



LANCASTER ACADEMY  
— *of the* —  
Visual & Performing  
*Arts*

**ACADEMY OF THE  
VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS  
PROGRAM GUIDE  
2024-2025**



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>ACADEMY OF THE VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS - HIGHLIGHTS .....</b>	<b>3</b>
OVERVIEW.....	3
VISUAL ARTS - HIGHLIGHTS.....	4
PERFORMING ARTS - HIGHLIGHTS .....	4
<b>VISUAL ARTS – COURSE DESCRIPTIONS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
AVPA: VISUAL ARTS SEMINAR .....	5
AVPA: DRAWING AND PAINTING .....	5
AVPA: PORTFOLIO DEVELOPMENT .....	5
ACADEMY: INTERNSHIP .....	6
AVPA: GALLERY INTERNSHIP .....	6
AVPA: AP DRAWING, 2D DESIGN AND 3D DESIGN .....	6
<b>VISUAL ARTS ELECTIVE CHOICES .....</b>	<b>7</b>
CERAMICS I AND CERAMICS II.....	7
STUDIO IN GRAPHIC DESIGN .....	7
PHOTOGRAPHY I AND II.....	7
ILLUSTRATION & CARTOONING .....	7
JEWELRY I AND II .....	7
<b>VISUAL ARTS EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>PERFORMING ARTS – CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS .....</b>	<b>8</b>
GRADE 9 .....	8
GRADE 10.....	8
GRADE 11.....	8
GRADE 12.....	8
<b>PERFORMING ARTS – COURSE DESCRIPTIONS .....</b>	<b>9</b>
AVPA: MUSIC THEORY I.....	9
AVPA: AP MUSIC THEORY.....	9
AVPA: LEADERSHIP IN MUSIC.....	9
ACADEMY: INTERNSHIP .....	10
<b>PERFORMING ARTS EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES .....</b>	<b>10</b>



## *Academy of the Visual and Performing Arts - Highlights*

### Overview

The Lancaster Academy of the Visual and Performing Arts is a unique organization designed for students with a strong interest in the visual or performing arts. Our mission is to provide students with a solid foundation in the arts through a sequence of academic courses, career exploration opportunities, and inspiring interactions with fellow students, faculty, and professional artists.

The Arts Academy curriculum was designed by the LHS art and music teachers and implemented in the Fall of 2008. With no national model to follow, we created coursework and planned extra-curricular activities that would help our students prepare for careers in the visual or performing arts. Since that time, our program has become a model for other districts wishing to implement an academy for the arts. The LHS Arts Academy is so unique that Gary Stith, a well-known music educator and author, included an article about our program in his 2017 publication of *The Conductor's Companion: 100 Rehearsal Techniques, Imaginative Ideas, Quotes, and Facts*.



No matter what career path they ultimately choose, there are numerous benefits for students who participate in the Arts Academy. During the three year program, students increase their knowledge and understanding of the arts and improve their artistic and/or musical abilities. They gain a strong work ethic and leadership skills, learn how to communicate ideas and plan for long-term projects, and develop self-confidence as they collaborate with teachers, peers, alumni, and professional artists.

Throughout the courses in the Arts Academy curriculum, students perform for their peers, critique each other's artwork, and work together to prepare projects and presentations about topics related to the visual and performing arts. All Arts Academy students take college-level courses in Music Theory or Drawing, 2D Design and 3D Design. In addition to the course curriculum, students interact with guest artists and musicians, job shadow at area businesses, prepare for college applications and auditions, and complete internships. Outside of the classroom, students perform in a recital or participate in an art exhibition during their sophomore, junior, and senior years. The visual arts students operate a professional art gallery in our school, and many music students volunteer to perform at a variety of school and community events. All students serve on various committees to plan, organize, and facilitate the Festival of the Arts each year. Students visit art galleries and attend numerous professional performances as well.



---

## Visual Arts - Highlights

### Benefits to participation:

- Unique career exploration and internship placement opportunities based on availability in diverse art fields including:
  - Art Service...Art Education, Art Therapy
  - Fine Arts...Gallery docent, Exhibiting artists.
  - Craft Arts...Jeweler, Clay artist, Woodworkers
  - Graphics...Web designer, Publication/print design
  - Illustration...Fashion, Costume, Theatre design, Advertising
  - Digital/Film...Photography, TV station, Editing
- College Credit Courses: Visual Arts Academy students can earn AP credit by taking either AP Drawing, AP 2D Design or AP 3D Design.
- Involvement with the running of our LHS Arts Academy Art Gallery and Senior Exhibition.

★ 8th grade students interested in applying for the Visual Arts Academy must be enrolled in Studio in Art as a freshman.

