The Center for Arts Education maintains a roster of professional artists working a variety of art forms. School performances by these artists will engage students and enhance your school’s curriculum. Let CAE arrange a performance that your community will never forget!

Our teaching artists can also partner with classroom teachers to incorporate themes, concepts, and vocabulary from the arts into lessons which will engage and inspire.

CAE can customize a performance to suit your needs. We can help you choose and plan programming that works for you, considering things like:

• Fall, winter, or spring term
• Number of in-school sessions
• Number of sessions per week
• Number of classes served
• Grade level
• Visual art, theater, dance, or music
• Performer(s) - You may choose from our repertory of professional artists.

The following pages feature some of the repertory artists and cultural partners CAE works with to bring the arts to schools. Contact info@caenyc.org for more info.
The Michael-David Gordon Band *(Rhythm & Blues)*

Performances will showcase the great songs of rhythm and blues, and explore the enduring impact of the genre. Students and teachers will embark on a live performance-based journey through the history of rhythm and blues in America from the 1940’s & 50’s (‘Big Mama’ Thornton, Jackie Wilson); through the tumultuous 60’s (Sam Cooke, Aretha Franklin, and the ‘Motown Sound’); the political and cultural changes of the 70’s/80’s/90’s (Marvin Gaye, Michael Jackson), and today’s mixture of funk/soul and hip-hop (Beyoncé and Bruno Mars).

Tarana, led by percussionist/composer Ravish Momin, is a critically-acclaimed, innovative world music trio. The unique instrumentation of oud (middle-eastern lute), violin and drums is the basis for multicultural musical explorations. The works are inspired by Afghani, Chinese, Indian, North African, and Arabic music, blended with highly charged Jazz improvisation. The program highlights connections to the Silk Road, and has an interactive component during which students are taught rhythms and melodies.

Manhattan Brass Quintet *(Classical/Jazz)*

The quintet’s performances engage and educate young audiences about basic elements of music ranging from instrument introductions to formal concepts such as fugue and concerto. Composers, compositions and concepts covered include Bach (“Little Fugue”), Mozart (Horn Concerto), W.C. Handy (Jazz - St. Louis Blues), Henry Mancini (“The Pink Panther Theme”), music from the Baroque period (dance forms, ornamentation) and Richard Strauss (music in everyday society).
April Armstrong (Storytelling)

Magic happens when April and her friends get together. April tells a variety of traditional stories, nursery rhymes and folktales that involve some sassy characters and magical places that will get your students rocking! She is joined by her friends, such as master jazz pianist and arranger Mario Sprouse, and Broadway percussionist Napoleon Reveles-Bey, in a concert of stories with jazz accompaniment.

Gregg Goldston (Mime)

Imagine a performance where you understand what is said without hearing a spoken word, and see the invisible appear when nothing is really there at all. This is the power of Mime. Internationally renowned, Gregg creates a mesmerizing experience, during which the audience interprets what it sees as if it is actually in the story.

David Gonzalez (Storytelling)

This collection of creation myths from the Latino world—including South America, Puerto Rico, and the “Republic of da' Bronx”—is performed with passion, humor and panache by storyteller/musician/poet David Gonzalez. These tales offer some explanation of how elements of the natural world came to be, using contemporary language and his own unique imagery.

Ingrid Griffith (Storytelling)

In this one-woman show based on her own life, Ingrid Griffith turns the ordinary into the extraordinary, telling the story of how she moved away from Guyana, a small English-speaking country with a strong Caribbean influence. Comfortable with farce and confrontation, and with subtle adjustments of voice and bearing, Griffith can transform herself from an arthritic grandmother to a swashbuckling gold prospector. The story shines a bright light on the personal price of assimilation and immigration.
Souljerz Dance Crew (Hip-hop)

Come on a journey in time with Souljerz Crew as they dance through the history of hip-hop, from its birth in South Bronx, New York, through its evolution of styles over the decades, all the way to its present-day global dominance as an ever changing art form. Students will explore and try to imagine what the future has in store for this dynamic art form as they watch the current and next generations embrace this dance we call hip-hop.

Flamenco Vivo - Carlota Santana (Flamenco)

In a wonderful blend of entertainment and education, the artists, dressed in colorful, traditional costumes; perform and explain the intricacies of flamenco dance, song, and its origins in Spain. They embody the different regions and cultures that influenced flamenco: Andalusian, Gypsy, North African, Arabic and Judaic. Additionally, Bailes de Ida y Vuelta (round-trip dances) explores the growing and changing influence of Latin American and Caribbean music and dance on flamenco.

Nai-Ni Chen (Chinese Dance)

The renowned Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company’s spectacular telling of the origin of the Chinese New Year celebration is full of dazzling props, colorful costumes, mesmerizing music, fantastic acrobatics, and lively dance. The performances bring to life ancient times in a faraway village in China, Nian the monster terrorizing the people every 365 days and the wise old man and his ingenious invention that repelled the vicious monsters.