

# KIRBY SCHOOL SCHOOL PROFILE 2018-2019

**Christy Hutton**  
Head of School

**Joe Poirot**  
Assistant Head of School

**Faith Reid**  
Director of Student Affairs

**Amy Hemmert**  
Director of Admissions

**Mariel Desrosier**  
Dean of Students

**Lis Bensley**  
College Counselor

**Stephenie Dekking**  
Registrar



425 Encinal Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Phone: 831.423.0658  
Fax: 831.423.0679  
kirby.org

## MISSION STATEMENT

Through intellectual challenge in a responsive environment, Kirby empowers students to shape their futures with confidence. Our students learn to think critically, develop their creativity, and engage diverse communities with thoughtfulness and respect.

Core Beliefs:

- Offering academic challenge across the disciplines at all age levels maximizes the growth of each Kirby student
- Kirby's inspiring faculty cultivate and model lifelong curiosity
- Our commitment to small class sizes enables us to be responsive to every learner
- Student confidence is supported by our close-knit culture of kindness and mutual respect
- Young people who have an active voice in their own education and community will be motivated and enthusiastic learners
- When adolescents are taught and encouraged to lead healthy, balanced lives, their learning capacity and happiness increase
- Development of creativity and adaptability are crucial to a growth mindset and enhanced through exploration of a wide variety of arts, electives, and experiences
- Collaboration among parents, faculty, and students is fundamental to student success
- Culturally responsive education is a conscious, ever-deepening process of recognizing, exploring, and embracing our differences

## THE SCHOOL

Kirby School is an independent, co-educational day school for grades 6 through 12 and is a member of, and is accredited by, the California Association of Independent Schools, the National Association of Independent Schools, and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. Kirby's CEEB Code is 053290. Established in 1994, Kirby was named for a Santa Cruz pioneer who devoted her life to education, freedom, and enfranchisement. The School was founded on the belief that students who are respected and encouraged will exhibit great enthusiasm for learning and achieve at the highest levels.

## FACULTY

Fifty-nine percent of Kirby's 46 faculty members hold advanced degrees, including 7 Doctorates and 20 Master's Degrees. Fine and performing arts teachers have augmented their formal degrees with extensive professional experience.

## STUDENTS

Kirby enrolls 258 students: 81 in the middle school (6-8) and 177 in the high school (9-12). The graduating Class of 2018 had 43 students. Kirby's average class size is 12. The school admits students on their ability to be successful in a rigorous academic environment without regard to race, color, creed, gender, sexual orientation, religion, physical disability, national origin or other legally protected status.

## FINANCIAL AID

Kirby's commitment to financial aid, designed to support a highly qualified and diverse student body, is a fundamental part of the school's mission. For the 2018-2019 academic year, 22% of Kirby's students received financial assistance, totaling \$1,146,050.



# Academic Program

## HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Kirby's graduation requirements exceed the "a-g" admissions requirements of the University of California system.

Honors and AP courses are listed in **bold**. Semester-long courses are marked with an \*

### ENGLISH (4 years required)

English 9

English 10

English 11 and English 12 choices:

Banned Books \*

Graphic Novels \*

Personal Narratives \*

Public Speaking \*

**AP Multicultural English  
Literature & Composition  
Creative Writing**

History/Literature/Art of Iran/Iraq

History/Literature/Art of India/  
Pakistan

### HISTORY (3 years required)

History 9: World History of the  
Middle Ages

History 10: Modern World History or  
**Honors World History**

History 11: US History or  
**Honors US History Practicum**

**Honors Art History**

History/Literature/Art of Iran/Iraq

History/Literature/Art of India/  
Pakistan

Utopias and Distopias

### LANGUAGES (2 years of one language required)

American Sign Language 1, 2, 3 & 4

Spanish 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5

Latin 1, 2 & 3

### MATHEMATICS (3 years required)

Algebra 1

Geometry

Algebra 2

Pre-Calculus

**AP Calculus B/C**

**AP Statistics**

**Honors Linear Algebra**

**Honors Differential Equations**

### LABORATORY SCIENCES (3 years required)

Biology

Chemistry

Forensic Chemistry

Human Biology \*

Marine Biology \*

Physics

**Honors Biology**

**Honors Physics**

**Honors Environmental Science**

**AP Physics**

### COMPUTER SCIENCE ELECTIVES

Intro to Programming: Graphics  
and Mini-games \*

Programming for the Internet \*

Advanced Programming: Intro to  
Computer Science: Abstraction,  
Algorithms, and Data Structures

Advanced Programming:  
Language Building Blocks:  
Models of Computation

### MULTIMEDIA ELECTIVES

Multimedia Journalism 1 & 2

Yearbook (1 unit/sem)

Audio Engineering Mixing Studio

Digital Cinematography for Future  
Filmmakers

Visual Effects, Animation & Movie  
Magic

### PERFORMING ARTS (1 year required)

Chorus (1 unit/sem)

Chamber Choir (by audition)

Jazz Choir (by audition) (1 unit/sem)

Treble Choir (by audition)

Orchestra (by audition) (1 unit/sem)

Jazz Ensembles (by audition)  
(1 unit/sem)

