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## **Program Overview**

Thank you for your interest in the Southside Middle School Fine Arts and Technology Academy. Southside Middle School is Florence 1 Schools' Fine Arts magnet middle school and feeds directly into the Fine Arts magnet high school, South Florence High School. Southside is an Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) school, a Distinguished Arts Program (DAP) school, an AdvancEd STEM certified school, as well as a Project Lead the Way (PLTW) school--all of which is to say as we strive to provide every student with a fulfilling and comprehensive middle school experience that fosters creativity and success.

The Fine Arts and Technology Academy at Southside Middle School is pleased to provide an inspiring and innovative program for students who are interested in going beyond the basic curriculum and approaching education with creativity in mind. We offer academy students meaningful and enriching opportunities in the areas of Band, Chorus, Creative Writing, Dance, Fundamentals of Computing, Guitar, Media Arts, Orchestra, Photography, Piano, Theatre, and Visual Arts. The Academy attracts a diverse student body from across the city and its surrounding areas. Although Southside Middle School is the primary feeder for South Florence High School and its fine arts magnet program, students must apply for admission into the academy.

At Southside Middle School, all students have access to all fine arts classes; however, only students accepted into the academy have assured a seat in their preferred fine arts focus. Every effort is made to ensure academy students are placed in the classes for which they auditioned and were accepted. The Fine Arts and Technology Academy accepts students from any school going into 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Please note that if a student is not zoned for Southside Middle School, parents are responsible for the transportation of the student to and from the school. Students remain in the academy for their entire middle school career unless they are removed from the program or leave of their own volition.

## **What does being a part of the Fine Arts & Technology Academy mean for your student?**

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- Allowed to take 1 fine arts elective yearlong!
  - More rigorous expectations in his/her fine arts area(s)
  - A tight-knit community of peers, not just in his/her arts area, but within the academy
  - More performance/artistic display opportunities
  - Opportunities to work with professionals in various arts professions
  - Immersive arts experiences to inspire and encourage appreciation amongst all arts.

## **Southside Fine Arts and Technology Academy Policy**

### Citizenship Expectations

#### *Academy students:*

- Come to school with an attitude to learn each day.
- Work well with others in all classes.
- Are positive role models for other students in the school.

- Follow rules and procedures on field trips.
- Have no Out of School (OSS) Suspension.
- Sent to the Alternative School are no longer in the program and must reapply to be considered in the future.

## Academic Expectations

*Academy students must:*

- Maintain a C average (70) or better in all classes.
- Maintain an A/B average (80) or better in arts/honors classes

*Academy students will be placed on probation for the first quarter/semester that this occurs. A physical letter will be sent to the home of the student and a record will be kept. If a student fails to meet the academic expectations of the Southside Fine Arts & Technology Academy, the student will be removed from the academy.*

## Classroom/School Procedure Expectations

*Academy students must:*

- Be present and on time to all classes (no more than 10 absences or 5 tardies).
- Wear school ID at all times (and do not deface their ID).
- Be aware of upcoming performance dates and make arrangements to ensure the student can attend mandatory performances
- Use of digital devices at school and on field trips complies with the F1S Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) regarding Technology Guidelines.
- Bring materials to school each day (pencils, pens, notebook paper, charged Chromebook).
- Purchase the performance attire for the academy class(es) for which they are accepted.
- Wear the performance attire when designated (If in more than one academy class, the teachers will help the student know which attire to wear for an event.)
- Participate in educational field trips for enrichment in the arts as planned by the academy teacher. If the academy student has financial difficulty, the parent/student will talk with the academy teacher in advance to ensure full participation by all honors students.

## Behavior Management Plan

- Should poor behavior choices become a problem with any student accepted in the Southside Fine Arts and Technology Academy, a team of academy and core teachers, administrator(s), school counselor, parent/guardian, and the student will conference to determine consequences.
- Consequences include but are not limited to:

- **Warning** – Verbal and written agreement by school, student and parent: Acknowledgement of student understanding of wrongdoing.
- **School Intervention** –School Administrator and School Counselor become involved with consequences established by the school discipline code.
- **Probation** – After a warning is issued and the school still has to intervene due to excessive misconduct in school or at school related activities or events, a probation status will be considered. A student on probation is in the academy class but not allowed to participate in extracurricular activities. This may result in loss of privileges that other academy students receive. A letter will be given to the student and mailed to the student's home.

An academy student could be placed on probation at any time for one or more of the following reasons: failure to meet academic expectations (end of each grading cycle); excessive absences/truancy issues; failure to abide by the student code of conduct (serious or persistent misbehavior); failure to meet the requirements of the academy.

- **Removal from Academy Program** – Depending on the severity of the offense, the student will be removed from the academy and will no longer be enrolled in academy-only classes at Southside Middle School. If out of zone, the student must return to the school for which he/she is zoned. The student must reapply for consideration for Honors classes at Southside Middle School in the future.

# Academy Requirements

Students accepted into Southside's Fine Arts & Technology Academy are required to do the following in order to remain an academy student:

- Maintain a grade of at least a 70 in ALL classes and nothing lower than an 80 in their academy class for each grading cycle.
- Maintain acceptable daily attendance (at least 90% excused and unexcused).
- Abide by the school's student code of conduct (i.e. avoid serious or persistent misbehavior).
- Enrolled in at least one academy class each semester.
- Attend two fine art performances/events per semester (performances/events in which you are participating in cannot count) and complete a review of each.
  - Virtual performances/events do count. Information must be provided regarding how the student accessed the virtual performance/event.
- Meet the additional requirements, as listed below, for your academy area(s) of acceptance.

