

# The Fine Arts Academy

at Jesse C. Carson High School



# What is the arts academy?

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It is the purpose and mission of the Fine Arts Academy of Carson High School to educate and prepare students for the twenty-first century through stringent academic requirements, a concentration of fine arts as a discipline, and service learning through the arts in preparation for post-secondary education.

# Purpose of the Program

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- To provide students in Rowan County that are interested in the arts as a career an overall experience of participating in a program that offers ALL of the arts in one school.
- To find a connection for students who are artistically minded.
- To help increase academic performance by creating a more well-rounded student.

# Benefits to Students

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- Focused exposure to arts disciplines.
- Preparation for college arts programs.
- Construction of a portfolio to use for college entrance interviews.
- Designation of Fine Arts Scholar at graduation ceremony.

# The Five Areas of Concentration

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- Vocal Music
- Theatre Arts
- Dance
- Visual Arts
- Instrumental Music

# The Research

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- Some research has shown that when students study the arts it leads to high achievement in other academic areas, especially when the arts are integrated throughout different content areas.
- In Chicago and Minneapolis, students who studied the arts went up two time faster than those in comparable schools. Students made major test gains. This was especially true for youth considered to be disadvantaged.
- In 2004, the College Board reported that students who had taken fine arts courses did better on the SAT than those who did not. Those who studied music scored 40 points higher in math and those who studied acting scored 66 points high in verbal.

## A well rounded education in the arts helps students develop:

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- Imagination
- Observation Skills
- Critical-Thinking Skills
- Complex Thinking Skills
- Critical Analysis
- Abstract Thought
- Pattern Recognition
- Perseverance
- Self Expression
- Pride in Work
- Symbolic Thinking and Recognition
- Different Learning Styles
- Connections to Several Content Areas
- Awareness of Their Own and Other Cultures
- Teamwork
- Presentation and Performance Skills
- Positive Self-Esteem

## **Schools with successful Fine Arts programs have the following characteristics:**

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- Community involvement of parents, business, artists, and cultural leaders who help promote and implement the program.
- Board of Education support through policies that value the arts and provide ample resources.
- Administration who support the arts by providing personnel, materials, scheduling, resources, and attend Arts events.
- Teachers who are well trained and are active artists in their personal lives.
- Planning of fine arts programs that are tied into the goals and vision of the school.



**Each concentration has  
specific requirements.**

# Vocal Music • Mrs. Wyatt

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- 4 Credits of Vocal Music
- 2 Credits of Arts Electives
- Participation in Extra Curricular Activities
  - Community Choir
  - Church Choir
  - Spring Musical
  - All-County Chorus
  - Mars Hill
  - All-State Chorus

# Vocal Music • Graduation Portfolio

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- Evidence of all choral course work, service learning project, and extracurricular activities should be included in the portfolio by the end of the student's senior year.
- The portfolio must also include the following:
  - Notes taken in class
  - Vocabulary
  - Special Music Journal Entries
  - Final Journal Entry Reflecting Overall Experience
  - Evidence of After-School Involvement
  - A List of Music Rehearsed
  - A Copy of the Lesson Taught (Service Project)

# Theatre Arts • Mr. Reynolds & Mrs. Glass

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- 4 Credits of Theatre Arts
- 2 Credits of Arts Electives



# Theatre Arts • Extra Curricular Activities

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- Students must participate in two of the four yearly shows in some form:
  - The Carson Cabaret
  - The Fall Show
  - The Winter Show
  - The Spring Musical
- Jobs include actor, technician, house management, and fundraising.



# Theatre Arts • Graduation Portfolio

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- Detailing all theatrical experiences and work. Due by the end of April of the student's senior year.
- May include videos, tickets, playbills, student's class work, field trip adjudication forms, etc.



# Dance • Mrs. Keller-Silver

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- 4 Credits of Dance
- 2 Credits of Arts Electives

# Dance • Extra Curricular Activities

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- Students must participate in two of following each year:
  - Outside Dance Classes
  - The Spring Musical



# Dance • Graduation Portfolio

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- Choreographic Journal that has prompted current ideas in choreography or will inspire new choreography.
- A Senior Solo that displays the proper use of choreographic and performance elements.
- A collection of works that show growth as a dancer and choreographer.

# Visual Arts • Mrs. Lundgren & Mrs. Morris

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- 4 Credits of Visual Arts
  - Visual Art 1
  - Visual Art 2
  - Honors Art
  - Advanced Art
  - Folk Art
- 2 Credits of Arts Electives

# Visual Arts • Requirements

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- Sketchbook • Minimum of 1 per class
- Art Shows • Participation in all shows.
- Art Club • Active Member
- Portfolio • 20 Pieces

# Visual Arts • Graduation Portfolio

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- A total of 20 works of art over the course of the student's high school career. The portfolio consists of original work with the exception of three-dimensional work, which can be photographed.
- **Quality Work • 6 Pieces**
  - Original pieces that are exemplary in concept, composition, and technical skills. All work in this category should be fully finished and polished.
- **Concentration Work • 7 Pieces**
  - Developed around a practical theme, media, visual idea, or concept. These works should be based on your own individual interest and focus on the process of investigation, growth, and discovery. The theme should be evident throughout all pieces creating a cohesive set.
- **Breadth Work • 7 Pieces**
  - Display a variety of concepts, techniques, and expressive works of art. This should not be limited to simply using a wide range of media but should also show different conceptual approaches.

# Instrumental Music • Mr. Helms

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- 4 Credits of Band
  - Band I
  - Band II
  - Honors Band III
  - Honors Band IV
- 2 Credits of Arts Electives



# Instrumental Music • Requirements

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- Perform a solo each year.
- Audition for All-County Band each year.
- Audition twice for an Honors Band Festival or participate in an outside ensemble.
- Membership in Tri-M Music Honors Society.
- Weekly Journal



# Instrumental Music • Extra Curricular Activities

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- Students must participate or audition for two of the yearly activities:
  - Marching Band
  - The Spring Musical
  - Outside Ensembles



# Instrumental Music • Graduation Portfolio

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- Students will supply evidence of all music coursework over their four years at Carson High School. The portfolio will contain music programs, papers, project, concert and solo recordings, journals, video of a lesson led in class, and a final project in the presentation of all materials.





# Being a member of the Arts Academy is an honor

but also a great deal of work. The Arts Faculty have set forth these specific guidelines that must be adhered to in order to maintain status in the Arts Academy. Students that do not fulfill their commitment to the Academy are subject to losing their status as a member of the Arts Academy. On the other hand, students that complete their coursework and requirements will have a distinct advantage over other students as they prepare for life outside of high school.