



2025-2026
SCHOOL
&
TEACHER
PROGRAMS



LETTER FROM THE EDUCATION TEAM

Dear Educators,

Join us with your students to explore the vibrant world of picture books through engaging, hands-on experiences that spark imagination, foster connection, and inspire discovery. The Carle's School & Teacher Programs celebrate the power of storytelling and visual literacy, offering meaningful opportunities to delve into the art of picture books while deepening appreciation for the creative process.

Led by experienced museum educators, our programs combine shared inquiry discussions with hands-on learning to support close looking, critical thinking, and joyful self-expression. Whether you participate on-site or virtually, you'll discover how text, illustration, and design work together to create powerful reading experiences—and inspire a lifelong love of art and books.

For more information or questions, please contact us at programs@carlemuseum.org.

‘A picture book is the first art gallery a child visits.’

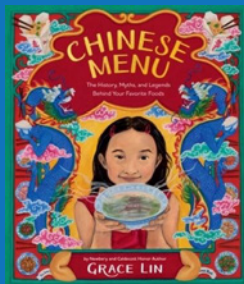
— Květa Pacovská,
Czech artist and author (1928-2023)

EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS

Book your field trip today!



**Open + Shut:
Celebrating the Art of Endpapers**
Through November 9, 2025



**The Art of
Grace Lin:
Meeting a
Friend in an
Unexpected
Place**
Through
January 4,
2026



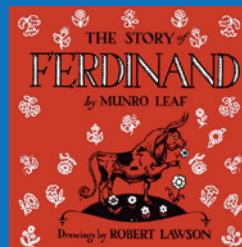
**Cooking
with
Eric Carle**
September 20,
2025 – August
23, 2026



**Sprites, Spells, and Splashes:
Magical Beings in Picture Book Art**
November 22, 2025 - April 12, 2026



**Click! Photographers
Make Picture Books**
January 17 - June 7, 2026



**Under the Cork Tree:
The Story of Ferdinand**
May 9 - November 8, 2026

First row, left to right

E.H. Shepard, Artwork for *The World of Pooh* by A.A. Milne. Courtesy of Penguin Young Readers Group, a division of Penguin Random House, LLC. © 1957 E.P. Dutton & Co., Inc.

Grace Lin, Artwork for *Chinese Menu: The History, Myths, and Legends Behind Your Favorite Foods* (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers). Courtesy of the artist. © 2023 Grace Lin.

Eric Carle, Artwork for *Today is Monday*. Collection of Eric and Barbara Carle. © 1993 Penguin Random House LLC.

Second row, left to right

Esmé Shapiro, Illustration for *Alma and the Beast* (Tundra Books). Collection of the artist. © 2019 Esmé Shapiro.

Nina Crews, Artwork for *The Neighborhood Mother Goose* (Greenwillow Books). Courtesy of the artist. © 2004 Nina Crews.

Book cover for *The Story of Ferdinand*, illustrated by Robert Lawson and written by Munro Leaf, 1936.

FIELD TRIPS

Celebrate Art and Storytelling with a Field Trip to The Carle!

Engage students in hands-on, inquiry-based learning through our immersive field trip programs. Each 90-minute guided visit includes time to explore the galleries and create art in the Art Studio. Guided tours are available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, and can be customized for all age groups.

Class visits to The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art align closely with the Massachusetts Visual Arts Curriculum Framework by offering students immersive, hands-on experiences that support key artistic practices in the areas of creating, responding, presenting, and connecting. Through guided tours of exhibitions and participatory studio art workshops, students experiment with a range of materials and techniques, reflect on their own work and that of others, and gain exposure to the elements and principles of design. The Museum's focus on picture book art provides rich opportunities for students to connect visual storytelling with language arts and social studies, deepening their understanding of art's cultural and historical contexts.



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These visits also align with the Massachusetts English Language Arts and Literacy Framework by encouraging close observation, inference, narrative comprehension, and oral and written expression. Students analyze visual texts, make connections between images and words, and engage in discussions that build vocabulary and support interpretation—skills central to reading comprehension and effective communication. In writing or sharing responses to artwork, they practice organizing ideas, supporting opinions with evidence, and using descriptive language.

