

# KIRBY SCHOOL

## GRADES 6 THROUGH 12

### SCHOOL PROFILE

**Christy Hutton**  
Head of School

**Ayesha Sumbal**  
Assistant Head for  
DEI & Student Life

**Jessa Kirk**  
Academic Dean

**Emily Lamoureux '00**  
Director of Admissions

**Leah Bosworth**  
Dean of Faculty

**Cathy Conley**  
College Counselor

**Stephenie Dekking**  
Registrar



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## MISSION STATEMENT

Kirby empowers students to shape their futures with confidence. Students in our diverse community learn to think critically, develop their creativity, and achieve with thoughtfulness and respect.

## KIRBY'S VALUES

### WE ARE A COMMUNITY OF BELONGING

- ◇ We are equitable, inclusive and collaborative
- ◇ We embody diverse perspectives
- ◇ We care for ourselves and each other
- ◇ We create safe spaces for everyone to be themselves

### WE FIND JOY IN CREATIVITY AND ACADEMIC CHALLENGE

- ◇ We are curious and have passion for knowledge
- ◇ We invest in ourselves
- ◇ We believe every student is unique and has a different path
- ◇ We are adaptable and responsive
- ◇ We value out of the box thinking

### WE NURTURE CONFIDENCE AND CRITICAL THINKING FOR A CHANGING WORLD

- ◇ We are authentic in all that we do
- ◇ We trust ourselves and are genuine
- ◇ We have courage and tenacity
- ◇ We prepare students for college and their future

## THE SCHOOL

Kirby School is an independent, co-educational day school for grades 6 through 12 and is a member of, and 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 Santa Cruz pioneer Georgiana Bruce Kirby, 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

69 percent of Kirby's 32 faculty members hold advanced degrees, including 4 Doctorates and 18 Master's Degrees. Fine and performing arts teachers have augmented their formal degrees with extensive professional experience.

## STUDENTS

Kirby's current enrollment is 171 students: 60 in the middle school (6-8) and 111 in the high school (9-12). The graduating Class of 2022 had 35 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.

## TUITION ASSISTANCE

Kirby's commitment to tuition assistance is designed to support a highly qualified and diverse student body, and is a fundamental part of the school's mission. For the 2022-2023 academic year, 34% of Kirby's students received tuition assistance, totaling \$1,600,000.



# 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:

**AP Multicultural English Literature  
& Composition**

Applied Ethics \*

Creative Writing \*

Graphic Novels \*

History, Literature, Art: Indigenous  
US Literature \*

History, Literature, Art: South Africa \*

Queer Voices in Literature \*

Personal Narratives \*

Banned Books\*

### HISTORY

**(3 years required)**

History 9: World History of the Middle  
Ages

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

US History or **Honors US History  
Practicum**

**AP US Government**

Macroeconomics \*

Government Cabinet (1 unit/sem)

### LANGUAGES

**(2 years of one language required;  
through level 3 recommended)**

American Sign Language 1, 2, 3 & 4

Latin 1, 2, 3 & **Honors Latin: Special  
Topics**

Spanish 1, 2, 3, 4 & **Honors Spanish 5**

**Honors Advanced Latin Literature**

Ancient Greek

### MATHEMATICS

**(3 years required)**

Algebra 1

Geometry

Algebra 2

Pre-Calculus

**AP Calculus A/B**

**AP Calculus B/C**

**AP Statistics**

**Honors Multivariable Calculus**

**Honors Differential Equations**

**Honors Linear Algebra**

Financial Mathematics with Advanced  
Algebra Applications

### LABORATORY SCIENCES

**(3 years required)**

Biology

Chemistry

Forensic Chemistry

Human Biology \*

Marine Biology \*

**Honors Advanced Biology**

**Honors Physics**

**Honors Environmental Science**

**Honors Advanced Chemistry**

**AP Physics**

### COMPUTER SCIENCE ELECTIVES

Intro to Programming

Introduction to Quantum Computation

Music Technology: Mixing \*

Music Technology: Recording \*

Yearbook (1 unit/sem)

### PERFORMING ARTS

**(1 year required)**

Chorus (1 unit/sem)

Chamber Choir (by audition)

Concert Choir (by audition)

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

String Methods (1 unit/sem)

Orchestra (by audition) (1 unit/sem)

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

Drama 1 & 2

Playwriting

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

**AP Music Theory**

### VISUAL ARTS

**(1 year required)**

Art 1: Foundation

Art 2: Intermediate 2D Art

Photography

Book Arts

Photo: Portfolio Preparation

AP Studio Art

### FITNESS, WELLNESS & HUMAN DEV.

Health and Wellness \* or Health and  
Wellness A \* (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.

## SAT TEST SCORES

### SAT REASONING TEST SCORES

#### AVERAGE COMBINED SCORES (OUT OF 1600)

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021
KIRBY	1310	1332	NA	1402*
NATIONAL	1068	NA	NA	NA

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

\* Only 10% of the class of 2021 were able to take the SAT. This average combined score does not reflect a majority of Kirby Students.

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# College Admissions

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

American University	Muhlenberg College	Syracuse University
Bard College	New York University	The New School
Bennington College	NHL Stenden, Netherlands	Tufts University
Berklee College of Music	Northeastern University	Tulane University
Boston University	Northern Arizona University	University of British Columbia, Canada
Brown University	Northwestern University	University of California, Berkeley
Cabrillo College	Oberlin College	University of California, Davis
California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo	Occidental College	University of California, Irvine
Carleton College	Oregon State University	University of California, Los Angeles
Case Western Reserve University	Parsons School of Design	University of California, Riverside
Clark University	Pitzer College	University of California, San Diego
Colgate University	Portland State Honors Program	University of California, Santa Barbara
College of Wooster	Pratt Institute	University of California, Santa Cruz
Colorado College	Princeton University	University of Colorado, Boulder
Colorado School of Mines	Purdue University	University of Edinburgh, Scotland
Colorado State University	Reed College	University of Illinois, Chigago
Columbia College Chicago	Regis University	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Columbia University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Oregon, Honors College
Cornell University	Rhode Island School of Design	University of the Pacific
Delft University of Technology	Royal Veterinary College, England	University of Pittsburgh
Denison University	San Diego State University	University of Puget Sound
Emerson College	San Jose State University	University of Rochester
Georgia Institute of Technology	Santa Barbara City College	University of San Francisco
Gonzaga	Santa Clara University	University of South Wales
Goucher College	Savannah College of Arts and Design	University of Southern California
Hampshire College	School of Visual Arts	University of St. Andrews, Scotland
Harvey Mudd College	Scripps College	University of Redlands
Johns Hopkins University	Seattle University	University of Washington
Lewis and Clark College	Skidmore College	University of Wisconsin
Long Island University	Smith College	Vassar
Loyola Marymount University	Southern Oregon University	Washington University, St. Louis
Macalester College	St. Olaf College	Wellesley College
Menlo College	Stanford University	Willamette University
Mills College	SUNY at Purchase	Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI)
	Swarthmore College	