

High School Activities, Enrichment and Classes

Are you looking for activities, classes, or enrichment for your child? This comprehensive guide features a wealth of opportunities to meet your family's needs. There are virtual and in person activities, games, courses, and attractions, geared towards high school students. The offerings are categorized into the following areas:

- Athletics and Recreation
- Cultural and the Arts
- STEM
- Language and Literature
- All & Other

Each entry includes a link to the resource, a brief description, pricing information, and the type of programming offered.

Please preview these offerings before sharing them with your children; some virtual resources may contain ads and should be viewed with discretion. Since the information in this guide is subject to change, we encourage you to visit each program's website to get the most up to date details.

Carnegie Mellon University



Athletics & Recreation

British Swim School

Description: The program operates at several pools in the Pittsburgh area, and teaches water safety and swimming skills in addition to offering a swim team for experienced swimmers. Adult programs (which high schoolers may be considered) are available at select location.

Pricing: Varies by program

Type of Programming: In Person, Classes

Pittsburgh Ballet Theater

Description: The Pittsburgh Ballet Theater offer classes and programs from children ages 18 months – 17 years. Certain classes require an audition.

Pricing: Varies by specific program

Type of Programming: Virtual, Classes, Workshops, Summer, School Year

Pittsburgh Soccer Academy

Description: PSA offers individual and small group training, virtual training, and camps and clinic to develop soccer skills for children age 5 through High School.

Pricing: Varies by specific program

Type of Programming: Virtual, In Person, Summer, School Year, Classes, Workshops

Venture Outdoors

Description: This nonprofit inspires children and adults alike to explore nature and engage in a wealth of activities, classes, and programs

Pricing: Varies by program

Type of Programming: Virtual, In Person, Activities, Classes, Camps, Summer, School Year

The Scoring Factory

Description: Located on East Carson Street, this gym offer classes, clinics, and camps to help improve children's basketball skills and development for children in grades 2-12.

Pricing: Varies by program; memberships are also available starting at \$15/month.

Type of Programming: In Person, Camps, Classes

YMCA Youth Programming

Description: The YMCA offers a comprehensive suite of programs for every age and skill level, including swimming, sports, dancing, and the arts. Specific lesson offerings vary by location.

Pricing: Varies by type of class

Type of Programming: In Person, Classes

Switch and Signal Skatepark

Description: an indoor skatepark in Swissvale that offers private and group lessons, rentals, and camps. This location also has a skate shop, café, and a strong desire to build community.

Pricing: Varies by program

Type of Programming: In Person, Camps, Classes

Gymkhana Gymnastics Schools

Description: With locations in Point Breeze, Bethel Park, Monroeville, and Wexford, Gymkhana provides high quality gymnastics fun for all ages and skill levels.

Pricing: Varies by program

Type of Programming: In Person, Camps, Classes

Kennywood Amusement Park

Description: Located in West Mifflin, this traditional amusement park features 7 Rollercoasters, A 14-Ride Kiddieland & Several Other One-Of-A-Kind Attractions.

Pricing: Junior (Under 46") \$39.99 + tax, Regular (46" and Taller) \$59.99 + tax, Senior (60+ Years of Age) \$24.99 + tax. Season passes start at \$85.95 and go up from there.

Type of Programming: In person

Sandcastle Water Park

Description: Located in West Mifflin, this traditional amusement park features 7 Rollercoasters, A 14-Ride Kiddieland & Several Other One-Of-A-Kind Attractions.

Pricing: general admission is \$39.99, children age 3 and under are free. Season Passes start at \$66.99.

Type of Programming: In person

Athletics & Recreation

The Wheel Mill

Description: Located in Homewood, this indoor park provides a safe space for children and adults to ride bikes on various tracks. Lessons are available for first time riders, as well as those hoping to learn MTB and BMX riding. Summer camps are also available.

Pricing: Day passes are \$23 for adults and \$18 for children 12 and under on weekdays, \$29 for all ages on the weekends. Memberships range from \$45 to \$95 per month. Private lessons are \$70 + tax per session and includes a day pass for riding after instruction.

Type of Programming: In person

Athletic Camps

Description: There are variety of camps and clinics available, including soccer, basketball, volleyball, swimming, and diving. Age ranges for camps vary by sport, but start as young as age 5 and go up to 12th grade.