## Academy Requirements by Area

	<p>Students will perform at a minimum of two concerts per academic year</p> <p>Other performance opportunities will be available but are not required of all students</p> <p>Students are required to try out for regional and/or state level contests, solo and ensemble festival, and varying honor band clinics</p>
	<p>Students will perform in Winter Music Presentation</p> <p>Students will attend at least two local music related events that will require check and documentation</p> <p>Students will participate in choral clinic/master class</p> <p>Students will present a spring musical/concert</p>
<p>Creative Writing (dependent upon numbers)</p>	<p>Students will submit written work to <i>SLAM</i>, Southside's Literary and Art magazine</p> <p>Students will enter writing contests</p> <p>Students will submit printed work for display at all Fine Arts Events</p>
	<p>Students will perform in Winter Concert</p> <p>Students will participate in Fall Festival of the Arts</p> <p>Students will participate in any other performance opportunities.</p>
<p>Visual Art (for 24-25)</p>	<p>Students will be expected to have completed artwork to display at various functions and events.</p> <p>Students will create artwork to submit to Artfields and various other artwork events.</p> <p>Students will prepare a portfolio for application to the F1COA</p>
<p>Guitar (dependent upon numbers)</p>	<p>Guitar 1 students will perform as an ensemble at the winter concert.</p> <p>Guitar 2 students will perform as an ensemble at the spring showcase.</p>
<p>Visual Arts (offered in 24-25)</p>	<p>Display projects to be displayed at the Fall Festival and Winter Concert.</p>
<p>Orchestra</p>	<p>Orchestra 2 students will participate in Fall Festival</p> <p>Orchestra 2 students will perform in the Mysterious Melodies concert</p> <p>Both Orchestras 1 and 2 will perform at the winter concert.</p> <p>Both Orchestras 1 and 2 will perform at the spring showcase.</p> <p>Academy orchestra students will participate in Solo &amp; Ensemble in the either as a soloist or in a small group (spring semester)</p> <p>Both Orchestras 1 and 2 will participate in the district event, All City Orchestra (spring semester)</p>
<p>Photography</p>	<p>Students will display photographs at Fine Arts Events</p> <p>Students will enter a variety of photography contests</p> <p>Students will submit work for Artfields in the spring</p>
<p>Piano (dependent upon numbers)</p>	<p>Both Piano 1 and 2 will perform in the winter concert.</p> <p>Both Piano 1 and 2 will perform in the spring showcase.</p> <p>Piano 2 students will participate in at least one SCMEA Piano Festival (one in spring semester)</p>

e	<p>Theatre 2 will perform in the Winter Concert</p> <p>Theatre 2 will teach sessions at the Fall Festival</p> <p>Theatre 2 will perform the spring play.</p> <p>Theatre 1 Honors will perform at the Fall Festival</p> <p>All Theatre students will be offered the opportunity to compete in state competitions.</p>
Arts	<p>Students will be expected to have completed artwork to display at various functions and events.</p> <p>Students will create artwork to submit to Artfields and various other artwork ts.</p> <p>Students will prepare a portfolio for application to the F1COA</p>

## Fine Arts & Technology Academy Teachers

Gloria Turner, Fine Arts Chair/Drama/Media Arts ([gturner@fsd1.org](mailto:gturner@fsd1.org))

Rebecca Jones, Orchestra/Guitar/Piano ([rjones@fsd1.org](mailto:rjones@fsd1.org))

Robin Voss, Creative Writing/Photography ([rvoss@fsd1.org](mailto:rvoss@fsd1.org))

Jenei Peterson, Band ([jpeterson@fsd1.org](mailto:jpeterson@fsd1.org))

Shelby Lewis, Dance ([shelby.lewis@fsd1.org](mailto:shelby.lewis@fsd1.org))

Amy Carmichael, Visual Arts ([amy.carmichael@fsd1.org](mailto:amy.carmichael@fsd1.org))

Emily Viering, Visual Arts ([eviering@fsd1.org](mailto:eviering@fsd1.org))

Luke Sarmiento, Digital Art ([lsarmiento@fsd1.org](mailto:lsarmiento@fsd1.org))

Christiana Roe, Piano ([croe@fsd1.org](mailto:croe@fsd1.org))

LaDejia Bittle, Chorus ([lbittle@fsd1.org](mailto:lbittle@fsd1.org))



# Student/Parent Contract

Upon reviewing the information in Southside Middle School's Fine Arts & Technology Academy's Handbook, please sign and return this page.

This page serves as a formal agreement between Southside Middle School's Fine Arts & Technology Academy, the student, and the student's parent/guardian. By signing this contract, you acknowledge the expectations and requirements of the academy. It is also understood that being a student within the Fine Arts & Technology Academy comes with great responsibility and requires active participation.

*I have read the handbook in its entirety and agree to meet the expectations and requirements. I understand that not following the guidelines and/or not meeting the requirements could result in probation within the Academy or even removal from the Academy.*

Printed Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Academy Specialty: Band Chorus Digital Art Visual Art Orchestra Guitar Piano

Dance Photography Creative Writing Media Arts Theatre

Student District Email \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email \_\_\_\_\_

*Academy Use Only*

*Received by:* \_\_\_\_\_ *on* \_\_\_\_\_