

# Lutz Center Summer 2026 Apprenticeship Programs

The Micheal and Karyn Lutz Center  
**3435 N Cicero Ave. Chicago, IL 60641**

**14 & 15** year old teens can  
join apprenticeship  
programs that pay a stipend  
of **\$420 - \$480**

Must Begin By **July 18, 2026**  
Have all checklist items  
complete on your Teen  
Dashboard.  
Do not exceed the allowed  
**4 absences** for the entire  
session.



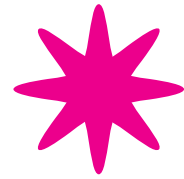
**Apply Online!!!**

**[afterschoolmatters.org/apply](https://afterschoolmatters.org/apply)**

**AFTER**  
**SCHOOL** matters®

# Apprenticeships

## Programs 14 & 15



### American Sign Language

**Schedule:** 8:45AM - 12:45PM

**Description:** This beginner-friendly American Sign Language (ASL) program will introduce teens to essential vocabulary, basic grammar, and facial expressions/body language used in ASL. Teens will also have opportunities to learn about the beauty and importance of Deaf culture.

### Bikes

**Schedule:** 8:30AM - 12:30PM

**Description:** Apply to this program if you like to ride your bike and think Chicago would be a better place with more bike lanes and safe passageways. This program will combine bike riding, repair, and safety with city planning and advocating for a more bike friendly city and Belmont Cragin community.



### Digital Photography

**Schedule:** 9:00AM - 1:00PM

**Description:** Design and compositional elements of photography: Are you ready to learn more about photography? Would you like to learn how to operate 35mm cameras to create your images? This course will teach you camera basics and help you build an online portfolio you can be proud of. You will learn how to use the elements of art and design like line, shape/form, space, value, color and texture – to create brilliant compositions. Finally you will learn how to edit your images like a pro using Adobe Lightroom and photoshop.

### Fashion Startup

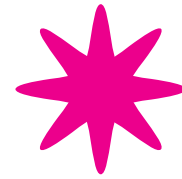
**Schedule:** 1:00PM - 5:00PM

**Description:** In this program, teens will learn introductory skills of the fashion world! Projects will include: pillow making, pajama pants, pouches, etc. This program does not requires teens to know basic sewing.



# Apprenticeships

## Programs 14 & 15



### Gardening

**Schedule:** 12:45PM - 4:45PM

**Description:** Interested in learning how to grow your own food? Want to learn holistic ways of gardening to help plants, the environment, and people thrive harmoniously? Apply to our spring garden program at the Lutz Center! You will have the opportunity to awaken the garden from its winter rest, tending to plants in the greenhouse and outdoor raised beds. Together we will cultivate and contemplate how to be an environmentally conscious gardener!



### Intro to Cooking & Baking

**Schedule:** 1:15PM - 5:00PM

**Description:** In this program the teens will learn the basics of sanitation/cleaning, ingredient function, proper kitchen tool uses, and measurements. They will be working on baking/cooking techniques, packaging, and presentation. This program not only focuses on baking and savory cooking, but will also focus on the entrepreneurship aspect of the culinary field.



### Intro to Mosaic Arts

**Schedule:** 1:15PM - 5:00PM

**Description:** Come and join other teens to learn a new artistic skill! We will create beautiful three-dimensional wall art through the mosaic technique, which uses colorful glass and metallic tiles to create original artwork designed by you.



# Apprenticeships Programs 14 & 15



## **Main Character Energy: Finding Your Voice Through Theatre**

**Schedule:** 12:45PM - 4:45PM

**Description:** Teens will explore theatre while building real-life skills and thinking about your future. You'll work on monologues, scenes, and character development — learning how to express yourself, build confidence, and step into different perspectives through performance. Through group activities and real-life scenarios, you'll build skills in communication, problem-solving, and handling conflict — things you'll actually use in everyday life. By the end of the program, you'll create performance pieces, explore your interests and career options, and build a portfolio you can use for future opportunities. You may also have opportunities to work

## **Mixed Martial Arts**

**Schedule:** 12:30PM - 4:45PM

**Description:** Teens are introduced to martial arts in a fun and safe environment. The MMA program consists of alternating training days of Boxing, Muay Thai, Grappling (Wrestling/Jiu Jitsu/Judo), and Kickboxing instruction. Teens develop stand-up striking skills, ground technique, and an overall increased fitness level. Teens also learn self-management skills, discipline, listening, and demonstrating cooperation and respect towards others.



