



MARIN
ACADEMY

everything
is a question




how can I pick the **right** school for me?

what's the point of **geometry**?



how do
I know
what I'm
passionate
about?

what does my **future** hold?



how do I
know I'll
fit in?

is there a right answer?

- ▶ Marin Academy offers a dynamic path along the journey of learning. Both in and out of the classroom, we encourage students to ask tough questions and initiate difficult conversations. By pushing the boundaries of not only what, but also how to learn, an MA education empowers students to move beyond information mastery to become inspiring and compassionate contributors to a better world. Students at MA develop the intellectual and creative toolkit to live life to its fullest.



what if I dig a little deeper?

Students at MA explore the construction of official history, then uncover untold stories through "The Hidden History Museum" project. In small groups, they create website exhibits to probe and share the wider historical context of topics like:

treatment for the mentally ill

racial demography in baltimore

DNA privacy and genetic testing

how can I chart my own path?

At MA, we believe students need time to press the "pause" button and reflect. Opportunities abound for teachers to collaborate with and guide students. Through intentional transition-to-high-school programs like the freshmen overnight camping trip and small-group advising periods, we encourage students to mix laughter and joy with academic rigor and exploration. The result? Students who feel comfortable with who they are—empowered to pursue their interests.

how can I improve my community?

Here, we don't believe in labels that silo kids in one track. We know that creative expression gives every student a new and powerful language with which to communicate, regardless of the subject. In many classes, students marry art and science, explore the meaning of space and place, and bring their visions to life through creativity and the latest online tools. Here's one example:

the course: visual arts—architecture and technology



Study the fundamentals of architecture, like how to read a floor plan and the importance of perspective.



Research the ways that architecture has transformed communities.



Examine the school's master plan to identify ways to enhance MA.



Sketch your proposed project using digital architecture tools.



Craft and perfect a physical model of your structure using 3D printing.



Share your idea with the class and community to gather input and refine.

where are the connections?

Life is not multiple choice. There's not one *absolute* way to learn or live. That's why Marin Academy encourages students to break out of academic silos and explore diverse approaches. With close guidance and coaching by their teachers, students work together, stretching every facet of their minds. They analyze, synthesize, and create new ways of looking at and understanding our world. They come away with the knowledge that "truth" can be colored by context, and the confidence to navigate the unknown. Just a few of the connections students explore at MA:

what factors contribute to a **child's success** in the classroom?

Design a website with education support resources for families seeking better school experiences.



is housing a **human right**?

Create a photo essay to reflect on a group service project at a homeless shelter in Novato.

how do we suffer when **plants invade**?

Restore the natural habitat of a local hill, then set up a wildlife camera to document returning species.



what can students do to prevent **needless wildlife death**?

Research local owl populations and identify ways to reduce bird death caused by rodenticides.



why do people go hungry **when food exists**?

Conduct video interviews at local food banks to pinpoint ways to minimize food waste.

how can I **make it better**?

As described above, class projects create an ideal way for students to make connections, engage more completely, and incorporate perspectives from outside the school. They also offer an ideal way for MA to assess student progress. At the end of their freshmen year, students focus on the interplay of Marin County's ecosystem, education, food, housing, and economics. Groups research different aspects of the issue, interview local organizations, embed themselves as part of a service experience, and develop recommendations on how to make positive change.

what does the world need?

why do our roots run deep?

Traditions create bonds between generations of the MA community and keep the MA culture alive for our alumni. Programs such as athletics and Outings bring students, teachers, and alumni together. Whether the event is an afternoon water polo match or a week-long backpacking trip, MA designs each experience to help students stretch personal boundaries and build stronger connections. Options include:

19 sports, with jv and varsity teams

backcountry skiing in the sierras

urban hike in san francisco

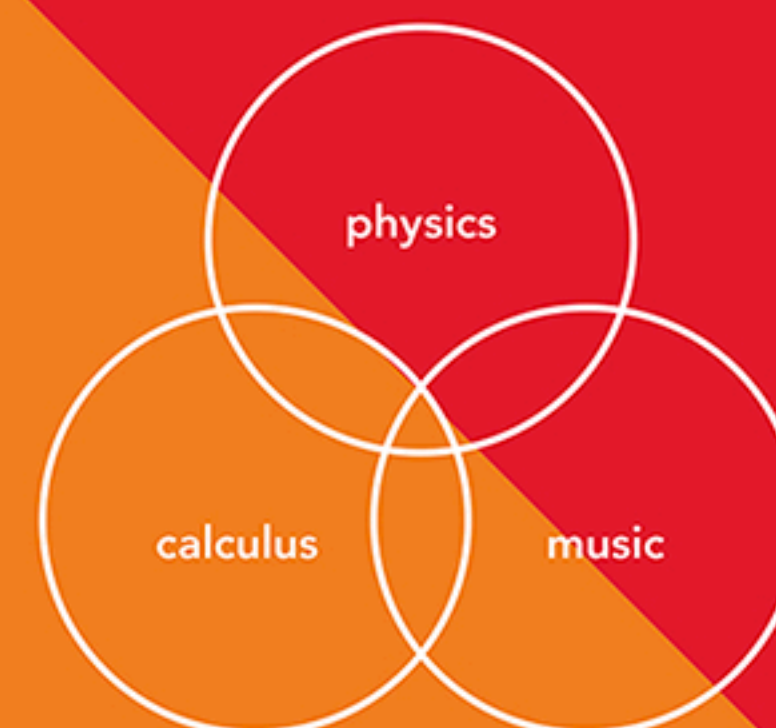
stargazing, nighttime photography, and car camping

At Marin Academy, we believe that our community of diverse voices and perspectives develops the attitudes and behaviors students need to interact effectively in today's world. That's why we place emphasis on group collaboration across every aspect of our school. And, what's more, we believe that developing students' compassion and empathy are equally important for shaping graduates with the creativity and skills to work toward the greater good.



how can learning come alive?

The MA community puts learning and ideas into action through a variety of projects throughout the year. For example, an advanced physics student team looked at how sound waves impact the physical world by studying sand patterns atop drums. The team applied math learned in Advanced Calculus to predict pattern behavior.



what did I gain from that?

At MA, students have many ways to apply their learning—to think deeply and facilitate discussion on the real issues of the world happening today. The Conference on Democracy, a two-day, seminar-style school-wide event, explores and debates perspectives on current social, environmental, and economic issues. The student-led event invites subject-matter experts and parents to participate. At a recent conference, a student panel discussed water usage in the context of the California drought.



Learn about the causes of the drought in science class



Research a proposed solution: graywater recycling



Conduct tests and calculations to back up your research



Take a position: Graywater recycling can reduce domestic water use by 50%

pitch your solution as part of the conference panel

where can I find the time?

We believe we must make the time to allow students to reflect deeply, and make sense of what's been learned. That's why we structure our schedule to include ample space for extended classroom discussion, project collaboration, meeting with teachers, community-building assemblies, and more.

what's marin academy all about?

At Marin Academy, we believe that educational excellence should push the boundaries of what is known today in order to prepare students for a world we can't even imagine tomorrow.

Every day, MA teachers and students work side-by-side immersing themselves deeply in their subjects and honing their ability to think critically *and* creatively.

And because many voices are welcomed and encouraged at MA, our students cultivate the tools they need to live their lives fully, and the inspiration to contribute as compassionate citizens of the world.



To arrange a campus visit
or apply, visit www.ma.org

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