Additionally, The Carle's programs support goals outlined in the National Core Arts Standards (NCAS) and the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for English Language Arts, both of which emphasize interdisciplinary learning, literacy across content areas, and the development of 21st-century skills such as critical thinking and creativity. By integrating visual and verbal storytelling, class visits to The Carle foster deep, standards-based learning that supports student growth across multiple disciplines.

Continued on following page



We have highly recommended this trip for future students. It was truly educational and enjoyable. Thank you!!

— Elementary school classroom teacher



Looking for a deeper experience?

Our multiple-visit programs offer a more comprehensive exploration of visual literacy and can be tailored to fit your curriculum. **Discounts are available for schools booking multiple visits.**

Prefer to explore at your own pace? Self-guided group visits are welcome on any public day, with a reservation.

PRICES AND BOOKING

Guided Field Trips

Groups of 10-50 participants.

Groups larger than 25 students will be divided into at least two groups.

Tuesdays are available by request and are ideal for groups larger than 50, since the Museum is closed to the public.

- \$10 Admission for Students/Youths
- For Guided Programs, a \$25 Guide Fee is applied to each group of 25 Students/Youths.
- We suggest 1 chaperone for every 6 students. Chaperones are admitted free of charge.
- Additional adults above the chaperone ratio will be charged adult admission (\$15). One-on-one aides are admitted free of charge and are not included in the chaperone ratio.
- Please complete our inquiry form at least two weeks before your visit. Bookings are subject to Museum availability and are not guaranteed.

Self-Guided Groups

\$10 Admission for Students/Youths

\$15 Admission for Chaperones. One-on-one aides are admitted free of charge.

*Please complete our **Self-Guided Tour Inquiry Form** at least two weeks before your visit.*

Bookings are subject to Museum availability and are not guaranteed.



Financial assistance

A limited number of field trip scholarships are available for Title 1 schools (all grades, all states) and are awarded at random through **The Carle Community Fund**. Please note eligibility status when completing a Field Trip Inquiry Form.



GUIDED TOUR THEMES FOR PREK-12 SCHOOL GROUPS

Nature Narratives

Explore the connection between art and the natural world through storytelling and artmaking.

Sharing Stories

Discover how artists tell stories through pictures and create your own stories to share.

The Art of Eric Carle

Take a closer look at the creative process of Eric Carle and experiment with collage techniques to inspire your own artmaking.

Explore, Imagine, Play *(Preschool and Kindergarten)*

Encourage creativity, gross motor skills, and language development through an interactive storytime and imaginative play with art materials.





YOUTH OUTREACH PROGRAMS



BRING THE CARLE TO YOU

Let the magic of The Carle come to your school or community!

Led by our experienced museum educators, these engaging programs celebrate **imagination, creativity,** and the **art-making process.**

- Designed for groups of **up to 30 participants**
- Duration approximately **30-45 minutes**
- Perfect for classrooms, libraries, and community centers

Community Outreach

Carle educators bring these engaging experiences to schools, libraries, and community centers across Hampshire, Hampden, and Franklin counties in Massachusetts.

Virtual Outreach Workshops

Virtual programs are also available, making it easy to connect with The Carle from anywhere.

Fees

Programs usually last 30-45 minutes and include pre- and post-program materials. The fee is \$200/class. Programs can be adapted for any age group and are ideal for one group or class up to 30 participants.

Visit <https://carlemuseum.org/education/our-programs/outreach> for more details.

THEMES FOR YOUTH OUTREACH PROGRAMS



EXPLORE, IMAGINE, PLAY

Grades: Pre-K and K
Duration: 30-40 minutes

Join Carle educators for this fun, interactive program encouraging creativity, gross motor skills, and language development! Participate in an interactive storytime and engage in storytelling through imaginative play, creative movement, singing, and exploration of materials.

I SEE A STORY: ALL ABOUT ERIC CARLE

Grades: PreK – Grade 3
Duration: 40 minutes

Join us for this interactive program and learn about the Museum from a Carle educator as you go behind the scenes to discover how Eric Carle transformed ideas, words, and pictures to create the books we love!

