



Milwaukee Community Sailing Center  
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[www.sailingcenter.org](http://www.sailingcenter.org)

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Milwaukee Community Sailing Center  
Community Outreach Programs**

The Milwaukee Community Sailing Center (MCSC) offers a variety of outreach programs that enable the Milwaukee community to experience Lake Michigan through sailing and water safety training. Through coordinated efforts with many community service organizations, MCSC offers the following programs to the members of the greater Milwaukee community.

**Adaptive Sailing**

MCSC partners with local community groups and the Milwaukee Executive Office for Persons with Disabilities to offer Adaptive Sailing, a program that provides children and adults with disabilities the unique opportunity to discover the waters of Lake Michigan. With the help of two hydraulic lifts, an adaptive floating dock and specially equipped boats, the physically challenged can leave their disabilities on the dock as they experience the freedom of movement in a MCSC sailboat.

**Youth Programs**

Each season, MCSC partners with community programs to engage Milwaukee's urban, working class and minority youth in innovative sailing experiences that build character and promote a healthy spirit, mind and body. Need-based scholarships are available to ensure that all have the opportunity to participate, learn and enjoy Lake Michigan. Children who learn to sail realize that the skills they've learned will not only steer a sailboat in the right direction, but their lives as well.

**Prams in the Park**

MCSC's nationally recognized Prams in the Park program is an early water education program that introduces sailing to children ages eight through 11. Located in the Juneau Park and Discovery World Lagoons, students learn healthy water safety habits through sail theory, knot tying, tacking, rigging and other basic sailing maneuvers. With the supervision of MCSC instructors, students can even practice a capsize recovery drill. The Prams in the Park program started in 1985 and has received numerous accolades and recognitions for successfully introducing hundreds of young children to sailing and water safety.

**Learning.Building.Sailing.**

A comprehensive boat-building experience, Learning.Building.Sailing is MCSC's mini outward-bound program for Milwaukee's urban youth. With the help of their mentors and MCSC instructors, participants build a seaworthy boat, learning self-reliance, teamwork and leadership along the way. Students are taught basic construction techniques, simple naval architecture, team building and self-confidence. At the conclusion of the program, the boat is launched into Lake Michigan, giving students the opportunity to experience the rewards of their hard work by sailing in their own creation. In 2007, MCSC held the first all-girl Learning.Building.Sailing. program in partnership with Pearls for Teen Girls, a youth programming organization committed to maximizing girls' self-development.

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### **MAST Program (Milwaukee Area Sailing Teens)**

MCSC teams up with community nonprofit social service agencies to provide economically disadvantaged children the opportunity to explore the waters of Lake Michigan. Using sailing as a tool, the MAST program helps hundreds of students develop lifelong skills such as decision-making, teamwork, critical thinking, leadership and problem solving. As students begin to learn the art of sailing, they build self-esteem and self-confidence. The MAST program emphasizes water safety and respect for the environment, teaching students to develop a greater appreciation for Lake Michigan.

**MAST 101:** As a new academic component of the MCSC programs, MAST 101 teaches Math and Science Standards to Milwaukee's ninth and tenth graders, using sailing as a tool to excite, interest and motivate them in the learning process.

**MAST 101-The Expedition:** MCSC has partnered with a K-8 City Chartered Outward Bound school to provide sixth graders an experience of a lifetime. Teachers and MCSC staff created a Sailing Expedition Curriculum for the academic year. This interactive expeditionary learning curriculum taught math, science, reading, social studies (civics) and physical education through sailing.

### **Special Events and Community Groups**

The Milwaukee Community Sailing Center welcomes Milwaukee-area schools, businesses and public or private organizations for special events. Groups can enjoy a picnic, informative talks on water safety and sailing, sailboat rides and more.

### **CONTACT**

For more information about the Milwaukee Community Sailing Center, the public may call 414.277.9094. To arrange for interviews, photography, tours, demonstrations, or for media information, contact Rachel Wezek at 414.224.9424 or [Rachel@ebadvertising.com](mailto:Rachel@ebadvertising.com), or visit [www.sailingcenter.org](http://www.sailingcenter.org).

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