



# ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS

## UNION COUNTY VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



CEEB CODE: 311384

1776 RARITAN ROAD, SCOTCH PLAINS, NJ 07076  
908-889-8288 EXT. 700 FAX 908-889-1666

[WWW.UCVTS.ORG](http://WWW.UCVTS.ORG)

**CLASS OF 2024 PROFILE**

Kelly Douglas-Jackson  
Principal

Ashley Kondracki  
Josephine Scasso  
School Counselors

### DISTRICT INFORMATION

The Academy for Performing Arts is one of five full-time high schools in the Union County Vocational-Technical School District, each with a specific vocational focus. Admission to UCVTS is highly competitive and is based on middle school grades and two admissions assessments – one in Mathematics and one in Language Arts Literacy. Applicants for the Academy for Performing Arts are also required to audition. For the Class of 2024, approximately 35% of applicants to UCVTS were offered admission. Students are admitted by town and, as a result, APA students represent a diverse group of students from the twenty-one towns in Union County.

### APA MISSION STATEMENT

The Union County Academy for Performing Arts is an innovative four year high school, immersing students in honors' level academics while training in a pre-professional artistic setting with majors such as theatre, dance, or technical theatre. The Academy fosters the discipline, integrity and passion necessary for students to succeed at the post-secondary level and as members of the performing arts community. The culmination of the program allows students to complete their senior year by taking college-level courses and receiving college credit at Kean University.

### COLLEGE PLACEMENT

Among all APA graduating classes, 100% of students have chosen to further their education beyond high school, with 100% attending four-year colleges and universities.

### STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Over 98% of students are involved in a variety of extra-curricular activities at APA. In addition, students are permitted to participate in the athletic programs and other extra-curricular activities in their resident districts as these programs are not available at UCVTS

### CURRICULUM DESIGN

The APA day is divided into four block-time instructional periods in an alternating A/B day schedule. Curriculum incorporates intensive study within a vocational specialization and advanced academic coursework in a cooperative learning environment.

### COVID-19 RESPONSE

In response to UCVTS's remote learning plan due to COVID-19, the grading policy for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years were updated.

In 2020-21, full year courses received a final grade calculated at 25% for each of four marking periods; midterm and final exams were not held. After final grades were calculated, students that had a Marking Period 1 grade lower than the final grade for the course had the MP1 grade dropped and the final grade was calculated to 33.3% for each of the remaining marking periods.

UCVTS students learned both remotely and in a half day, hybrid schedule throughout the 2020-21 school year. Students were able to elect a full remote learning environment. Synchronous instruction was conducted in each class and instruction time was limited. For the 2020-21 school year, each Wednesday was reserved for student co-curricular participation and advisory and no direct instruction was provided.

UCVTS students have learned in full-time, full day, fully on-campus environment since the beginning of the 2021-22 school year. In 2021-22, full year courses received a final grade calculated at 22.5% for each of four marking periods and 10% for the final exam. Midterms exams were not held.

## QUALITY POINT AVERAGE

Each marking period counts for 20% of the student's final course grade. Midterm and final examinations each count for 10% of the final course grade. The Quality Point Average (QPA) is **unweighted and includes all subjects**, with the exception of repeated coursework. QPA is calculated by multiplying the final course grade by the number of credits received for the course. The total credits and the total quality points are then divided to produce the QPA on a 100 point scale.

## COURSE DESIGNATION

All APA courses are designed and taught at the honors or enriched level and are not specifically labeled as such on transcripts; there is no tracking. Courses designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement examination are designated as "AP." Due to the number of core course requirements, even the most ambitious students may have limited access to Advanced Placement (AP) courses.

## RANK POLICY

Class rank is **not** computed due to our competitive admissions process, small class size, and the exceptional performance of our students.

## IMPORTANT STATISTICS

Total Students	Average QPA	Highest QPA
54	90.84	97.05

QPA Range	Frequency
100-93.5	33%
93.4-90.5	32%
90.4-85.5	24%
85.4-below	11%

## ACT/SAT COMBINED TEST RESULTS

*This information below reflects score results for the Class of 2023 and reflects superscores.*

Test	APA
ACT	26
SAT	1215

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## HONORS

**High Honor Roll:** Awarded each marking period to students earning 90 or above in all subjects

**Honor Roll:** Awarded each marking period to students earning 80 or above in all subjects.

**National Honor Society:** Open to juniors and seniors who meet the society's standards for academics, character, leadership, and service. Students must have a QPA of 92 or above in order to be considered.