Financial assistance

A limited number of scholarships for youth outreach programs are available for Title 1 schools (all grades, all states) and are awarded at random through The Carle Community Fund. Please note eligibility status when completing a Youth Outreach Inquiry form.

INSPIRED BY PICTURE BOOKS: COLLAGE

Grades: PreK – 12
Duration: 45 minutes

Explore collage in this hands-on workshop with Carle Art Educators! Looking at picture book illustrations—including the art of Eric Carle—this workshop explores how paper can be used to tell stories. Educator-led activities encourage students to explore the potential of paper by tearing, cutting, arranging, and attaching different papers together.

INSPIRED BY PICTURE BOOKS: DRAWING

Grades: PreK – 12
Duration: 45 minutes

Celebrate drawing in this hands-on workshop! Picture books provide inspiration as we explore how drawings can express feelings, generate a sense of movement, and create settings for stories. Carle Art Educators facilitate a series of drawing games designed to spark the creative process and encourage students' own storytelling.

Visit <https://carlemuseum.org/education/our-programs/outreach> for more details.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR EDUCATORS

Discover inspiring ways to engage children in storytelling, self-expression, and creative exploration through art making, picture books, and play.

The Carle offers a variety of professional development opportunities—from hands-on workshops to conference sessions and keynote presentations.

Programs are available:

- At the Museum
- At your school or organization
- As a virtual program

Program participants receive a **10% discount** to use in The Carle Bookshop!

Educator and School/Library memberships are available and include program discounts.
JOIN HERE

Grace Lin Photo credit: Danielle Tait.

Grace Lin, Artwork for *The Ugly Vegetables* (Charlesbridge).
Collection of the artist. © 1999 Grace Lin.



EDUCATORS' NIGHT WITH GRACE LIN

November 13, 2025

3:30 – 6:30 pm

FREE. Reservations are required and begin September 29.

(1.5 PDPs) The Carle is pleased to welcome Grace Lin as the 2025 Educators' Night guest speaker! Grace will present an updated version of her 2016 TEDx talk, "The Windows and Mirrors of Your Child's Bookshelf." **Book signing to follow program.**

For more information, visit <https://carlemuseum.org/visit/events/educators-night-grace-lin>





INDIVIDUAL WORKSHOPS

Individuals wishing to register for a workshop can view listings on our [events page](#).

Financial assistance

A limited number of workshop spots are free for preschool teachers and elementary teachers in Title 1 schools through The Carle Community Fund. Scholarships are awarded at random and offered on a quarterly basis.

[Apply here.](#)

WHOLE BOOK APPROACH

Location: Virtual | October 14 & 21, 2025
6–7:30 pm
\$50 Non-Members/\$42.50 Museum Members

(3 PDPs) In this workshop, participants learn to critically evaluate the picture book as an art form, using this deeper understanding to create more engaging and interactive reading experiences. This lens serves as a foundation for designing and enriching reading experiences that foster curiosity, dialogue, and connection with young readers.

EXPLORING RACE & REPRESENTATION IN PICTURE BOOKS

Location: The Carle | December 5, 2025
9:30 am–12:30 pm
\$50 Non-Members/\$42.50 Museum Members

(3 PDPs) Learn how to use picture books to provide “mirrors and windows” that reflect readers’ identities and open their eyes to the world beyond their lived experiences. While visiting *The Art of Grace Lin: Meeting a Friend in an Unexpected Place* exhibition, we discuss book selection criteria and strategies for engaging children in conversations about race at storytime. We also share tools for conducting diversity audits and other resources for building equitable, inclusive book collections.

EXPLORING MATERIALS: PRINTMAKING

Location: The Carle | March 12, 2026
(Snow date: March 19, 2026)
6–8 pm
\$50 Non-Members/\$42.50 Museum Members

(2 PDPs) Join us in the Art Studio for a fun and accessible printmaking experience! Inspired by the *Cooking with Eric Carle* exhibition, this workshop invites participants to explore unconventional materials and creative techniques. Print, layer, and assemble a series of playful culinary-themed artworks. No prior experience needed—just bring your creativity!

