Audition Requirements

All auditions include an interview, plus:

**BAND**
- Two contrasting solos or movements and scales
- For percussion applicants: snare rudiments or drum set examples of different styles

**ORCHESTRA**
- One solo, scales, etude, and sight reading

**THEATRE**
- One memorized classical monologue (written before 1900), and one memorized contemporary monologue
- Monologues should be approximately one-minute in length and contrasting (one comedy, one drama)

**VISUAL ART**
- Portfolio - a body of work demonstrating passion for creating work and/or accomplishments in the visual arts; all mediums will be accepted

**VOCAL MUSIC**
- One classical, one contemporary (musical theatre or vocal jazz) song; ear training/aural skills, and sight reading

Audition Details

- Auditions are conducted each spring for Grades 8-11
- Students new to Canterbury may audition in the fall of their arrival
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- Criteria for admittance will include artistic ability, maturity, plus the ability to collaborate and receive feedback from teachers and peers
- The number of artists accepted each year will be determined by the Fine Arts faculty
- Students admitted to the program are not required to audition in subsequent years and will remain members of the Academy provided that requirements are met
- If a student auditions and is not admitted to the program, they are encouraged to audition again the following year
The Academy of the Arts
The Academy of the Arts at Canterbury School is a unique, student-driven program that provides an intensive arts experience within an exceptional academic environment. Designed for the student with an unrelenting passion for excellence in the arts, this audition-based program will expand the creative abilities of its members and help to prepare them for auditions and applications to collegiate programs of their interest. Ample opportunities for student leadership, performances/exhibits, collaboration, and innovation will enable our students to graduate with the confidence to excel in their continued studies. The Academy is welcoming to those who have already identified themselves as artists as well as those who wish to find their own voice and express it with confidence.

Program Elements
There are a number of features which make The Academy of the Arts at Canterbury School dynamic, including the following:

- Public performances and exhibits
- Collaboration with peers and faculty
- Introduction to the arts as a business
- AP credits and GPA weighting for select upper-level courses
- Special commendation on the Canterbury diploma and recognition in the graduation program
- High-level artistic experiences
- The ability to identify as an artist at an early age
- Real world lessons in time management, meeting deadlines, conflict resolution, and problem solving
- Developing the skills of creativity, innovation, and adaptability
- Preparation for college auditions/interviews

Concentrations
Students may audition for one of three major concentration areas within The Academy: Visual Art, Theatre (performance or production), and Music (vocal music or instrumental).

Faculty Mentorship
Every member of the Academy will be assigned a faculty advisor who will meet with them once per semester to set goals and create a road map for the academic year in their artistic area. The spring meeting will include a member of the college counseling department to discuss noteworthy academic and personal accomplishments in order to set the stage for the admissions process, especially if the students wishes to pursue admission to arts programs at the collegiate level.

“"The Academy is a great way to form collaborations and even try disciplines outside of what you auditioned for. It also opened my eyes to different kinds of arts. I’m incredibly grateful that this opportunity is available to all music, art, and theatre students."

Jessica Zhou ’22

“"The Academy of the Arts has given my peers a platform to critique my passion and polish my performances with valuable insight from the audience perspective. The Academy has also helped me realize the power of collaborating with other theatre Academy members and members of other disciplines."

Khy Bowe ‘24

“The Academy has helped me grow my confidence in performing and learn new techniques advised by my peers and mentor."

Jamie Sarno ’25

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Jessica Zhou ’22

“"It has been wonderful to be part of the Academy’s diverse, artistic community. The teachers and mentors have been instrumental not only in helping me navigate college auditions, but helping me grow as an artist and a person, and I can’t thank them enough."

Margarita Zambrano ’22

2022-23 Academy of the Arts
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Jessica Zhou ’22

“THE ACADEMY OF THE ARTS HAS GIVEN MY PEERS A PLATFORM TO CRITIQUE MY PASSION AND POLISH MY PERFORMANCE WITH VALUABLE INSIGHT FROM THE AUDIENCE PERSPECTIVE. THE ACADEMY HAS ALSO HELPED ME REALIZE THE POWER OF COLLABORATING WITH OTHER THEATRE ACADEMY MEMBERS AND MEMBERS OF OTHER DISCIPLINES.”

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