

KIRBY SCHOOL

GRADES 6 THROUGH 12

SCHOOL PROFILE

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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 150 students: 50 in the middle school (6-8) and 100 in the high school (9-12). The graduating Class of 2023 had 37 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 2023-2024 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

History, Literature, Art: Indigenous

US Literature *

History, Literature, Art: South Africa*

Queer Voices in Literature *

Personal Narratives *

Creative Writing*

Banned Books*

Public Speaking*

Graphic Novels*

HISTORY

(3 years required)

History 9

History 10

Honors History 10: Modern World History

US History

Honors US History Practicum

AP US Government

AP Comparative Government & Politics

Applied Ethics

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

Ancient Greek

MATHEMATICS

(3 years required)

Algebra1

Geometry

Algebra 2

Pre-Calculus

AP Calculus AB

AP Calculus BC

AP Statistics

Honors Linear Algebra

Honors Differential Equations

Financial Mathematics

Macroeconomics

LABORATORY SCIENCES

(3 years required)

Biology

Chemistry

Physics

Human Biology *

Marine Biology *

Forensic Chemistry

Honors Physics

Honors Advanced Chemistry

Honors Environmental Science

Honor Advanced Biology

AP Physics

COMPUTER SCIENCE ELECTIVES

Intro to Programming

Intro to Quantum Computation

AP Computer Science

Engineering & Design Thinking

Music Technology: Mixing *

Music Technology: Recording *

Digital Photography*

Yearbook (1 unit/sem)

PERFORMING ARTS

(1 year required)

Chorus (1 unit/sem)

Chamber 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)

Intro to Drama

Advanced Drama

Music Theory

AP Music Theory

Playwriting/Screenwriting

VISUAL ARTS

(1 year required)

Art 1: Foundation

Art 2: Intermediate 2D Art

Art 3: Portfolio Preparation & AP

Coursework

Art 4: Advanced Portfolio Preparation

& AP Coursework

Book Arts 1, 2, and 3

Darkroom Photography*

Photography: Portfolio Preparation*

FITNESS, WELLNESS & HUMAN DEV.

(4 units total required)

Health and Wellness *

Health and Wellness A * (1 semester
required)

High School Fitness * (2 units/sem)

Contract Fitness * (1 unit/sem)

Psychology *



Academic Achievement

INTENSIVE ACADEMIC PATHS

Kirby offers **four elective Intensive Paths** for high school students to pursue **in-depth study** in a specific field. Each student receives ongoing mentorship from a **faculty advisor**. Students design, complete and present a final **capstone project**. Students can combine portions of two paths for an individualized area of deeper inquisition. Intensive Path units must be completed at Kirby.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INTENSIVE PATH (STIP)

STIP provides a program in intensive study of science, math, and/or computer sciences. STIP students' coursework includes four years of laboratory science, four years of mathematics, and a research project or internship.

STIP course requirements include:

16 units each in both lab science and math

8 additional units in science, math, or computer tech

Classes + project: 42 units

Total units in addition to GE requirements: 18

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.

HIP course requirements include:

16 units each in History and English

6 additional English/History units including the Honors US History Practicum

Classes + project = 40 units

Total units in addition to GE requirements: 12

LANGUAGES INTENSIVE PATH (LIP)

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

LIP course requirements include:

18 units language

Complete one language through Level 4, 3 years to be completed in high school

Classes + project = 20 units

Total units in addition to GE requirements: 12

ARTS INTENSIVE PATH (AIP)

AIP emphasizes the study of fine or performing arts. AIP students choose a general arts program or concentrated study in a specific discipline, culminating in project preformed senior year.

AIP course requirements include:

4 units each in visual arts and performing arts

18 additional elective art units, performance or tech roles may account for up to 4 credits

Classes + project = 28 units

Total units in addition to GE requirements: 20



College Admissions

Kirby graduates have been accepted to the following colleges in the past 5 years:

American University	Gettysburg College	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of the Pacific
Arizona State University	Gonzaga	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology	University of Pittsburgh
Art Center College of Design	Goucher College	Royal Veterinary College, England	University of Puget Sound
Bard College	Hampshire College	Rutgers University	University of Redlands
Barnard College	Harvey Mudd College	San Diego State University	University of Rochester
Bates College	Hawaii Pacific University	San Francisco State University	University of San Diego
Beloit College	Ithaca College	San Jose State University	University of San Francisco
Bennington College	Johns Hopkins University	Santa Clara University	University of South Wales
Bentley University	Juniata College	Sarah Lawrence College	University of Southern California
Berklee College of Music	Kenyon College	Savannah College of Arts and Design	University of St. Andrews, Scotland
Boston University	Lawrence University	School of Visual Arts	University of Utah
Brandeis University	Lehigh University	Scripps College	University of Vermont
Brown University	Lewis & Clark College	Seattle University	University of Victoria, Canada
Bryn Mawr College	Long Beach State University	Skidmore College	University of Washington, Seattle
Cabrillo College (Honors)	Long Island University	Smith College	University of Wisconsin, Madison
California College of the Arts	Loyola Marymount University	Sonoma State University	Ursinus College
Cal Poly, Humboldt	Macalester College	Southern Methodist University	Vassar College
Cal Poly, Pomona	McGill University	Southern Oregon University	Warren Wilson College
Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo	Menlo College	St. Olaf College	Washington University, St. Louis
Cal State Fullerton	Miami of Ohio University	Stevens Institute of Technology	Wellesley College
Cal State Monterey Bay	Michigan State University	Stanford University	Wesleyan University
Carleton College	Mills College	SUNY at Purchase	Western Washington University
Carnegie Mellon University	Mount Holyoke College	Swarthmore College	Wheaton College
Case Western Reserve University	Muhlenberg College	Syracuse University	Whitman College
Clark University	New York Institute of Technology	The New School	Willamette University
Chapman College	New York University	The Ohio State University	William & Mary
Claremont McKenna College	NHL Stenden, Netherlands	Tufts University	Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI)
Clark University	North Carolina State University	Tulane University	
Clarkson College	Northeastern University	University of Alabama	
Colby College	Northern Arizona University	University of Arizona	
Colgate University	Northwestern University	University of British Columbia, Canada	
College of the Atlantic	Oberlin College	University of California, Berkeley	
College of Wooster	Occidental College	University of California, Davis	
Colorado College	Ohio Wesleyan University	University of California, Irvine	
Colorado School of Mines	Oregon Institute of Technology	University of California, Los Angeles	
Colorado State University	Oregon State University	University of California, Merced	
Columbia College Chicago	Pacific Northwest College of Art	University of California, Riverside	
Columbia University	Parsons School of Design	University of California, San Diego	
Cornell University	Penn State University	University of California, Santa Barbara	
Delft University of Technology	Pitzer College	University of California, Santa Cruz	
Denison University	Portland State (Honors)	University of Colorado, Boulder	
Dickinson College	Pratt Institute	University of Denver	
Drexel University	Princeton University	University of Edinburgh, Scotland	
Duquesne University	Purdue University	University of Hawaii, Manoa	
Durham University	Queensland College, Australia	University of Illinois, Chicago	
Earlham College	Reed College	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign	
Emerson College	Regis University	University of Massachusetts, Amherst	
Evergreen State College	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Miami	
Fordham University	Rhode Island School of Design	University of Michigan	
Georgia Institute of Technology	Rhodes College	University of Minnesota	
George Washington University	Ringling College of Art and Design	University of Oregon (Honors)	