages 13-17 years old

For more information on instructors, class size and other program details, [visit www.chicagomaritime.org](http://www.chicagomaritime.org)

Testimonials



“Our son loves wooden boats, He was thrilled to help build a real boat this past summer taught properly by CMAC at the Carpenter’s Union Training Center. Every kid can do it!”
– Participant Parent



“The boat building program doesn’t just build teamwork and leadership skills. Now as we’re looking past high school, we’re finding this unique experience is a standout.”
– Participant Parent



“By far, one of the most phenomenally engaging programs ever. It totally exposed my children to a wonderful perspective of Chicago.” – Participant Parent



“I still can’t believe we built a real boat. A real boat and it didn’t sink!” – Participant

“I want to do this again! Everyone was so nice and patient. It helped me learn how to focus and still have fun.” – Participant





CHICAGO MARITIME Arts Center

special thanks to **Our Partners**

- Chicago Park District
- Jackson Park Yacht Club
- Southern Shore Yacht Club
- Carpenters and Joiners Union
- Chicago Sailing
- Friends of the River

and Sponsors



Chicago Maritime Arts Center is a registered 501(c)3 charitable organization.

WWW.CHICAGOMARITIME.ORG

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