

Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12 Audition Process | 2026-27 School Year

Auditions

Art departments will conduct auditions for qualifying applicants on the afternoon of Friday, February 20, and on Saturday, February 21, 2026. Students will receive confirmation via an Audition Ticket. Audition tickets will arrive via e-mail to the e-mail address provided on the online magnet application. Audition requirements can be found online at www.pghschools.org/caparegistration and rubrics are available for review under each department's website.

Essay

Applicants to Pittsburgh CAPA are required to submit an essay along with their application. Students should respond to the following questions by crafting one short essay that answers all of the questions for their chosen art department. Essays should be submitted via the online application by the deadline (February 13, 2026) for first-round auditions. Remember that essays have a strong introduction, body paragraphs, and a conclusion that leaves the reader with a thought or idea to ponder. Please include a heading on this essay in the upper left-hand corner that includes: your name, art department applying to, and the grade you will enter in the 2026–27 school year. All essays must be typed using 12 pt. font and should not include any images. Students applying for one art form should submit one essay. Students applying for two art forms should submit two essays – one for each art form.

A. Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12 is a community of artists in dance, literary arts, piano, production technology, theater, visual arts, vocal and instrumental music. Why do YOU want to be an artist?

B. Choose your area of interest and answer the following specific questions within your essay:

- Dance: What dance genres have you studied and with whom? How long have you studied dance? What area of dance most interests you and why? Do you plan to pursue a dance career?
- Instrumental Music: How long have you have been playing? With which ensembles and groups have you performed?
- Literary Arts: What can you contribute to a community of writers? What are your strengths and your challenges as a writer? Share a triumph that you have had as a writer.
- Piano: Who or what is your inspiration for playing the piano? How do you see yourself using your piano skills in the future?
- Production Technology: What experiences have you had in plays, music, or dance? Think about a performance you participated in or attended. What was the most interesting part of it?
- Theatre: What experiences have you had with theatre productions and in which capacity? Where have you studied theatre and with whom? How long have you been interested in theatre?
- Visual Arts: With what mediums do you have experience in creating art? What kinds of materials do you prefer to use in your artwork and why? Do you plan to go into an arts related career? Tell us about your post-high school plans.
- Vocal Music: How long have you been singing? What styles of music do you sing? With which vocal groups have you performed? Have you taken private voice lessons? If so, from whom and for how long?

Pittsburgh CAPA 6-12 Audition Process (continued)

Notification Process

Following the audition, all applicants will receive notification of their status for admission to Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12 in writing via e-mail from the magnet office. Applicants may be accepted, denied admission, or placed on a waiting list. Students placed on the waiting list will be notified if space becomes available. Waiting lists for the 2026–27 school year are maintained through the beginning of the new school year (mid-September). Students who are not accepted by that time may reapply during the next application period.

Please Note

Students may audition for no more than two art departments. When applying to more than one art department, students must submit separate essays for each art form, and obtain separate artistic recommendations for each art form. For general questions or concerns regarding the audition requirements or application process, please contact the specific art chair listed below. All general inquiries about the application process can be sent to capaapplication@pghschools.org or the magnet office at [the magnet office at magnetoffice@pghschools.org](mailto:magnetoffice@pghschools.org).

Dance Telephone: 412.529.6100 E-mail: emorton1@pghschools.org	Production Technology Telephone: 412-529-6135 E-mail: pdeleone1@pghschools.org
Instrumental Music Telephone: 412.529.6100 E-mail: aabadilla1@pghschools.org	Theatre Telephone: 412.529.6121 E-mail: mfuller1@pghschools.org
Literary Arts Telephone: 412.529.6100 E-mail: ebosser1@pghschools.org	Visual Arts Telephone: 412.529.6129 E-mail: spultz2@pghschools.org
Piano Telephone: 412.529.6100 E-mail: jkurutz1@pghschools.org	Vocal Music Telephone: 412.529.6100 E-mail: jkendeall1@pghschools.org



Para asistencia con este documento en español, por favor llame a la línea nueve al 412-529-6463 y seleccione la opción #1.

यो दस्तावेज सम्बन्धी सहयोगको निम्ती कृपया नाइन लाइन नम्बर (४१२)५२९-६४६ मा फोन गरी अंक # २ चुन्नु होला।

Kwa msaada kwa nyaraka(document) hii katika Swahili , tafadhali piga msitari wa tisa 412-529-6463 kisha chaguwe uchaguzi la #3.

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حصول على المساعدة باللغة العربية ، إضغطوا على #5

Чтобы получить помощь по этому документу на русском языке, пожалуйста позвоните в линию 412-529-6463 и нажмите #8.

Pittsburgh Public Schools (PPS) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs, activities or employment and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries may be directed to the Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Title IX Coordinator or the Section 504/ADA Title II Coordinator at 341 S. Bellefield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, 412-529-3950. TitleIXCoordinator@pphschools.org or 412.529.HLXP (4357).