## **Pop Kulture Fine Arts Choir**

**Schedule:** 1:00PM - 5:00PM

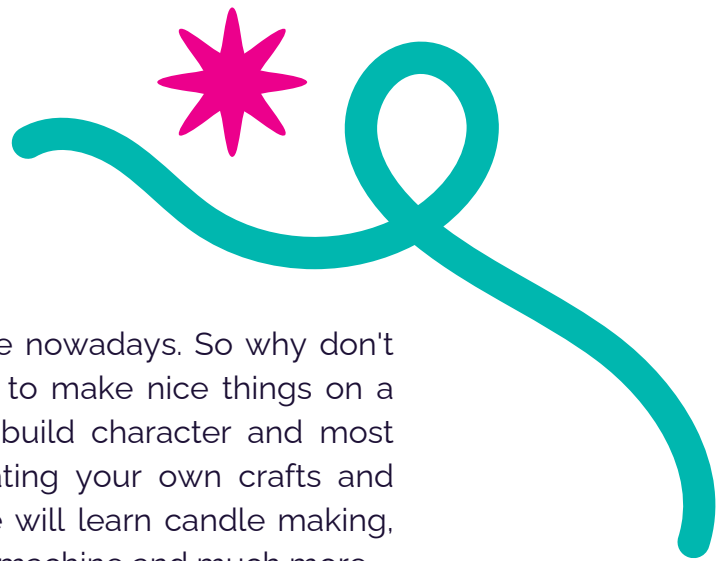
**Description:** This choir program is a high-energy program for teens who love to sing, act, and rap. A fun and creative space where teens can build confidence, develop talents, & express themselves through performance. We'll work together to create performances that combine music, acting, movement & storytelling. Along the way, they develop teamwork, stage presence, and learn how to use their voice and creativity in powerful ways. Pop Kulture Fine Arts Choir gives teens the opportunity to grow, shine, and be themselves.

## **Tactile Arts & Design**

**Schedule:** 1:15PM - 5:00PM

**Description:** This course connects traditional hands-on skills (such as sculpting and hand sewing) with contemporary forms of artistic expression. Learners will explore various art-making methods, including bookmaking, cross-stitching, crocheting, and carving. The participants will work together in a studio setting to produce a collection of artifacts that celebrate the enduring spirit of folk traditions and handcrafts in the modern world.

# Apprenticeships Programs 14 & 15



## **Trendy on a Budget**

**Schedule:** 1:15PM - 5:00PM

**Description:** We all know things can be expensive nowadays. So why don't you make it yourself? Learn in this program how to make nice things on a budget. Make different crafts and activities that build character and most importantly, creativity. The satisfaction from creating your own crafts and saving your pockets is much more rewarding. We will learn candle making, jewelry making, learn to use/ craft with the cricket machine and much more.

## **Social Media for Safer Communities**

**Schedule:** 1:00PM - 5:00PM

**Description:** Become an influencer for change! In this program, you'll have the opportunity to create content on Tik Tok and Instagram that educates other teens about gun violence and gun risks. You will learn how to empower your peers using social media from a variety of experts like marketing and violence prevention professionals.

## **Soil Conservation Engineering**

**Schedule:** 8:30AM - 12:30PM

**Description:** Our Soil Conservation Engineering program gives teens an overview of gardening techniques, conservation knowledge, labs to understand principles of soil and water, and the confidence to be active members of our community keeping our streets green and beautiful! If you want to learn some tips and tricks on how to improve your green thumb, reduce your carbon footprint, and identify different plants, join the Soil Conservation Engineering program today!



## **Welding B**

**Schedule:** 12:45PM - 4:45PM

**Description:** An introduction to all things welding, this program will focus on the hands-on art of joining metal. Design and create your own metal projects, meet industry experts and learn about careers in welding, and practice techniques behind multiple different types of welding. No experience is needed - this is a very hands on program that includes bright lights, loud noises and strong safety procedures.

# Diverse Learners

## Programs 14 & Up

*This Program offers teens a stipend of \$420*

### **Lutz Buddies Exploration**

**Schedule:** 1:00PM - 5:00PM

**Description:** This program is designed specifically for diverse learners! Teens with intellectual disabilities will be paired with a non-disabled peer from the Lutz Buddies program. During the session, teens will use art as a gateway to explore the many programs that the Lutz Center has to offer. Take part in this incredible opportunity to build friendships and help foster an atmosphere of inclusion at After School Matters!

## **Special Initiatives \*Advanced** **Apprenticeships\* Programs 14 & Up**

*Advanced apprenticeships offer a stipend of \$850*

### **ComEd Youth Ambassadors**

**Schedule:** 1:15PM - 5:00PM

**Description:** ComEd Youth Ambassadors take part in hands-on projects, career opportunities, and field trips to learn about the future of renewable energy in Chicago. In addition, ambassadors will learn presentation and public speaking skills that they will utilize while spreading the word about renewable energy. If you are interested in learning about real-world science applications of solar energy and the positive environmental impact from renewable energy, then this program is for you!

### **People's Gas**

**Schedule:** 1:15PM - 5:00PM

**Description:** Peoples Gas exposes teens to various disciplines of engineering through our project-based learning, hands-on curriculum. Teens learn how to utilize the engineering design process of Ask, Imagine, Create, Test and Improve to develop and create solutions to different engineering challenges. Engineering challenges include projects such as Smart Grid Lamp Design, Bridge Design, Robotics, and Wearable Electronics that require teens to apply their knowledge of the design process as well as basic mathematics and physics concepts.