EXPLORING MATERIALS: MARK-MAKING IN NATURE

Location: The Carle | May 19, 2026
6–8 pm
\$50 Non-Members/\$42.50 Museum Members

(2 PDPs) Discover how simple marks can spark big creativity! In this outdoor workshop, explore the power of mark-making as a tool for self-expression, motor skill development, and creative exploration in children. Surrounded by nature, participants engage in drawing activities, demonstrations, and playful games using a wide variety of accessible materials. No experience necessary—just a curiosity for the creative process and the natural world!

GROUP WORKSHOPS



The Carle offers a variety of workshops for schools and districts as professional development opportunities.

Open Book, Open Play: Engaging Toddlers and Preschoolers in Storytime

This workshop provides tools to engage young children in book sharing and imaginative play. Through this approach, children develop verbal and visual literacy as well as fine and gross motor skills.

The Whole Book Approach

Discover the difference between reading *to* children and reading *with* children. The Whole Book Approach was developed by former Carle educator Megan Dowd Lambert, author of *Reading Picture Books With Children*. Her work helps adults create an active, discussion-based reading experience for children that builds observation and critical thinking skills.

Wordless Picture Books

How does one “read” a book without words? Discover how wordless pictures help readers of all ages and abilities by

inviting them to look closely, share ideas, and engage in collaborative storytelling.

Exploring Race and Representation in Picture Books

Learn how to select picture books that reflect the lives and identities of all. We’ll survey the range of representation in recent picture books, discuss how to use books to talk about race, and share tools for how to build a book collection that fosters inclusivity.

Little Books, Big Feelings: Picture Books and Social- Emotional Learning

What stories do we tell to create safe and supportive learning spaces? This workshop explores how to use picture books to help young people identify and manage emotions, navigate relationships, and cope with difficult situations.

Exploring Materials: Paper
Join Carle Art Educators for a

hands-on and discussion-based workshop that takes a careful look at how just one material, paper, can inspire a wide range of creative experiences. Materials used—such as paper and drawing tools—are easy to find around the home.

Exploring Materials: Mark-Making

This workshop explores the accessible medium of drawing and how it fosters self-expression and motor skills in children through discussions and drawing games with everyday materials.

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GROUP WORKSHOPS



FEES

Abbreviated Workshops (approximately 90 minutes)

- Groups 30 or fewer: \$300
- Groups with 31-75 participants: \$500
- Groups with more than 75 participants: \$750

Full Workshops (approximately 2-3 hours)

- These four workshops are available: The Whole Book Approach; Wordless Picture Books; Exploring Race and Representation in Picture Books; Little Books, Big Feelings: Picture Books and Social Emotional Learning.
- Groups 30 or fewer: \$600
- Groups with 31-75 participants: \$1,000
- Groups with more than 75 participants: \$1,500

Please complete our **Professional Development Inquiry Form** at least two weeks before your visit. Bookings are subject to Museum availability and are not guaranteed.

Visit <https://carlemuseum.org/education/our-programs/professional-development> for more details.





ABOUT THE ERIC CARLE MUSEUM OF PICTURE BOOK ART

Founded by Eric and Barbara Carle in 2002, **The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art** is the international champion of picture book art. Situated on 7.5 acres in Amherst, Massachusetts, The Carle houses a rich and deep collection of art by more than 300 picture book artists, including Eric Carle (*The Very Hungry Caterpillar*), and illuminates its collection through exhibitions, education, programming, and art-making. These make The Carle a critical resource for picture book artists and authors, and for art-loving communities locally, nationally, and abroad. The Carle's mission is to elevate picture book art and inspire a love of art and art creation. Since opening its doors more than 20 years ago, The Carle has welcomed more than one million visitors—plus more than four million additional museumgoers who have enjoyed its touring exhibitions around the world.



Patricia Morrison McDonald
Arts Endowment



Mass
Cultural
Council

museums10



MUSEUM HOURS

Wednesday – Friday
10 am – 4 pm

Saturday 10 am – 5 pm

Sunday 12 pm – 5 pm