2015–2016 Schedule of Events

Make your reservations early for best seating.

Programs, artists, and dates are subject to change.
Mission

Viterbo University’s Ronald McDonald Arts for Young America program strives to provide a quality arts experience for school-age children through opportunities in theatre, music, dance, and visual art in a variety of formats and venues.

To Order Tickets

You must order online at www.viterbo.edu/aya. Click the Order Tickets button. You must fill out a separate order form for each performance you wish to attend.

Payment Information

Full payment is due Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2015 for orders placed before Monday, Sept. 14, 2015. For orders placed after Sept. 14, payment is due 30 days after the reservation is made, or one week before the performance date, whichever comes first. If you are applying for an Arts for All award, your invoice due date will be adjusted.

Reminders

You will receive a confirmation email, invoice attached, within 10 days of your order. You receive one complimentary ticket for every 10 you purchase; we will calculate this upon receipt of your order. You may use these complimentary tickets for students or adults.

Study guides and performance day information are available at www.viterbo.edu/aya.

Contact

Beth Franklin
Arts Education Coordinator
608-796-3735
aya@viterbo.edu
Seating Assignments—Seating location is determined by three criteria: the date the initial reservation is made, if payment is received by the due date stated on the invoice, and a group’s special accommodation needs. If payment is not received by the due date, your group will be moved and those who have paid by the due date will be assigned to your initial seats.

Refund Policy—All sales are final. If you experience a significant reduction in the number of seats needed and notify us of the change eight weeks prior to the performance, we will issue a refund for the unused seats. You may revise your numbers up to one week prior to the performance.

Inclement Weather—If a performance is cancelled by Viterbo University due to inclement weather, we will do our best to reschedule it. If you are unable to attend the rescheduled date, a refund will be given. If you need to reduce the number of seats for the new date, we will refund the difference. If you are unable to attend a performance due to your school’s delay or cancellation, we will make every attempt to exchange your order for another age-appropriate performance. If your group is unable to attend another performance, we will review requests for refunds on a case-by-case basis.

Group Ticket Policy—The ticket prices listed for the performances are intended for school groups of 15 or more (paid seats) and are made possible through a generous grant from the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Western Wisconsin and Southeastern Minnesota. Orders for non-school groups under 15 seats per performance do not meet the criteria for this reduced cost and will be charged at a higher rate.

Special Accommodations—Upon your order, communicate any special needs your students have (wheelchairs, walkers, no stairs, visual or hearing impairment, etc.) so we can seat your group appropriately. Because of limited ability to accommodate these needs, we must have this information upon order, or at least one week prior to the performance.

Concerned About the Costs?
The Arts for All (AFA) program was developed by Viterbo University with financial assistance from Ronald McDonald House Charities of Western Wisconsin and Southeastern Minnesota in an effort to assist economically disadvantaged children and to make the arts more accessible to local children. It is Viterbo’s goal to make sure every child has the opportunity to experience the arts, regardless of his or her economic background.

With the Arts for All assistance program, teachers may apply for a reduction in ticket cost based on their school’s percentage of free or reduced lunches. For example, if 50 percent of the students at your school qualify for free and reduced lunch, then your school may apply for up to a 50 percent discount off the price of your tickets.

During the 2014–15 academic year, Viterbo was able to assist over 3,300 students, totaling more than $7,800 through the AFA program. Since the start of this program in 2003, Viterbo has helped almost 30,800 students, totaling $70,773.

For AFA information, contact Beth Franklin, Arts Education Coordinator, at 608-796-3735 or aya@viterbo.edu.

Visit www.viterbo.edu/aya to download an Arts for All application, which will be available after July 1, 2015. Application deadline is Monday, Sept. 28, 2015 at 4 p.m. All applications must be submitted online.
Arts Education Outreach

When possible, we offer student outreach activities and residencies throughout the academic year. There is limited availability for these activities and reservations will be taken on a first come, first served basis. To inquire about any of the opportunities listed in this brochure, email aya@viterbo.edu or call 608-796-3735. There may be a fee involved with bringing an artist into your school.

Missoula Children’s Theatre Workshops
45-minute sessions
Nov. 10–13, 2015

The Missoula Children’s Theatre travels the country helping kids develop a love of theatre through interactive presentations in their workshops and productions. Missoula Children’s Theatre tour actor/directors will visit your school to work with students interested in the basics of theatre. Workshop topics range from improvisation and character/role development to mime techniques and make-up and visual effects.