---

## Performing Arts - Highlights

### Benefits to participation:

- A solid foundation for many real-world settings including college and performance venues.
- Advanced (college-level) music courses with both written and aural components
- Collaboration with peers, teachers, alumni, and professional musicians

Job Shadowing and internship placements in highly specific performing arts fields including:

- Music Education (Instrumental, Choral, General)
- Music Business
- Musical Theatre
- Music Therapy
- Drama/Dance
- Radio
- Television
- Technical Theatre

★ Students applying for acceptance into the Performing Arts track of the Arts Academy need to have some prior experience in performing ensemble(s).



## *Visual Arts – Course Descriptions*

⊗ Students required to have completed Studio in Art in Grade 9

---

### AVPA: Visual Arts Seminar

*6125 Grade 10*

*1 credit*

⊗ Prerequisite: Studio in Art and Enrollment in AVPA

This full year introductory course is designed to orient students to the Academy of Visual and Performing Arts. During the year, students will develop their creative problem solving and critical thinking abilities by exploring the creative process through production of a body of their own individual, unique work of art. A strong art history component is integrated into the course, giving students the opportunity to examine great works of art in a variety of different cultures. There is a focus on visual arts career exploration, allowing students to explore and learn about the vast array of career opportunities available to them in the field of Art and Design. Students develop strong leadership and communication skills by working together to complete shared tasks. They will also get involved in the world of art and experience it firsthand through meeting with visiting artists, participating in career-driven field trips, exhibiting their own work to the public, and attending art shows and musical performances.

---

### AVPA: Drawing and Painting

*6132 Grade 10*

*1 credit*

⊗ Prerequisite: Studio in Art or DDP in Art

This in-depth course continues where Studio in Art left off, concentrating primarily on drawing and painting. Exploration of media and techniques is emphasized. Students are encouraged to find personal answers to art problems using skills and techniques acquired in the course. The course is designed to foster a deeper understanding of art practices. Art criticism and art assessment help the student learn to appreciate their own and others' achievements.

---

### AVPA: Portfolio Development

*6120 Grade 11*

*1 credit*

⊗ Prerequisite: Drawing and Painting

This course ties together the student's previous art education experiences. It is designed for the highly motivated student who is serious about the study of art. It allows students to further explore areas of interest and to critically look at their own work and the works of others. Students develop a journal/sketchbook that becomes a personal resource for new work. Preparation and presentation are ongoing as students assess works to be included in a final portfolio.



---

### Academy: Internship

**9050 (Fall, Summer) Grade 11,12**

***½ credit***

- ⊗ Prerequisite: Enrollment in AVPA, LLA or HCA.
- ⊗ Required: Own transportation to/from mentor's job site

The CEIP program is designed to give students hands-on experience in the career field of their choice. It also includes classroom learning on important workplace topics, such as resume preparation and effective interviewing techniques, teamwork, projecting a professional image, and job motivation and benefits. Students are placed with a local company in their desired field to complete the required internship hours.

---

### AVPA: Gallery Internship

**6127 Grade 11 or 6126 Grade 12**

***½ credit***

- ⊗ Prerequisite: Enrollment in AVPA

This course fulfills the internship requirement for the Arts Academy. Student will be in charge of running our Academy Gallery at LHS. Students will be involved in all aspects of putting on an exhibition, including selecting themes, collecting/preparing artwork and signage, designing the layout of the gallery, painting walls, setting lighting, advertising and publicizing the exhibit, planning interactive activities, hosting opening receptions, and more. The Gallery will hold exhibits by both student and professional artists. Internship hours will be fulfilled during the school day as well as after school and certain evenings.

---

### AVPA: AP Drawing, 2D Design and 3D Design

**6240 Grade 12**

***1 credit***

- ⊗ Prerequisite: Portfolio Development

AP Drawing, AP 2-D Design, and AP 3-D Design are actually 3 different courses, but they all take place during one class period. Students will choose which AP course they want to be enrolled in after the 1<sup>st</sup> week of school in September. This course is for students who wish to pursue their own independent project in a series of visually related artworks (Sustained Investigations). Students are strongly encouraged to submit these works to the College Board in May for possible college credit. Please note, even though some colleges still require students to take the college's Foundation Art courses, most colleges will allow students (both art majors, and non-art majors) to use an AP Art credit as a humanities elective.





## Visual Arts Elective Choices

*In addition to the AVPA required courses, students must take at least ONE of the following courses.*

★ Refer to the Art Course Descriptions for additional course information

---

### Ceramics I and Ceramics II

*6113 and 6223 Grades 10, 11, 12*

*½ credit + ½ credit*

---

### Studio in Graphic Design

*6111 Grades 10,11,12*

*1 credit*

---

### Photography I and II

*6118 and 6124 Grades 10,11,12*

*½ credit + ½ credit*

---

### Illustration & Cartooning

*6109 Grades 10,11,12*

*1 credit*

---

### Jewelry I and II

*6122 and 6123 Grades 10,11,12*

*½ credit + ½ credit*

## Visual Arts Extracurricular Activities

*In addition to the AVPA required courses, students are encouraged to maintain membership in one or more extracurricular activities:*

- Art Club
- Art Honor Society
- Design Club
- Yearbook



## *Performing Arts – Curriculum Requirements*

In addition to the classes listed below, students are encouraged to take other elective classes, and schedule permitting, perform in a second ensemble. \*Successful completion of a performing ensemble includes learning all music, displaying a good attitude and work ethic, and attending lessons and performances.

