

ACADEMIC CONSERVATORY

BOOKER T.

WASHINGTON

Booker T Washington HSPVA is not only at the top of arts high schools in the country, its rigorous academic programs places it in the top percentile of overall performing schools in our nation. These rankings are achieved through foundational tenets of the school's Academic Conservatory: 1) a focus on college readiness through placing **all** students in Advanced Courses (such as Pre-AP/Honors) in English Language Arts and Sciences, 2) providing an extensive assortment of Advanced Placement Courses in each academic field at the Junior and Senior Level, 3) adopting the Advanced Placement Capstone Diploma Program, focusing on building skills valued at the college level such as advanced rhetoric, research skills, collaborative work, critical thinking, and presentation, 4) using the Integration of Abilities Philosophy to leverage students' passion and skills in the arts throughout their academic work, 5) bending boundaries between the arts and academics by creating performative and exhibition opportunities in classes, and 6) hiring teacher experts who each have a deep relationship with the arts outside of their own academic field of content.

Booker T's students are busy. Between their impassioned focus on their art forms, their curiosity about the world around them, and their ability to push their own boundaries of success, they require support in building executive functioning skills. Academic Conservatory teachers embed best practices in organization, balancing and prioritizing, and support/tutoring throughout the day. Before and after school tutoring is available regularly. Students in need of additional support have access to services such as a Mentorship Program, tutor matching, Section 504, and Special Education.

All students, upon admission to Booker T, are placed on the Distinguished Arts & Humanities Endorsement pathway to graduation. It is a nationally renowned academic program to meet the exceptional arts training.

What Makes Us Revolutionary?

Paul Baker, the founder of the Arts Magnet, placed the Academic Conservatory first. Our students are preparing to be scholar artists and our focus on creating an exceptional environment of integrating the passion of the arts into rigorous academic experiences, and vice-versa, which means they are prepared for any career or college path they choose.

Conservatory Contact Info

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4-Year Course Suggested Sequence

Ω Distinguished Arts & Humanities Endorsement

Sample Sequence

	Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
1st	⊕!PAP English 1	!PAP English 2	English 3	Advanced Eng Elective
2nd	⊕Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2	Advanced Quantitative Reasoning
3rd	!PAP Biology	!PAP Chemistry	Physics (or Advanced Science Elective)	Advanced Science Elective
4th	!PAP-World History -or- AP Human Geo	US History	*Gov/Eco	Arts or Academic Elective
5th	⊕+LOTE 1	+LOTE 2	^Integration of Abilities & Portfolio	#Physical Education
6th	Arts Class 1A	Arts Class 1B	Arts Class 1C	Arts Class 1D
7th	Arts Class 2A	Arts Class 2B	Arts Class 2C	Arts Class 2D
8th	Arts Class 3A	Arts Class 3B	Arts Class 3C	Arts Class 3D

Symbol Key

!All students take an honors level of English, Social Studies and Science Freshman Year; English and Science Sophomore Year.

⊕Common Courses completed in Middle School that count towards high school graduation.

^Integration of Abilities & Portfolio is BTWHSPVA's Signature Course required of all students Junior Year.

#Physical Education credit can be gained through alternative authorized means such as club sports, athletics at home campus, dance class, or even correspondence course providers. Please see counselor for options. If completed outside of the standard school day, sub in an additional Arts or Academic Elective.

*Government & Economics is taken by many students over the summer. Full Year AP Courses -or- Half-Year On-Level Courses available. Sub in additional Arts/Academic Elective -or- AP Capstone if completed over the summer.

+Only 2 levels of LOTE are required, though many selective universities recommend a 3rd course. Make room for additional LOTE levels by completing PE & Gov/Eco through alternate means as described above.

Ω Distinguished Achievement Program – Requirements for Advanced Measures

- The measures must focus on demonstrated student performance at the college or professional level.
- Student performance on advanced measures must be assessed through an external review process.
- Except for the original research/project, a student may not count two measures derived from a single activity. For example, a student who scored a three or better on the AP Economics exam cannot count a grade from a dual credit economics college course.

District Magnet School Policy requires providing proof of a minimum of 70+ overall average in academic subjects (English, Math, Sciences, Social Studies) and achieving at least the 40th percentile on approved standardized tests as part of the admissions application.

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Traits of a Successful Student or What to Consider When Applying for Booker T

Attitudes about Work	Successful students demonstrate Grit & Playfulness in their work. Failure is considered an opportunity to learn more, not a reason to give up. Creative and adventurous curriculum encourages risk-taking that moves a student beyond their comfort zone. Remixing, innovating, and playing with previous experiences and new challenges builds a capacity for self-motivation, student initiative, and a tenacity to navigate the hardest of days.
Attitudes about Self	Successful students demonstrate Joy, Individuality, and Courage. Students love their artform, are confident in their growth, communicate their independence through word and deed, and are reflective of what makes them unique. They seek out challenge, feedback, and opportunities to demonstrate their joy of learning. They recognize within them a sense of purpose matched with a healthy aversion of extrinsic motivation.
Attitudes about Others	Successful students demonstrate Empathy, Collaboration, Citizenship, and Community. When students build skills in the arts, they become the heirs to a tradition of causing change in their world through dynamic storytelling. They develop deep social awareness of their role as citizen artists, demonstrate compassion for others, move beyond self-centered motivations for collaborating to make a difference, and access or build communities of like-minded artists.

Interview Scoring Information

During the Interview, a prospective will be asked a series of conversational questions by an academic faculty or support services staff member that seeks to capture their current level of preparation for a successful experience in the Campus Culture of Booker T. Washington HSPVA. Students will only be required to speak their answers and no preparation is needed ahead of time for this portion of the admissions process.

Each question will be scored using a standardized rubric by trained interview faculty/staff members, and given a combined value out of 10 possible points. These points are added onto the artistic audition or portfolio review portion of the admissions process.