



## *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*.

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 develop into highly skilled artists and performers. Additionally, 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, 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 2D Drawing and 2D Design. In addition to the course curriculum, students interact with guest artists and musicians, visit colleges, job shadow at area businesses, 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, 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 and Dinner Theatre each year. Students visit art galleries and attend numerous professional performances as well.





# THE ACADEMIES AT LANCASTER HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM AND COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## 2020-2021 ACADEMY OF THE VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

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### 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 AP 2D Drawing & 2D 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

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### 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, 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 major of the 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

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### AVPA: Visual Arts Seminar

*6125 Grade 10*

*1 credit*

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.

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### 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.

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### AVPA: Portfolio Development

*6120 Grade 11*

*1 credit*

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 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.



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### 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.

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### AVPA: Gallery Internship

*6126 Grade 11 (Spring) or Grade 12 (Fall)*

*½ credit*

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.

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

*6240 Grade 12*

*1 credit*

This course is for students who wish to pursue their own independent project in a series of visually related artworks (concentrations). 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 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

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### Ceramics I and Ceramics II

*6113 and 6223 Grades 10, 11, 12*

*½ credit + ½ credit*

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### Studio in Graphic Design

*6111 Grades 10,11,12*

*1 credit*

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### Photography I and II

*6118 and 6124 Grades 10,11,12*

*½ credit + ½ credit*

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### Illustrating & Cartooning

*6109 Grades 10,11,12*

*1 credit*

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### 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*

★ Successful completion in performing ensembles includes satisfactory knowledge of all music, a good attitude and attendance at all performances. Additionally, in band and orchestra, satisfactory lesson attendance and completion of all scale and performing requirements.

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### Grade 9

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

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### Grade 10

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

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### Grade 11

1. Enrollment in and successful completion\* of a full-year Performing Ensemble:
  - Concert Band
  - String Orchestra
  - Women's Choir
  - Mixed Chorus
  - Wind Symphony
  - Symphonic Band
  - Symphony Orchestra
2. AVPA: AP Music Theory
3. Optional: Grade 12 Courses

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### Grade 12

1. Enrollment in and successful completion\* of a full-year Performing Ensemble:
  - Concert Band
  - String Orchestra
  - Women's Choir
  - Mixed Chorus
  - Wind Symphony
  - Symphonic Band
  - Symphony Orchestra
2. AVPA: Performing Arts Senior Project
3. Internship (CEIP) or Intro to Music Special Education Course
4. Optional
  - Music Tech
  - Music History
  - Composition & Improvisation
  - Piano & Guitar Performance



## *Performing Arts – Course Descriptions*

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### 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.

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### AVPA: AP Music Theory

*6528 Grade 11*

*1 credit*

⊗ Prerequisite: Music Theory I

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 take the AP Music Theory Exam in the spring to earn college credit.



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### AVPA: Performing Arts Senior Project

*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. During the second and third quarters, students will propose and develop a final project. Students will learn about music through history, research standard and modern repertoire for their instrument/voice, and complete a paper and presentation about a piece of their choosing. Students will have several opportunities to perform for the music faculty and their classmates. 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 topics based on students' needs and interests.

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### Academy: Internship

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⊗ 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
- Jazz Ensemble
- Marching Band
- Men's Chorus
- Musical
- Performing Arts Society
- Pit Orchestra
- Show Choir
- String Quartet
- Vocal Jazz
- Winter Guard
- Woodwind Choir