Pricing: Varies by camp

Type of Programming: Summer Camps, CMU affiliated

USA Professional Karate

Description: Located in Squirrel Hill, this program offers specialized Kids Karate classes that address the unique skills and challenges that children of all ages face. Classes are available for ages 13 and up, as well as younger children.

Pricing: \$19.95 for introductory class and about \$129 a month for regular classes.

Type of Programming: In person, classes

Ascend Pittsburgh

Description: Located in South Side, this program offers youth climbing lessons for children ages 6-13 with supervision and 13-17 without. An instructor will cover climbing technique, lingo, bouldering, top-roping, belaying, training for climbing, and more!

Pricing: Classes range from \$80 to \$97.60 per month.

Type of Programming: In person, classes

Pittsburgh Fencers' Club

Description: Located in Point Breeze, this club focuses on bringing competitive fencing to Pittsburgh. It features classes for children ages 6 to 12 as well as teens to adults. They also offer private lessons as well as some zoom lessons and camps are available in the summer.

Pricing: drop in classes are \$25 per class, a pack of 4 classes is \$99 for a single child, \$167 for a family. A month of unlimited fencing is \$150.

Type of Programming: In Person, Virtual, classes

First Tee Pittsburgh

Description: A non-profit youth development program that delivers life skills and character education to young people ages 5-18 through the game of golf. Participants join us for lessons in putting, chipping, pitching, full swing and on course play while they also learn healthy habits, goal setting, respect, courtesy, confidence and more.

Pricing: \$60 per session per participant for households earning \$50,000 per year or more, AND only \$30 for households earning less than \$50,000 per year. However, no kid is ever turned away for the inability to pay.

Type of Programming: In person, classes, activities

The Rink at PPG Place

Description: From November through February, the Plaza between Third Avenue and Fourth Avenue transforms into The Rink at PPG Place, a spectacular one-of-a-kind outdoor ice skating rink.

Pricing: Adults \$11, Seniors \$10, Children \$10, Skate rental \$5

Type of Programming: In person, Activity

Cultural and the Arts

Art in Motion Pittsburgh

Description: This dance studio offers classes live and in person classes for a variety of dance styles and skill levels.

Pricing: You can do a drop in class for \$10, or sign up for class packages

Type of Programming: In person, Virtual, Classes

CMU School of Music Preparatory School

Description: This offers classes on piano, strings, guitar, and percussion for various age groups and skill levels.

Pricing: Tuition varies based on specific program

Type of Programming: Classes, Virtual, CMU-affiliated

Carnegie Museum of Art

Description: Connected to the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, The Carnegie Museum of Art has a robust collection of over 30,000 works of art, including paintings, sculptures, photographs, and decorative design. The Carnegie Museums also have a curated list of virtual offerings.

Pricing: Adult tickets are \$19.95, tickets for children 3-18 are \$11.95, and children under 3 are free. Offerings such as workshops, classes, and summer camps are available at additional cost. You could also purchase a membership for all four Carnegie museums to receive free general admission.

Type of Programming: In-person, Virtual

North Hills Art Center

Description: Offers classes for adults, teens and children. Sessions run Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall. Class offerings are updated seasonally and occasionally additional classes are added. Children's classes are designed to be age appropriate for children 7 to 18 and summer camps are available. Classes cover sculpture, pottery, drawing, painting, and more.

Pricing: Classes for children range from member pricing starting at \$70 per class to \$100 non member pricing.

Type of Programming: In person, classes, camps

Pittsburgh Glass Center

Description: The program's hands-on courses are structured specifically for young people (ages 12 to 18) and are taught in one of the United States' premier glass facilities. SiO2 students not only create glass art and learn the scientific principles of glass, they experience valuable life lessons through studio practice. While learning and creating, students are shown the fundamental significance of teamwork, discipline, communication, and mutual respect.

Pricing: Classes start at \$100 for one day workshops,

Type of Programming: In person, classes, camps

Artissima Art Studio

Description: Offers mommy and me classes for children ages 2.5 to 4, and art classes for children and teens ages 4 to 18. Students will experiment with different media, develop new techniques, and be inspired by art and art history in a fun, energetic environment. They focus on quality and aim to inspire and guide the children to reach their creative and artistic potential.

