



VITERBO UNIVERSITY
FINE ARTS CENTER

Arts for Young America

School Series

2026-27



Jim Henson's
**FRAGGLE
ROCK**
BACK TO THE ROCK
LIVE

Arts for Young America

Welcome!

Each season, we welcome about 20,000 teachers and students in grades Pre K–12 to our **Arts for Young America School Series** performances. Students can attend musicals and plays based on popular children’s literature, biographical/historical events, multicultural titles, and STEAM-related presentations.



2026–27 Arts for Young America Mini Grant Application

Teachers can apply for financial aid to help offset the costs of tickets for Viterbo Fine Arts Center’s Arts for Young America School Series performances. The mini grant is only for schools who have an assigned principal or administrator and must serve at least 10 students to apply. We will consider up to one application per grade, per school. Applications will be reviewed based on financial need and testimony. Due to the high number of anticipated applicants and the number of students served, grant dollars will not cover the full cost of admission for the entire grade or school. This is essentially a discount program, and you will receive a percentage off the total price.

Applications Due: Thursday, Oct. 1 by 5 p.m.

Award Notification: Friday, Oct. 9 by 5 p.m.

For reservations, Mini Grant link, policies, program details, and FREE study guides, please visit viterbo.edu/aya

Contacts

For Reservations

Rachel Frisby, Programming Coordinator
608-796-3735 or rafrisby@viterbo.edu
(reservations, grant assistance, and general inquiries)

For Payment

Alex Attardo, Patron Services Manager
608-796-3738 or boxoffice@viterbo.edu

Performance Locations

Viterbo University Fine Arts Center

929 Jackson St.
La Crosse, WI 54601

Weber Center for the Performing Arts

428 Front Street South
La Crosse, WI 54601

Based on the series on Apple TV

Jim Henson's™
**FRAGGLE
ROCK**
BACK TO THE ROCK
LIVE



Friday, Sept. 18, 2026, at 10 a.m.

Reservations must be booked by Tuesday, Sept. 1. Payment due by Tuesday, Sept. 8.
*THE MINI GRANT CANNOT BE USED ON THIS PRODUCTION-NO DISCOUNTS

Viterbo University Fine Arts Center Main Theatre
\$10/ticket | 1 hour 38 minutes (full length production)

Curriculum Connections: empathy and identity, art, music and movement, puppetry, conflict resolution

Gobo, Red, Mokey, Wembley, and Boober Fraggle discover the legend of the Celebration Stone. Featuring gorgeous new walk-around versions of the Fraggles, puppet sized and mechanized Doozers, an appearance from the giant Gorgs, and exclusive new puppet creatures all from the acclaimed Jim Henson's Creature Shop. Welcome to the incredible world of the iconic and beloved Fraggle Rock in a whole new way!



Steve Trash: Science Live!

Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
 Viterbo University Fine Arts Center Main Theatre
 \$8/ticket | 60 minutes

*Reservations must be booked by Friday, Oct. 9.
 Payment due by Tuesday, Oct. 20.*

Curriculum Connections: STEAM (science & technology), critical thinking, questioning & investigating

Steve Trash Science Live! blends real science, magic tricks, music, and comedy to help students understand how the natural world works—and how scientists figure things out. Through playful demonstrations (like making water “disappear”), students learn that while magic and science can look similar, they are very different. Magic creates illusions. Science discovers the truth. The show makes STEAM exciting, approachable, and memorable.



Nutcracker Ballet

presented by La Crosse Dance Centre

Friday, Dec. 11, 2026, at 10 a.m.
 Viterbo University Fine Arts Center Main Theatre
 \$8/ticket | 90 minutes (full-length production!)

*Reservations must be booked by Wednesday, Nov. 11
 Payment due by Wednesday, Dec. 2*

Curriculum Connections: dance, art, theatrical storytelling, classical music.

This timeless tale tells the adventure of self-discovery for Maria, who receives a Nutcracker doll from her Godparent Drosselmeyer on Christmas Eve. Join Maria on her journey as she defeats the evil Rat Queen, travels through a beautiful snow-covered land, and revels in the colorful Land of Sweets. Join us for the magic of the 37th Season of the Nutcracker Ballet!



MLK Day Presentation

in partnership with Viterbo University's D.B. Reinhart Institute for Ethics in Leadership

Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2027, at 9:30 a.m.
 Viterbo University Fine Arts Center Main Theatre
 FREE | 60 minutes

Reservations must be booked by Tuesday, Jan. 12.