**Spanish Honor Society:** Open to juniors and seniors who meet the society's standards for academic excellence in Spanish. Students must have a QPA of 92 or above in Spanish and an overall QPA of 85 to be considered.

**National Honor Society for Dance Arts:** Open to APA junior dance students who have an average of 92 in Dance for freshmen and sophomore years combined.

**International Thespian Society:** Open to APA junior theatre students who have a final grade of 92 or above in Theatre for freshman and sophomore year combined.

## STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Art Club	Health Occupation Students of America	Recycling Club
Bridge Building	International Thespian Society	Robotics Club
Chess Club	Intramural Athletics	Science Olympiad
Class Council – 9, 10, 11, 12	Math League	Skills USA
Dance Club	Multi-Cultural Club	Spanish Club
Drama Club	Music Club	Spanish Honor Society
FFA Organization	National Honor Society	Student Government
Future Business Leaders of America	Newspaper Club	Student Movement Against Cancer
Gay/Straight Alliance	Relay for Life	Yearbook Club

**COMMUNITY SERVICE:** Every student is encouraged to complete a total of 40 hours of community service while attending UCVTS. Twenty hours should be completed by the end of the sophomore year and the remainder before graduation. These hours should be fulfilled with at least two different community service activities.

## REQUIRED COURSEWORK

Graduation requirements at APA exceed the New Jersey Department of Education requirements. The **required** coursework for the Academy for Performing Arts is as follows:

Subject Area	Freshmen Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year @ Kean University		
				Dance	Theatre	Tech Theatre
<b>Career &amp; Technical Education</b> <i>4 years</i>	Dance I <i>or</i> Theatre I <i>or</i> Technical Theatre I	Dance II <i>or</i> Theatre II <i>or</i> Technical Theatre II	Dance III <i>or</i> Theatre III <i>or</i> Technical Theatre III	Technique & Theory of Ballet <b>and</b>  Technique & Theory of Modern <b>and</b>  Dance Styles <b>and</b>  Technique & Theory of Jazz <b>and</b>  Special Topics in Dance	Scene Study: Realism <b>and</b>  Performer's Presence <b>and</b>  Theatre Showcase <b>and</b>  Dance Musical Theatre <b>and</b>  Plays: On Page & On Stage	Intro to Performance Design <b>and</b>  Tech Theatre Techniques I <b>and</b>  Tech Theatre Techniques II <b>and</b>  Plays: On Page & On Stage
<b>English</b> <i>4 years</i>	World Literature	Early American Literature	Modern American Literature	College Composition <b>and</b>  Research & Technology		
<b>Mathematics*</b> <i>4 years</i>	Combined Algebra	Geometry/ Trigonometry	Math Analysis	One Math Course		
<b>Science</b> <i>4 years</i>	Biology <b>and</b>  Scientific Inquiry & Analysis	Chemistry	Physics	One Science Course		
<b>Social Studies</b> <i>3 years</i>	World History	United States History I	United States History II			
<b>World Language*</b> <i>4 years</i>	Spanish I	Spanish II	Spanish III			
<b>Fitness</b> <i>4 years</i>	Fitness I	Fitness II	Fitness III		One Physical Education Course	
<b>Health</b> <i>4 years</i>	Health I	Health II	Health III	One Health Course		
<b>Financial Literacy</b>		Financial Literacy				

\*Initial placement determined by UCVTS

### ADDITIONAL COURSEWORK OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to the coursework above, members of the Class of 2024 have had the opportunity to take the following core classes.

**Mathematics:** AP Calculus I/AB, AP Calculus II/BC

**World Language:** Spanish IV, AP Spanish Language and Culture, AP Spanish Literature and Culture, Linguistics

### ARTICULATION AGREEMENT WITH KEAN UNIVERSITY

The Union County Academy for Performing Arts, in conjunction with Kean University, provides its students the opportunity to earn college credit. Students spend their high school senior year at Kean University taking a full freshman college course load, which includes a concentration in their Performing Arts major. Credit and grades earned through this collaborative program appear on an official transcript from Kean University.