Pricing: One day workshops start at \$40, classes and camps start at \$230.

Type of Programming: In person, Classes, Camps, Virtual

School of Rock

Description: Offers music, performance and song writing lessons to children ages 3-18. Rock 101, performance and songwriting are all available to middle school aged children. Classes generally consist of one private lesson and one group rehearsal each week. Many of their classes are now also available in an online format and summer camps are also available.

Pricing: Classes range from \$250 to \$300 per month. Summer camps are \$300 per week.

Type of Programming: In person, Classes, Camps, Virtual

Cultural and the Arts

CMU School of Music YouTube Channel and Play in Place Series

Description: In this running series, Play-In-Place, the talented artists of the School of Music are submitting performances recorded in their living rooms, porches, offices, back yards, or wherever they are. They also have performances available to view on their YouTube Channel.

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Virtual, Videos, CMU-affiliated

Pittsburgh Girls Choir

Description: The Pittsburgh Girls Choir welcomes girls, ages 6 to 18, of all races, ethnicities and socioeconomic backgrounds into our supportive community committed to artistic excellence through an exemplary music education program. In addition to the choir, they also offer summer camps and outreach programs.

Pricing: there is a sliding scale for tuition

Type of Programming: In person, Classes, Camps

Gaynor's School of Cooking

Description: They offer a large selection of age appropriate children's programs throughout the year in both cooking and pastry and baking as well as tenn cooking classes. They also run a number of seasonal themed classes such as Gingerbread Houses, Easter Treats & Candies and Scary Halloween Treats.

Pricing: Classes range from \$280 to \$360

Type of Programming: In person, Classes, Camps

dfd

Description: This studio offers customized wood sign painting workshops for children and adults. To have a child under the age of 16 attend, you will need to book a private event geared towards children. You can also purchases "kits for kids" to do at home!

Pricing: Kits are \$55; prices for workshops vary.

Type of Programming: Virtual, In person, Classes, Activities

Steeltown Film Academy

Description: Steeltown Film Academy (SFA) draws on its partnership with teaching artists and professional mentors to teach a curriculum of the basics of digital media arts – what we like to call SCALE: storytelling, camera, audio, lighting, and editing. The curriculum is more than 100 hours of hands-on and collaborative learning and uses the latest digital media technology. Each class produces their own short film by the end of the session and upon successful completion, students can apply to the Steeltown Teen Film Crew. The Teen Film Crew gets paid while they continue to build their skills creating promotional videos for clients. The teaching artists work with the students as a team – just as they would in a professional agency. Open to students in grades 9-12.

Pricing: \$1,500 per semester

Type of Programming: In person, Classes, Camps

August Wilson African American Cultural Center

Description: A U.S. nonprofit arts organization based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania that presents performing and visual arts programs that celebrate the contributions of African Americans not only in Western Pennsylvania, but nationally and internationally.

Pricing: Galleries are Free and open to the public. Ticket prices for events vary.

Type of Programming: In person, Workshops

Pittsburgh Cultural Trust

Description: Official site for Benedum Center and Byham Theater, presenting PNC Broadway Across America, children's theater and events. The Trust also facilitates several large cultural events in the city on a yearly basis and supports art galleries as well as public art installations. It also encompasses the Harris Theater, featuring independent film as well as classes and programming for children and teens.

Pricing: Prices vary depending on venue and event

Type of Programming: In person, Classes

STEM

Alice - Tell Stories. Build Games. Learn to Program

Description: Alice is an innovative block-based programming environment that makes it easy to create animations, build interactive narratives, or program simple games in 3D. It is designed to teach logical and computational thinking skills, fundamental principles of programming and to be a first exposure to object-oriented programming.

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Virtual, Activities

Architecture Explorations

Description: The Center for Architecture Explorations offers workshops, summer camps, and courses for students in grades K-12.

Pricing: Varies by specific camp or workshop

Type of Programming: Workshops, Year-Round (Saturdays), CMU affiliated

Carnegie Mellon Robotics Academy

Description: The Robotics Academy trains educators on how to use robots in the classroom, and also offers educational materials and workshops for students to encourage an interest in STEM.