Curriculum Connections: multicultural, character development, history, ethics.

Celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. with a guest speaker who will share cultural and historical moments of the American Civil Rights Movement and explore contemporary context.

GRADES PRE-K-5



Ocean Blue

presented by Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia

Thursday, Feb. 11, 2027, at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
Viterbo University Fine Arts Center Main Theatre
\$8/tickets | 60 minutes

Reservation must be booked by Friday, Jan. 22
Payment due by Friday, Jan. 29.

Curriculum Connections: Puppetry, visual arts, theatre, marine ecosystems

Ocean Blue is a breathtaking theatrical journey through the wonders of our planet's oceans. This epic underwater world is brought to life through spectacular puppetry, digital projection, and captivating original music. Join Charlie, the crab, as we celebrate marine ecosystems and spark curiosity, imagination, and awe.

GRADES PRE-K-3



The Gruffalo

presented by Tall Stories

Thursday, March 18 at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
Viterbo University Fine Arts Center Main Theatre
\$8/tickets | 60 minutes

Reservations must be booked by Wednesday, March 3.
Payment due by Tuesday, March 9.

Curriculum Connections: language arts (repetition of rhymes), literature (reading), community values (courage, self-esteem)

Join Mouse on a daring adventure through the deep, dark wood in Tall Stories' magical, musical adaptation of the classic picture book by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler.

GRADES 6-12



Holocaust Survivor Presentation

in partnership with Viterbo University's D.B. Reinhart Institute for Ethics in Leadership

Wednesday, May 5, 2027, at 10 a.m.
Viterbo Fine Arts Center Main Theatre
FREE | 60 minutes

Curriculum Connections: multicultural, character development, history, biography, oral tradition

Due to high demand, this event will only be available to educators who enroll in Viterbo's D.B. Reinhart Institute for Ethics in Leadership's annual Teaching the Holocaust Workshop, based on availability. You will register through the Institute starting Oct. 1. Look for updates at viterbo.edu/holocaust-workshop.



Thursday, Feb. 18, 2027, at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

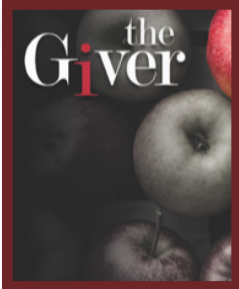
Reservations must be booked by Friday, Jan. 29. Payment is due by Friday, Feb. 5.

Viterbo University Fine Arts Center Main Theatre

\$9/tickets | 60 minutes

Curriculum Connections: multicultural, dance, music, teamwork

The Peking Acrobats push the limits of human ability, wowing audiences with spellbinding trick-cycling, precision tumbling, juggling, somersaulting, and gymnastics. With a three-decade legacy of elite talent, this world-record-setting troupe takes ancient Chinese traditions to new heights, pairing artful athleticism with live music and festive pageantry.



GRADES 4–8

The Giver

presented by GreatWorks Theatre Company

Tuesday, April 27, 2027, at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
Viterbo Fine Arts Center Main Theatre \$8/tickets | 60 minutes

Reservation must be booked by Friday, April 9.
Payment due by Friday, April 16.

Curriculum Connections: Social studies, character development, history, ethics, literature-based

A stage adaptation of Lois Lowry's award-winning novel. In the near future, 12-year-old Jonas lives in a society of Sameness. "The Giver" is the only person who holds the memories of real pain and real joy. Now Jonas will learn the truth about life—and the hypocrisy of his utopian world.



GRADES 1–12

Outreach Programs: In-School Workshops

Can't go on a field trip? The Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT) can come to your school or classroom for a workshop in January 2027. MCT is the nation's largest touring children's theatre.

2027 Workshops (45 minutes each)
Flexible times between 8 a.m.–2:15 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 12
Wednesday, Jan. 13 or Thursday, Jan. 14

The first three schools to register and receive confirmation are FREE!
Or the modest price below applies:

\$50/workshop for regular class of up to 30 students
\$100/assembly-style option for 30–60 students

- Grades 1-2 (up to 30 students)

• Drama Quest: Adventures in the Jungle, Acting, Mine, Improve, or Playwriting

- Grades 3-12 (up to 60 students)

• Acting, Mime, Improve, or Playwriting

• Register and learn more at viterbo.edu/aya

Register now and learn more
viterbo.edu/aya





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Viterbo University
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 900 Viterbo Drive
 La Crosse, WI 54601

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Pre-K-12 School Series

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