CHARLESTON COUNTY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Profile
2023-2024

Principal
Shannon Cook

Assistant Principals
Andrea Derrickson
High School

Laura D. Smith
Middle School

Robert Grant
HS & MS

School Counselors
Natasha Fields
Director

William Grauer
High School

Stephanie Smalls
High School

Naquita Page-Dawson
Middle School

Rachael Stallsmith
Middle School

Charleston County School of the Arts

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Charleston County School of the Arts offers students rich and intensive instruction in nine art majors in a unique sixth through twelfth grade setting. Students spend one-fourth of their day with dynamic teachers in their art area. Art majors include instrumental band, creative writing, dance, piano, fashion, string orchestra, theater, visual art, and vocal music.

School of the Arts' students excel at the local, state, and national level, earning awards, scholarships, and the respect of audience members, peers, and patrons of the arts.

Students also participate in an appropriately challenging academic curriculum that includes college preparatory, honors, and Advanced Placement courses. Clubs, community service, and unique school events tailored to meet the interests of young artists provide additional opportunities for expression and involvement. We want our students to maximize their potential and then discover how their art can impact the world around them. At SOA, we believe art makes a difference!

Program of Study and Entrance Requirements

The school blends intensive artistic instruction with a strong academic program. Together, academics and artistic preparation mold students into young people who have dedication, discipline, and perseverance. Through their arts majors, the students have opportunities to broaden and enhance their educational experiences far beyond what is possible for most regular students. These young people have gained poise and self-confidence by performing before audiences and have become strong, independent and self-assured.

Students may apply for the School of the Arts and audition in a maximum of two of the nine arts areas: instrumental band, creative writing, dance, piano, fashion(high school only), string orchestra, theater, visual art, and vocal music. Students must also have a sound academic record. Once at School of the Arts, students must maintain satisfactory academic and artistic progress or they will return to their home schools.

School of the Arts implemented of the SOA Credential in 2007, which is a supplementary credential opportunity. This specialized credential recognizes the accomplishments of School of the Arts students who exceed the standard South Carolina High School Diploma requirements. The SOA Credential is endorsed by the local school board and by the South Carolina Arts Commission.
Students must accomplish the following requirements in order to achieve rights to this special credential: successful completion of Senior Thesis, 3.0 overall weighted GPA, 20 hours of annual community service, and successful completion of the Art Appreciation, Music Appreciation, Art History, AP Music Theory, or AP Art History course. Students also have an opportunity to earn the SOA Credential with Distinction by having 40 hours of annual community service and leading a service project.

2023-2024
School of the Arts is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and is approved by the South Carolina Department of Education.

South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale

South Carolina transitioned to a 10-point Grade Scale in 2016-2017. Prior year courses were evaluated on a 7-point scale. See below.

2015-2016	2016-2017 *and later*	Letter Grade
93-100	90-100	A
85-92	80-89	B
77-84	70-79	C
70-76	60-69	D
0-69	0-59	F

All courses taken are computed in determination of the grade average and rank according to the South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale.

Adding all grades for courses successfully passed, failed and retaken compute rank. In computation, Honors courses have the grades enhanced by a .5 weighting factor, and Advanced Placement and Dual Credit courses have the grades enhanced by a 1.0 weighting factor.

The rank is computed at the end of six semesters to provide information for college applications. Rank is calculated again at the end of seven semesters to determine honor graduates.

Honors Academic Courses

Algebra 1
Algebra 2
Anatomy & Physiology
Art Appreciation
Biology 1
Calculus
Chemistry
Current Events & Foreign Policy
Economics & Personal Finance
English 1-4
French 3 and 4
Geometry
Human Geography
Marine Science
Modern World History (23-24)
Physics
Pre-Calculus
Probability & Statistics
Psychology
Sociology
Spanish 3 and 4
United States History and Constitution
All Arts Major Courses are on an Honors Level.

Advanced Placement Academic Courses

Total AP Students in 2022-2023: 335

Total AP exams in 2022- 2023: 645

% Total AP students with Scores 3+: 69.25

Art History (not offered 23-24)
Biology
Calculus AB
Computer Science Principles
English Language and Composition
English Literature and Composition
Environmental Science
Human Geography
Music Theory
Psychology
Research (added 2023-2024)
Seminar (added 2022-2023)
Statistics
Studio Art: Drawing, 2D and 3D
United States Government & Politics
United States History
World History

SAT Mean Scores for Graduating Class of 2023

Number of testers: 122 – 81%
Evidence-based Reading and Writing: 612
Math: 567
Total: 1180

ACT Average Scores for Graduating Class of 2023

Number of testers: 96

English 24.3
Math 21.8
Reading 25.9
Science 23.0
Composite 23.9

School of the Arts Class of 2023

Total in Graduating Class of 2022: 151
Students Attending Four Year Universities: 85 %
Students Attending Two Year Universities: 8%
Students entering the Workforce: 7%

Acceptances Class of 2023

Agnes Scott College
American University
Anderson University
Appalachian State University
Arizona State University-Tempe
Auburn University
Bates College
Berklee College of Music
Boston University
Charleston Southern University
Citadel Military College of South Carolina
Claflin University
Clark Atlanta University
Clemson University
Cleveland Institute of Music
College of Charleston
Columbia College Chicago
Columbia International University
Dean College
DePaul University
Duke University
Elon University
Emerson College
Emory University-Oxford College
Flagler College
Florida Institute of Technology
Francis Marion University
Furman University
Georgia Institute of Technology-Main Campus
Goucher College
Hamilton College
Hampton University
James Madison
Lander University
Manhattan School of Music
Mercer Univeristy
Midlands Technical College
New York University
Newberry College
North Carolina A & T State University
North Carolina State University at Raleigh
Northeastern University
Pennsylvania State University-Penn State Main Campus
Point Park University
Purdue University-Main Campus
Roanoke College

Rochester Institute of Technology
Rowan University
Savannah College of Art & Design – SCAD
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Seton Hall University
South Carolina State University
Southeastern Institute
The City University of New York - CUNY
The George Washington University
The University of Tennessee-Chattanooga
The University of Tennessee-Knoxville
The University of Texas at Dallas
The University of the South
Thomas Jefferson University
Tri-County Technical College
Trident Technical College
Trinity College Dublin
Tulane University of Louisiana
University of Alabama
University of Arizona
University of Central Florida
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Colorado Denver
University of Denver
University of Florida
University of Hawaii at Manoa
University of Iowa
University of North Carolina at Asheville
University of North Carolina Wilmingon
University of Pittsburgh-Pittsburgh Campus
University of South Carolina Aiken
University of South Carolina-Columbia
University of South Carolina-Lancaster
University of South Carolina-Upstate
University of Virginia – Main Campus
Virginia Commonwealth University-The Honors College
Virginia State University
Warren Wilson College
Wellesley College
West Virginia University
Western Carolina University
Winthrop University
Wofford College