---

### Grade 9

1. Enrollment in and successful completion\* of a full-year Performing Ensemble:
  - Concert Band
  - Symphonic Band
  - Symphony Orchestra
  - Wind Symphony
  - String Orchestra
  - Mixed Chorus
2. Application to the Academy in January

---

### Grade 10

1. Enrollment in and successful completion\* of a full-year Performing Ensemble:
  - Concert Band
  - Symphonic Band
  - Symphony Orchestra
  - Concert Choir
  - Wind Symphony
  - String Orchestra
  - Mixed Chorus
2. AVPA: Music Theory I

---

### Grade 11

1. Enrollment in and successful completion\* of a full-year Performing Ensemble:
  - Concert Band
  - Symphonic Band
  - Symphony Orchestra
  - Concert Choir
  - Wind Symphony
  - String Orchestra
  - Mixed Chorus
2. AVPA: AP Music Theory
3. Optional: The Internship may be completed during a student's junior or senior year.

---

### Grade 12

1. Enrollment in and successful completion\* of a full-year Performing Ensemble:
  - Concert Band
  - Symphonic Band
  - Symphony Orchestra
  - Concert Choir
  - Wind Symphony
  - String Orchestra
  - Mixed Chorus
2. AVPA: Leadership in Music
3. Internship: CEIP or Gallery Internship or Education Intern for Intro to Music or other music courses





## *Performing Arts – Course Descriptions*

---

### **AVPA: Music Theory I**

**6540 Grade 10**

**1 credit**

★ Recommended: Band, Orchestra or Choir Experience

This course helps students develop an understanding of the elements of music while putting those elements to practical use. Students will learn more about reading, writing, and analyzing music utilizing written and aural examples from all time periods of music. Basic piano skills, an overview of music history, and the incorporation of music technology will enhance each student's learning experience.

---

### **AVPA: AP Music Theory**

**6528 Grade 11**

**1 credit**

⊗ Prerequisite: Music Theory I

↔ **DUAL ENROLLMENT OPTION AVAILABLE**

**MUS210 Music Theory for Non-Majors (3 credits)**



AP Music Theory is an expansion and continuation of topics covered in Music Theory I. This college level course includes instruction in musical terminology as well as notational, compositional, musical analysis, and aural skills. Students may earn college credit by taking the AP Music Theory Exam, or they may choose a dual enrollment option to earn credit for MUS210-Music Theory for Non-Majors (3 credits) at SUNY Buffalo State University. Any student planning to take a music course in college should definitely enroll in AP Music Theory!



---

### **AVPA: Leadership in Music**

**6550 Grade 12**

**1 credit**

⊗ Prerequisite: Enrollment in AVPA, approval from AVPA director

This course is the final class for AVPA performing arts students. During the first quarter, students will explore career options and prepare for college by researching various schools, degree programs, and course sequences. Students will create resumes, gather application materials, and prepare for auditions and interviews. They will learn about the Common App and FAFSA and complete a financial literacy unit. During the second and third quarters, students will propose and develop a recital project. Students will learn about music through history, research standard and modern repertoire for their instrument/voice, and complete a project and presentation about a piece of their choosing. Students will have several opportunities to perform for the music faculty and their classmates, and the project will culminate with the AVPA Senior Recital performance. During the 4th quarter, students will propose topics/projects for the remainder of the course. The final weeks of the class will be reserved for pursuing community service projects and topics based on students' needs and interests.



---

## Academy: Internship

*9050 (Fall, Summer) Grade 11,12*

*½ credit*

⊗ Prerequisite: Enrollment in AVPA, LLA or HCA.

⊗ Required: Own transportation to/from mentor's job site

The CEIP program is designed to give students hands-on experience in the career field of their choice. It also includes classroom learning on important workplace topics, such as resume preparation and effective interviewing techniques, teamwork, projecting a professional image, and job motivation and benefits. Students are placed with a local company in their desired field to complete the required internship hours.

## *Performing Arts Extracurricular Activities*

*In addition to the AVPA required courses, students are strongly encouraged to maintain membership in one or more extracurricular activities:*

- Brass Choir
- Carnival Kids Steel Orchestra
- Handbell Choir
- Jazz Combo
- Jazz Ensemble
- Marching Band
- Musical
- Performing Arts Society
- Pit Orchestra
- Show Choir
- Stage Crew
- String Quartets
- Swing Choir
- Swingin' Strings
- Tenor Bass Choir
- Winter Guard
- Woodwind Choir