Music Theory

Drama 1, 2, 3 & 4

Intro to Dance

Dance Company (by audition)  
(1 unit/sem)

### VISUAL ARTS (1 year required)

Art 1: Foundation

Art 2: Intermediate 2D Art

Art 3: Portfolio Preparation

Art 4: Portfolio Preparation

**AP Studio Art: 2D Design**

**AP Studio Art: 3D Design**

**AP Studio Art: Drawing**

**Honors Art History**

Book Arts 1, 2 & 3

Photography

Photo: Portfolio Preparation

### FITNESS, WELLNESS & HUMAN DEV.

Health and Wellness \* (1 semester  
required)

High School Fitness \* (2 units/sem) or  
Contract Fitness \* (1 unit/sem)  
(4 units total required)

Psychology \*



# Academic Achievement

## INTENSIVE ACADEMIC PATHS

In addition to Honors and AP courses, Kirby offers four elective high school Intensive Paths for students wishing to pursue in-depth study in a specific academic or artistic field. All paths meet or exceed the 94-unit graduation requirement.

### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INTENSIVE PATH (STIP)

STIP provides a program for students interested in intensive study of science, math, and/or computer sciences, with the goal of reaching a high level of mastery and positioning themselves for advanced college-level work. STIP students' coursework includes four years of laboratory science, four years of mathematics (including Pre-calculus), a research project or internship, and additional elective units in science, math, and computer science.

### HUMANITIES INTENSIVE PATH (HIP)

HIP enables students who are passionate about history, writing, and/or literature to explore those areas in depth. HIP coursework includes five years of history or English and culminates in a focused senior project advised by a faculty mentor.

### LANGUAGES INTENSIVE PATH (LIP)

LIP offers students intensive study of foreign languages and cultures. LIP students use their elective options for focused study in world cultures, including four years of one foreign language and two additional years in a second language.

### ARTS INTENSIVE PATH (AIP)

AIP emphasizes the study of fine or performing arts. Under the mentorship of a faculty advisor, AIP students choose a general arts program or concentrated study in a specific discipline, supported by a total of 18 additional units in the arts and a creative, culminating project presented in the senior year.

## GRADING AND CLASS RANK

Grade point average (GPA) is calculated using all courses. In high school, final GPAs are cumulative from the fall semester of freshman year. For transfer students, all courses from the previous school are used (except when transferring from an International School). Advanced Placement, Honors, and University of California transferable college-level courses are weighted. Class Rank: Students are not ranked.

## ACT AND SAT TEST SCORES

### SAT REASONING TEST SCORES AVERAGE COMBINED SCORES

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>KIRBY</b>	1957	1270*	1330*	1310*
<b>NATIONAL</b>	1490	1083	1083	NA

SAT Reasoning combined scores include math, critical reading and writing scores.

\* Out of 1600

### ACT REASONING TEST SCORES AVERAGE SCORES

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>KIRBY</b>	29.9	26.9	26.9	29*
<b>NATIONAL</b>	21.0	21.0	20.9	NA

\* Scores are from tests taken through June 2018. Scores from tests taken after June 2018 are not available at the time of printing.



# College Admissions

Kirby graduates have matriculated at the following schools in the past 5 years:

American University	McDaniel College	Tufts University*
Bard College	Mills College	University of British Columbia
Beloit College	Mount Holyoke College	University of California, Berkeley*
Berklee College of Music	New York University*	University of California, Davis
Boston Conservatory	Northeastern University*	University of California, Los Angeles*
Boston University*	Northern Arizona University	University of California, Riverside
Brown University*	Northwestern University*	University of California, Santa Barbara
Cabrillo College	Oberlin College*	University of California, Santa Cruz
California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo*	Occidental College	University of Colorado, Boulder
Carlton College*	Oregon State University	University of Colorado, Denver
Carnegie Mellon University*	Pitzer College*	University of Denver
Case Western Reserve University	Portland State Honors Program	University of Edinburgh
Clark University	Princeton University*	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign*
Colgate University*	Purdue University	University of Oregon
Colorado School of Mines	Quest University Canada	University of the Pacific
Colorado State University	Reed College	University of Pittsburgh
Columbia College Chicago	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Puget Sound
Columbia University*	Rhode Island School of Design	University of Reading (UK)
Cornell University*	San Francisco Art Institute	University of San Francisco
Emerson College	San Diego State University	University of South Wales
Emily Carr University of Art and Design (Canada)	Santa Barbara City College	University of Southern California*
Evergreen State	Santa Clara University	University of Vermont
Fashion Institute of Technology	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	University of Washington
George Washington University	School of Visual Arts	Utah Valley University
Gettysburg College	Scripps College*	Washington University, St. Louis*
Goucher College	Seattle University	Vassar College*
Hampshire College	Smith College	Wellesley College*
Harvey Mudd College*	Southern Oregon University	Wesleyan University*
Lewis and Clark College	Stanford University*	Western Washington University
Loyola Marymount University	Swarthmore College*	Whitman College
	The New School	Whittier College
		Willamette University

\* Indicates a college with an acceptance rate of 30% or lower. This represents less than 5% of American colleges.