THIS SUMMER, YOU COULD

Surround yourself with students and faculty that share your passions and goals.

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Experience college life at Northwestern and its state-of-the-art facilities.

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Bolster your resume for college applications.

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Receive focused attention and feedback from experienced faculty and theatre professionals in a constructive, supportive, and safe environment.

• • •

Attend guest lectures and master classes with industry professionals. Recent speakers include Jessie Fisher (Harry Potter and the Cursed Child), actress and director Amy Morton (Chicago P.D.), and Bob Mason, Casting Director for Chicago Shakespeare Theater.

• • •

Immerse yourself in a huge variety of theater training and classes in all aspect of the Theatre Arts.

• • •

Create bonds with friends and faculty that will help you with creative endeavors years after the NHSI program.

"I really learned how to step out of my comfort zone, take risks and most importantly, to trust myself."

/ 2023 Cherub

MAIL National High School Institute
Northwestern University
617 Noyes St.
Evanston, IL 60208

TEL (847) 491-3026

EMAIL nhsi@northwestern.edu

WEB nhsi.northwestern.edu

INSTAGRAM @nhsi.theatrearts

"This summer was truly transformative for me – not only as a performer, but also as a collaborator and person."

/ 2025 Cherub

THEATRE ARTS

Be Daring
Dream Bigger
Explore Passionately

Spend this summer at NHSI and open yourself up to a world of possibilities.

This summer surround yourself with the people and facilities that will expand your creativity and give you the confidence to begin the next stage of your journey. Unlock your potential with NHSI.

Northwestern
NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL INSTITUTE

THE THEATRE ARTS DIVISION AT THE NHSI

NHSI's Theatre Division (fondly known as Cherubs) has been designed to offer you the same quality and intensity of experience you will encounter at top collegiate theatre programs, including Northwestern's Theatre Department *(2025 top drama school)*.

Now in its 95th year, the NHSI's Theatre Arts Division is a powerful exploration into stage performance and design. A rigorous combination of classes and rehearsals challenge students every day for five weeks. The program culminates in full productions performed on the stage of Northwestern's Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts.

We provide participants opportunities to work with some of the country's best professional theatre artists/educators in a unique, hands-on and collaborative environment. The Institute takes place on Northwestern's beautiful Evanston campus, in close proximity to Chicago where students will take field trips to see theatre during the summer.

The Theatre Institute emphasizes ensemble and exploration. Students are encouraged to work collectively and dare to try new things in a safe and nurturing environment. At NHSI we believe that to grow as artists and students, learning to collaborate and take creative risks is key. Summer after summer, students express their amazement at the knowledge, purpose and passion they gain.

> "The curriculum and schedule make this program so unique. The things we do and learn are exceptional, and the schedule allows for maximum flexibility while still learning the most you can."
>
> / 2024 Cherub

Theatre Arts Concentrations

Performance (5-Week Program)

Daily classes in Acting, Voice/Movement, Performance Theory, and Text/Character Analysis. A wide range of rotating electives touching on all aspects of theatre arts round out the curriculum. Each actor performs in a fully mounted production at the end of the program.

Stage Management & Design/Tech (5-Week Program)

Classes in stage management and design are added to Acting and Voice/Movement classes. Craft a design concept, join a production crew, work alongside professional designers and technicians, and stage manage one of the fully mounted productions at the end of the summer.

Musical Theatre (5-Week Program)

Classes in Acting for the Song and Dance are added to Acting and Voice/Movement classes. This track offers students an exploration of storytelling specific to the world of musical theatre. Each actor performs in a fully mounted production at the end of the program, along with the Performance cohort.

The NHSI 2026 Theatre Arts 5-week program runs from June 28 – August 1.

Need-based scholarships are available.

Please visit nhsi.northwestern.edu or call (847)491-3026 for more information.

2026 Application Deadlines:

Early Admission – January 2, 2026
Regular Admission – February 27, 2026

> "I really think I have a new perspective on the world and my future. This summer was life changing in the best way."
>
> / 2023 Cherub

> "I genuinely am so impressed with everything I've gained in this program. I've experienced so much personal growth, received so much valuable advice, learned so much in classes and have a new sense of purpose."
>
> / 2023 Cherub