



CHICAGO YACHT CLUB FOUNDATION

2024 PROGRAMS

The Chicago Yacht Club Foundation offers programs for Chicago-area youth from communities traditionally underrepresented in boating. We seek to provide exposure to the water and the Chicago lakefront, sailing and STEM education, development of leadership skills, and post-secondary development. Community organizations in Chicago are invited to partner with us to deliver robust program offerings to young people. Partnering organizations are expected to share the chosen opportunities with your audience, identify participants, organize transportation to and from programs, and provide chaperones as necessary; the Foundation will handle the rest!



CYCF Adventure Boating Camp

Introduction Programs



Tall Ship STEM Cruises

SAILING LESSON - Summer

Join us for a half-day on the lake! We host groups of ten to try sailing out of Monroe Harbor with a certified sailing coach, aboard 25-foot keelboats. Participants will learn the basics of sailing and get to try out different roles on the boat.

TALL SHIP STEM CRUISES - Summer

Three-hour sailing expeditions will take place morning and afternoon for kids in elementary and middle school aboard the 77-foot-long tall ship *Inland Seas*, during the week of June 17th. When participants come aboard the schooner, they will become scientists and sailors. Over the course of these three-hour sails, participants will deploy scientific equipment to collect samples of organisms living in the water, learn about the connection Chicago has to Lake Michigan, and learn how to operate the boat. At the end of the sail, each participant will feel more connected to the Great Lakes and understand what we can do to take care of these important natural resources. The cruises will depart from the Chicago Yacht Club at Monroe Harbor. The boat can hold up to 32 participants per cruise.

Induction Programs

STEAM Programs - *Fall, Winter, Spring*

Designed for elementary and middle school-aged kids, our after-school program includes hands-on STEAM projects and experiments that teach students about boating. Participants learn things such as buoyancy and what makes a boat float, wind speed and direction, and how to use the wind to sail a boat. Programs can be held on-site at partner locations or at Chicago Yacht Club. Class size is 10 – 15 kids.

Adventure Boating Camp - *Summer*

We offer week-long programs for kids who are interested in learning how to sail or deepen their knowledge following an introductory program. Classes are taught by Chicago Yacht Club instructors and include the basics of sailing, learning to be comfortable in and around the water, and working together as a team. Sessions include both classroom and on-the-water instruction. Camps take place at Chicago Yacht Club's Belmont Harbor clubhouse location.



STEAM After-School Program

Swim School - *Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall*

We know that swimming is an essential skill for building comfort and competence on the water. That's why we offer grants to organizations who want to start their own swimming education programs. Send in a proposal for your very own swim program that meets the needs of your organization!

Development Programs

Lead HER Ship - *Summer*

This program is designed for young women ages 14 – 18. Participants embark on a five-day expedition across Lake Michigan aboard the tall ship *Inland Seas*. Through the Inland Seas Young Women in STEM program, participants are taught hands-on aboard the ship. All activities are designed to emphasize important lifelong skills: teamwork, cooperation, leadership, career awareness, and ecology. This is one of our most popular outreach programs; participants are selected by individual application. Applications open in February 2024, and decisions are made in May. Each trip can accommodate nine young women along with a female captain and crew. This year, the trip will sail from Chicago to Suttons Bay, MI, from June 24 to 28. The Chicago Yacht Club Foundation will provide transportation back from Suttons Bay.

Questions? Reach out to Francesca Sigmond
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