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Virtual, Activities, CMU-affiliated

Carnegie Museum of Natural History

Description: Connected to the Carnegie Museum of Art, The Carnegie Museum of Natural History is one of the top history museums in the country, and offers explorations and exhibits related to science, nature, and world cultures. The Carnegie Museums also have a curated list of virtual offerings.

Pricing: Adult tickets are \$19.95, tickets for children 3-18 are \$11.95, and children under 3 are free. Offerings such as workshops, classes, and summer camps are available at additional cost. You could also purchase a membership for all four Carnegie museums to receive free general admission.

Type of Programming: In-person, Virtual

Carnegie Science Center

Description: The Science Center features exhibits and programming about science and technology. The museum also offers Carnegie STEM Girls, which provides reading; math and science remediation and enrichment; hands-on project-based STEM activities; life skills development; mentoring; pre-college experiences; and STEM career exploration. A feature of this program, Tour Your Future, is available to girls ages 11-17, and provides the opportunity to visit exciting workplaces and explore diverse careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math. STEM Stars is a school based portion of the program operating in 20 sites in the Pittsburgh Public Schools, Woodland Hills School District, McKeesport Area School District, and Propel Schools.

Pricing: For the museum, adult tickets are \$19.95, children (3-18) are \$11.95, and children under 3 are free. Offerings such as workshops, classes, and summer camps are available at additional cost.

Type of Programming: In-person, Virtual

Daily Challenge

Description: CMU Math Professor Po-Shen Loh tackles math questions from viewers and provides engaging videos on fundamental concepts

Pricing: You can watch videos for free on YouTube, but you can also purchase module packs that provide a comprehensive set of lessons and guides. Most modules are \$149.

Type of Programming: Virtual, Live Videos, On Demand Classes, Activities, CMU-affiliated

Engineering Workshop

Description: This is a summer program for rising 10th and 11th graders interested in a career in engineering and/or computer science. While not being held in 2021 due to risk mitigation for the COVID-19 pandemic, feel free to check back to get information on upcoming years.

Pricing: \$900

Type of Programming: In person, Summer, Workshop, CMU-affiliated

STEM

Understanding Food and Climate Change

Description: This interactive guide encourages you to explore how what we eat every day impacts the environment, touching on topics related to health, science, and social studies.

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Virtual, Activities

Girls of Steel Robotics Team

Description: Organized by CMU, this is an all girl robotics team comprised of high school students from schools throughout the Pittsburgh area

Pricing: N/A

Type of Programming: Virtual, CMU-affiliated

How Does the Brain Work?

Description: BrainFacts presents interactive modules on various neuroscience topics.

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Virtual, Activities

Journey Through An Exploded Star

Description: The Smithsonian takes you on an interactive exploration of an exploded star

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Virtual, Activities

Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Sciences

Description: PSGS is a summer enrichment experience for high school students interested in pursuing a career in science, hosted on CMU's campus when operating in person.

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Virtual, Workshop, Summer

Phet Math and Science Simulations

Description: This website offers simulations on several concepts related to physics, chemistry, math, earth science, and biology.

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Virtual, Activities

SUCCEED

Description: This organization offers a 5 day summer workshop for rising 10th graders to learn about energy, the environment, and climate change.

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Workshop, Summer, CMU-affiliated

The Gelfand Center for Service Learning and Outreach

Description: Designed to promote STEM education and academic enrichment for students in grades K-12, The Gelfand Center runs various workshops and also has a collection of free, digital educational resources.

Pricing: Digital modules and remote lessons are free

Type of Programming: Workshops, Resources, Year-Round, Virtual, CMU affiliated

School of Computer Science Outreach Roadshow

Description: This is an interactive presentation, for children in grades K-12, is offered by Women@SCS. It highlights all computer science has to offer and hopes to engage children in learning experiences.

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Workshops, Virtual, CMU-affiliated

The Governor's STEM Competition

Description: This competition challenges student teams from across the state to research, design, and present a device or project that can make the quality of life better for Pennsylvanians. Teams are required to partner with a member of their local community or business to develop a solution to a real problem rooted in the community. The competition is open to students in grades 9 through 12 and each team is provided with a \$600 stipend to build a prototype of their device or project.

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Virtual, Activities

Language and Literature

BBC iReporter

Description: Play as a BBC reporter in getting breaking stories and sharing them, and you'll be evaluated for accuracy, impact, and speed all while learning about journalism, media, and communication.

