

SUMMER SPRINGBOARD
Look Inward. Go Upward.

Animation Infosheet

New student admissions for summer 2027 are open

2-Week Course

This is a two-week program where you'll focus on one course for the entire duration.

Program Highlights

- Develop foundational skills in animation through hands-on projects that emphasize storytelling, motion, and design.
- Create an original animated GIF from concept to final edit, showcasing technical and creative growth.
- Learn directly from experienced instructors and guest speakers connected to the Los Angeles animation industry.
- Explore the vibrant art and animation culture of Los Angeles through curated excursions to museums and professional studios.

2027 Dates

UCLA:

- Session 1: June 20 - July 2

Academic Program Overview

This intensive pre-college course immerses high school students in the art, craft, and creative process of animation through a combination of hands-on studio work, technical instruction, and artistic exploration. Students will gain a strong foundation in the core principles of animation, such as timing, movement, exaggeration, and storytelling, while learning how to transform ideas into dynamic visual narratives.

Through daily exercises and guided projects, participants will develop skills in storyboarding, character design, and motion, using both traditional and digital techniques. The course emphasizes iterative feedback, encouraging students to refine their work through critique and collaboration in a supportive studio environment.

Set in Los Angeles, the heart of the global animation industry, the program draws inspiration from the city's vibrant creative community, featuring potential guest speakers, studio insights, or museum visits that connect classroom learning to real-world practice. By the end of the program, students will have produced an original animated GIF that showcases their technical proficiency, creative voice, and understanding of the animation production pipeline.

Excursions

In 2026, students were able to visit the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures and Titmouse Studios. Students explored exhibits on the history and craft of animation. Guest speakers will provide insight into about professional workflows and career paths within animation. These real-world insights will deepen students' understanding of animation as both an artistic and industry-driven discipline, connecting classroom learning to the creative energy of Los Angeles.

Instructors

UCLA - Matt Incontri (2026)

Born in Canada, raised in Massachusetts and living in Los Angeles, animation has fueled Matt's life's journey. Growing up with a healthy diet of Disney classics, comic books and the occasional secret viewing of horror flicks, Matt's love for storytelling paired with his passion for drawing naturally created an animator out of him. With an Associate Degree in Graphic Design and a Bachelor's in Animation, his path through the animation industry has been nothing but an adventure spanning across commercial motion graphics, storyboarding on late night specials, directing short films, and animating on primetime series. Matt strives to tell compelling stories one drawing at a time.

Tuition Information:

Apply by November 30 to lock in the lowest prices of the year. Tuition increases on December 1.

Residential Students:

- **Includes:** all meals, lodging, excursions, academic course, weekend excursions
- **Excludes**: optional airport pickup and drop off service (available for an additional fee)
- **Price**: $6,298

Commuter Students:

- **Includes:** lunch, academic course, excursions, programming from 9am to 5pm, Monday-Friday
- **Excludes:** lodging, breakfast, dinner, weekend excursions
  - Weekend excursions can be added on for $125 per day
- **Price**: $3,298

Supplements:

- **Application fee**: Starting at $99 (mandatory, non-refundable)
- **Tuition Protection Plan**: Allows for cancellation for any reason up until the day of the program. Click here for more info.

Course Structure

There are nine 3-hour class sessions over the two-week course. During week one, students have class from 9am-12pm Monday - Friday. During week two, students have class from 9am-12pm Monday through Thursday. Afternoons in both weeks are dedicated to students' preferred College Readiness Workshops (CRW), True You, and Academics in Action, with Academics in Action including academic excursions, guest speakers, and course-related activities, such as an instructor-led project or student-led, independent study.

Typical Schedule

8AM	Breakfast
9AM	Academic Course / Commuter Student Arrival
12PM	Lunch
1:30PM	Academics in Action or Recreational Activity
3:30PM	CRWs, True You, or Academics in Action
5-5:15PM	Commuter Student Departure
6PM	Dinner
7PM	Clubs
10:30PM	Night Checks

Schedule above is a sampler; real schedules may vary based on program and academic track.

More info on Airport Transfer

More info on Unaccompanied Minor Service

Apply Now!

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