



CHARLESTON COUNTY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Profile 2025-2026

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 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.

Principal

Shannon Cook

Assistant Principals

Andrea Derrickson

High School

Laura D. Smith

Middle School

Robert Grant

School Counselors

Natasha Fields

Director 10-12

Anne-Wyman Cipolla

High School 10-12

Stephanie Smalls

High School 9th

Middle School 6th

Rachael Stallsmith

Middle School 7th & 8th

Charleston County School of the Arts

5109-B West

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North Charleston,
SC 29405

Main Office

(843) 529-4990

Main Office Fax

(843) 529-4991

2025-2026

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.

<u>2015-2016</u>	<u>2016-2017 and later</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
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.

Advanced Placement Academic Courses

Total AP Students in 2024-2025: 376

Total AP exams in 2024- 2025: 630

% Total AP students with Scores 3+: 77.93%

Biology
Calculus AB
Chemistry
Computer Science Principles
English Language and Composition
English Literature and Composition
Environmental Science
Human Geography
Music Theory
Psychology
Research
Seminar
Statistics
Studio Art: Drawing, 2D and 3D
United States Government & Politics
United States History
World History

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
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.

SAT Mean Scores for Graduating Class of 2025

Number of testers: 102 – 74%

Evidence-based Reading and Writing: 600

Math: 563

Total: 1163

ACT Average Scores for Graduating Class of 2025

Number of testers: 85

English 22.8

Math 20.7

Reading 24.5

Science 21.8

Composite 22.6

School of the Arts Class of 2025

Total in Graduating Class of 2025: 138

Students Attending Four Year Universities: 87%

Students Attending Two Year Universities: 9%

Students entering the Workforce: 2%

CHARLESTON COUNTY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS PREPARES STUDENTS FOR ADMISSION TO A WIDE VARIETY OF COMPETITIVE COLLEGES THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND ABROAD.

Acceptances: Classes of 2024 & 2025

American University	Marquette University
Bard College	Marymount Manhattan College
Beacon College	McGill University
Belmont University	Mercy University
Berklee College of Music	Midlands Technical College
Brigham Young University	New York University
Carleton College	Newberry College
Charleston Southern University	Pace University
Citadel Military College of South Carolina	Paul Mitchell the School-Charleston
Clemson University	Peabody Conservatory of The Johns Hopkins University
Coastal Carolina University	Princeton University
College of Charleston	Rhode Island School of Design
Colorado College	Rochester Institute of Technology
Columbia College Chicago	San Francisco Conservatory of Music
Converse College	Savannah College of Art and Design
DePaul University	School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Duke University	South Carolina State University
Elon University	Swarthmore College
Flagler College	The New School
Furman University	The University of Tennessee-Knoxville
George Mason University	The University of the South
Georgetown University	Tri-County Technical College
Georgia State University	Trident Technical College
Greenville Technical College	Tufts University
Grinnell College	University of Missouri-Columbia
Harvard University	University of New Haven
High Point University	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Horry-Georgetown Technical College	University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Howard University	University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Indiana University-Bloomington	University of San Francisco
Johnson C Smith University	University of South Carolina Aiken
Kenyon College	University of South Carolina-Columbia
Lees-McRae College	University of the Arts London
Louisiana State University	Virginia Tech
Loyola University New Orleans	Western Carolina University
Lynn University	Winthrop University
Manhattan School of Music	Wofford College