La Crosse Dance Centre—Behind the Scenes of The Nutcracker
60-minute sessions
Early December 2015

Annually, the La Crosse Dance Centre presents their performance of The Nutcracker featuring a cast of local students. Take a behind-the-scenes look at what it takes to create this production. Students will enjoy an interactive question and answer session, and will even learn a few dance moves.

*Programs, artists, and dates are subject to change.

Evening and Weekend Performances

There are numerous evening and weekend performances in our 2015–2016 season that may be of interest to you and your students. Viterbo University Theatre and Music Theatre students will perform Rodgers and Hammerstein’s Oklahoma!. Montana Repertory Theatre will present Arthur Miller’s All My Sons. And, for the music lovers, New Orleans jazz band The Dukes of Dixieland will perform.

Contact our office if you would like to purchase group tickets to these performances not included in the AYA School Series. Groups of 10 or more receive 20 percent off the price of each ticket, and receive one complimentary ticket per 10 purchased.

To learn more about all our performances this upcoming season, visit www.viterbo.edu/fac.
Theatreworks USA presents

*Junie B.’s Essential Survival Guide to School*

Thursday, Nov. 19 at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

$6 • 60 minutes

**Curriculum Connections:** communication and language arts, literature-based, music, relationships and family

Now that Junie B. Jones has been going to school for over one-and-a-half years, who better to write the book on everything you need to know? From bus rules to Band-Aids, carpools to cookies, Junie B. and friends share how to survive and thrive in style. With a jillion tips, Junie B. shares her expertise and shows how school is sometimes scary, sometimes super-fun, and always something to sing about.

*Based upon the book series by Barbara Park.*

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La Crosse Dance Centre presents

*The Nutcracker*

Friday, Dec. 11 at 10 a.m.

$6 • 120 minutes

**Curriculum Connections:** music, dance

An annual holiday classic presented by the La Crosse Dance Centre, this ballet is full of all the color and spectacle of the holiday season. Join us and share the spectacular magic with your students.

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Griffin Theatre Company presents

*The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales*

Tuesday, Jan. 26 at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

$6 • 60 minutes

**Curriculum Connections:** literature-based, storytelling

Poor Jack. He’s got to use his wits to save himself from the terrible giant, but a host of familiar fairy tale characters keep messing up his plans—and then there’s that annoying Stinky Cheese Man. *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales* deconstructs the tradition of the fairy tale. Characters slide in and out of tales; Cinderella rebuffs Rumpelstiltskin, and Goldilocks meets the Three Elephants. Nothing is quite the same as you remember it.

*Based on the book by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith.*
Viterbo University presents

Crow and Weasel
Friday, Jan. 29 at 9:30 a.m.
$5 • 60 minutes
Curriculum Connections: literature-based, multicultural, values-based

Set in a mythical time when the world was new and people and animals spoke the same language, two young and eager Animal People embark on a vision quest to the Land Where Dreaming Begins. Facing unfamiliar perils, Crow and Weasel conquer their fears, and learn more than they could ever imagine about our relationship to the land, respecting others, and giving thanks.

By Jim Leonard Jr., Barry Lopez, and John Luther Adams
Crow and Weasel is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia presents

Goodnight Moon and The Runaway Bunny
Monday, Feb. 1 at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
$6 • 60 minutes
Curriculum Connections: communication and language arts, literature-based, values-based

Goodnight Moon is a celebration of familiar nighttime rituals, while The Runaway Bunny’s pretend tale of leaving home evokes reassuring responses from his loving mum. Both tales feature endearing rabbit characters, and the soothing rhythms of bunny banter and dream-like imagery infuse young readers with a sense of security. Mermaid’s staged adaptation will bring a new sense of appreciation to stories that have delighted generations.

Based upon Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown and The Runaway Bunny by Clement Hurd.
Mad River Theater Works presents

**Walk On: The Story of Rosa Parks**

Wednesday, Feb. 3 at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
$6 • 60 minutes

**Curriculum Connections:** social studies, multicultural

Music and drama weave together to tell the story of Rosa Parks, from her childhood in rural Alabama to her famous decision to “sit down and be counted." The play dispels myths about Parks and her protest as it paints a portrait of a complex woman who found reconciliation within herself to become an effective Civil Rights leader. Exciting and inspirational, this performance shows how the determination of one individual made all the difference in the struggle for freedom and equality in the U.S.