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Virtual, Game

NaNoWriMo Young Writer's Program

Description: Based on the challenge for National Novel Writing Month each November, this website provides resources for young writers to participate and also offers smaller challenges year-round.

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Virtual, Activities

Cast of Wonders

Description: This is a young adult short fiction market that specializes in fantasy. It shares work via a speculative fiction podcast that welcomes submissions from young writers under the age of 18.

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Podcast

Young Writers Institute

Description: This is a summer experience for students to get coached in writing. For 2021, it is virtual with an optional in person date.

Pricing: \$100, scholarships available

Type of Programming: Virtual, In person, Summer

The Writer's Studio

Description: This studio offers editing, tutoring, and creative writing workshops for a variety of ages and interests.

Pricing: Editing and tutors services range from \$60-\$70/hour; Almost Authors workshop is \$160.

Type of Programming: Virtual, Classes, Summer, Year-Round

Duolingo

Description: A free website and app to help adults and children in elementary through high school learn new languages. There is a large selection to choose from and it is self-paced learning.

Price: Free

Type of Programming: Virtual

Tour the Globe Theater

Description: Take a virtual tour of Shakespeare's Globe Theater. Get a 360-degree view of this famous stage, and learn facts about Shakespeare's play and life in 16th century England.

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Virtual, Activities

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

Description: The library system provides residents with free access to books, movies music and more. Most branches also have a dedicated children's and teens sections with activities and programming specifically geared towards different age groups. Find your local branch, or visit the main branch in Oakland to enjoy these benefits. There is also a Large Print Teen Literary Journal created for teens, by teens, where aspiring writers can submit their work.

Price: Free

Type of Programming: Virtual, In person

iGeneration Youth

Description: Through rigorous, hands-on training in media production and the business of journalism, students make connections with a global team of like-minded peers, get experience in the written and visual arts, and see their work published nationwide. Programming is available for children ages 10 to 18.

Pricing: Basic membership is free, level 1 membership is \$99, Level 2 is \$199, Level 3 is \$299, and Level 4 is \$399

Type of Programming: Classes

All and Other

Bloomfield Garfield Corporation College & Career Readiness Program

Description: This is an income-based program for rising high school juniors and seniors to help them with college applications, financial aid, college and trade school tours, and assistance finding paid internships.

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Mentorship

Bloomfield Garfield Corporation Learn & Earn Program

Description: This is a program from children ages 14-21 to get meaningful employment in the Greater Pittsburgh Area

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Summer

CMU Pre College

Description: High schoolers can take college-level coursework, taught by CMU professors. All instruction is virtual for summer 2021.

Pricing: Cost varies by program; more information can be found [here](#)

Type of Programming: Virtual, Summer, Classes, CMU-affiliated

School 2 Career

Description: Students in grades 9-12 who met the program's income requirements can apply for this year long career preparation program, which includes a summer orientation, free tutoring and trainings in various skills, and a paid internship opportunity.

Pricing: Free for those who are admitted

Type of Programming: Year-Round, Work, Classes

Khan Academy

Description: This nonprofit offers free courses in a variety of subjects and grade levels

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Virtual, On Demand Classes

Outschool

Description: Sign up for live classes and special interest clubs on a variety of topics

Pricing: Prices start at \$10/class

Type of Programming: Virtual, On Demand Classes, Live Classes

Project Ignite

Description: This is an interdisciplinary outreach program for high school students. Students design a project, and receive support from CMU students to execute the project.

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Workshop, School Year, CMU-affiliated

The Queen's Gambit Chess Institute

Description: This organization teaches innovation and creativity through the game of chess. Classes available for beginner and experienced players.

Pricing: Varies based on class

Type of Programming: Virtual, Live Classes

Brookline Teen Community Outreach

Description: This community center offers a range of services for teens at no cost. This includes homework help, game and movie nights, counseling, community service projects, and classes on life skills such as cooking and applying for student loans.

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: Virtual, In Person, Academic Support, Classes, Activities

Youth Engaged in Service (YES)

Description: Run by the nonprofit Pittsburgh Cares, YES helps young people get engaged in community service. You can serve on the Youth Advisory Council, request a customized community service project for your school or group

Pricing: Free

Type of Programming: In person, activities