Registration is now under way for Spring art classes at The Art Center of The Museum of Modern Art, 4 West 54 Street. Open to children from 3 to 12, young people from 12 to 18, and adult amateurs, The Art Center offers a 15-week session beginning on January 31. Classes meet once a week and are limited in size. Fees range from $45 to $65.

Painting classes for beginners and advanced students, orientation classes, experimental classes in printmaking, sculpture, drawing and painting are among the courses offered. In addition Photography -- Criticism and Discussion, a course for beginners and advanced students of photography has classes scheduled three weeks apart to allow students to do work in between which can be presented for discussion and criticism at the meetings Mondays (7:30-9:30 p.m.; fee: $25 includes tuition only). Pottery, a course covering the basic methods of clay forming, decorating and glazing is offered on Thursdays (7-10 p.m.; fee: $65, plus basic materials); and, Jewelry Making, a study of a variety of techniques of constructing jewelry by hand, on Wednesdays (7-10 p.m.; fee: $65, plus basic materials).

Younger children are organized in classes by age beginning with three-year-olds. Included in the program are classes for parents and children to work together exploring creative media and the special classes of Puppet Making (8 to 10 years), Ceramic Sculpture (9 to 12 years) and sculpture classes for ages 11 to 18.

The Art Center also offers lecture courses given by Abraham L. Chanin, author of "Art Guide New York" and docent of The Museum of Modern Art. Old Masters to Moderns gives the interested student an opportunity to view the vast wealth of art treasures of New York City through guided visits to the outstanding art galleries and museums (Wednesdays 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 - 3 p.m.). A special series of five talks on Some Aspects of Looking at Modern Art will be given on Friday evenings from 8 to 9:30.