The Peking Acrobats®

**Wednesday, Feb. 17 at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.**
$6 • 60–70 minutes

**Curriculum Connections:** music, movement, multicultural

Daring maneuvers atop a precarious pagoda of chairs...powerful precision tumbling, somersaulting, and gymnastics...amazing displays of contortion, flexibility and control...incredible balancing feats showcasing tremendous skill and ability...live musicians displaying their talents by skillfully playing traditional Chinese instruments...high-tech special effects and all the excitement and festive pageantry creating an atmosphere like that of a Chinese Carnival. All of this is just a part of the magnificent show offered by The Peking Acrobats® from the People’s Republic of China.

Theatreworks USA presents

**Skippyjon Jones, Snow What**

**Monday, Feb. 29 at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.**
$6 • 60 minutes

**Curriculum Connections:** communication and language arts, literature-based, relationships and family

Mirror, mirror on the wall, who is the bravest Chihuahua of them all? Skippyjon Jones, the Siamese cat who thinks he’s a Mexican Chihuahua, of course! While his sisters listen to *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves*, Skippy finds real adventure awaiting him in his closet. There, as his alter ego Skippito Friskito, and with the help of his friends the Seven Chimichangos, Skippyjon must rescue the beautiful princess Nieve Qué (Snow What), battle the evil dragon, and defeat the Bruja.

*Based on the book series by Judy Schachner.*
Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia presents

The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Other Eric Carle Favorites

Tuesday, March 15 at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
$6  •  60 minutes
Curriculum Connections: literature-based, communication and language arts

After much demand, that little caterpillar is returning, along with an assortment of favorite puppet characters. The triple-bill includes the wonderful story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar’s metamorphosis into a beautiful butterfly, the fanciful account of Little Cloud’s travels through the sky, and the Mixed-Up Chameleon’s discovery of his own unique name.

ArtsPower’s production of

Are You My Mother?

Tuesday, March 22 at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
$5  •  60 minutes
Curriculum Connections: family relationships, literature-based, values-based

At long last, Baby Bird emerges from her shell and expects to be greeted by her mother’s song. But her mother is not there. Where is she? Why isn’t she home? With the help of Dog, Cat, and Hen, Baby Bird sets out in search of Mother Bird in this colorful musical adventure based on P.D. Eastman’s whimsical and well-loved picture book.

ArtsPower’s production of

My Heart in a Suitcase

Wednesday, April 6 at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
$5  •  60 minutes
Curriculum Connections: family relationships, historical, literature-based, values-based

Anne Lehmann and her family no longer feel safe in their Berlin home. Life in Germany is deteriorating quickly for the Lehmanns and all Jews in Germany; in order to protect their daughter, her parents may have to say goodbye to her forever. Anne must struggle to bring meaning out of despair, to cling to love and hope even in a world that seems to be filled with hatred and violence. The result is a gripping and poignant production, a tribute to the strength of the human spirit.

Based on the book by Anne L. Fox.
Griffin Theatre Company presents

**Frindle**

Wednesday, April 13 at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

$5 • 60 minutes

**Curriculum Connections:** literature-based, language arts

Nobody gets away with anything in Mrs. Granger’s classroom, and she’s a fanatic about the dictionary, which is hopelessly boring to fifth grader Nick Allen. But when Nick learns about words and where they come from, it inspires a great plan: to invent a new word. From now on, a pen is no longer a pen—it’s a Frindle. It doesn’t take long for Frindle to take root, and the excitement spreads well beyond his school and town. This quirky, imaginative tale about creative thought and the power of words will have your young audience inventing their own words.

*Based on the book by Andrew Clements.*
# Ronald McDonald® Arts for Young America School Series 2015–2016 Calendar

![Calendar Image](calendar_image.png)

**Color Key:**
- **All Ages**
- **Lower Elementary**
- **Middle Elementary–Middle School**
Ronald McDonald®
House Charities of
Western Wisconsin
and Southeastern
Minnesota

Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) of Western Wisconsin and Southeastern Minnesota is proud to sponsor the Arts for Young America program since 1998. RMHC is committed to enriching children’s lives in our area through the power of live performance. More than 23,200 area youth and their families attended events at the Viterbo Fine Arts Center this year and benefited from the high quality programming.

RMHC of Western Wisconsin and Southeastern Minnesota provides grants to local not-for-profit organizations whose programs address the needs of area children regarding medical issues, social concerns, and educational opportunities. For information about our charity or to learn how you may receive a grant application, contact us at 608-781-8080 or www.mccourtesy.com.

We hope you enjoy these performances.