Fine Arts Diploma Endorsement Program

The F.A.D.E. Program serves to refine students' talent and skill, cultivate a community of respect, appreciation and understanding of the arts, and acknowledge students' dedication to the Fine Arts throughout their high school career. Students who graduate with the Fine Arts Diploma Endorsement receive a notation on their transcripts, a special certificate at the Senior Honors Convocation, and a F.A.D.E. Honor Cord to wear at graduation.

Students have the opportunity to apply for this program at the **start of their sophomore year**. Fine Arts course work taken during a student's freshman year, prior to the F.A.D.E. application year, can count towards the requirements. All students will create and keep a **portfolio** in which a student will organize all of his/her programs from performances in which they participated, art shows/competitions they entered, programs from performances for which they attended as an audience member, and notes from the Guest Artist Series. In addition, they will include a transcript sheet, the requirements and commitment sheet, reviews from different performances/events, etc.

(Updated – August 2026)

The following lists are requirements that a student must meet in order to complete the F.A.D.E. Program:

Dance Focus Requirements *(Classical Dance/Traditional African Music & Dance)*

1. 3 credits (minimum) of Dance in Classical Dance or African Dance **(Senior Year Required)**
2. 1 or 0.5 credit (minimum) in a different Fine Arts discipline
3. 1 year (minimum) of in-person lessons from a private dance studio (*Concurrent with program enrollment; September-May*)
4. Completion of at least 1 audition outside of McNamara (*e.g. college admission, workshop/scholarship, local dance production*)
5. Completion of at least 1 dance workshop outside of McNamara
6. Participation in all required events/concerts/performances
    a. *Students must list their performances and provide the playbill for the BMHS performances*
7. In Person attendance as a **non-performing audience member** at 2 McNamara Fine Arts Performances
    a. Written reviews required
8. In-person attendance at 1 outside performance
    a. *High school (not BMHS), college, or community/professional*
    b. *Pop concerts do not count towards this requirement*
    c. Written reviews required
9. Attendance at a minimum of 4 Guest Artist Series each year enrolled in F.A.D.E.
    a. *Written reviews required*
10. Choreograph and Perform a solo *(or small ensemble)* at the Senior Showcase *(Senior year only)*
11. Maintain a B average in all Fine Arts courses and remain in overall "Good" Academic standing

Music Focus Requirements *(Choir/Band/Orchestra)*

1. 3 credits (minimum) in a Music ensemble/performance-based course **(Senior Year Required)**
2. 1 or 0.5 credit (minimum) in a different Fine Arts discipline
3. 1 year (minimum) of in-person private lessons on the applicable instrument /vocal range (*Concurrent with program enrollment*)
4. Completion of at least 2 in person auditions/competitions outside of McNamara *(Solo/Ensemble, all state, honors ensembles, CUA, etc.)*
5. Participation in all required events/concerts/performances

    a. *Students must list their performances and provide the Playbill for the BMHS performances*
6. In Person Attendance as a **non-performing audience member** at 2 McNamara Fine Arts Performances
    a. Written reviews required
7. In-person attendance at 1 outside performance
    a. *High school (not BMHS), college, or community/professional*
    b. *Pop concerts do not count towards this requirement*
    c. Written reviews required
8. Attendance at a minimum of 4 Guest Artist Series each year enrolled in F.A.D.E.
    a. *Written reviews required*
9. Perform a solo and/or small ensemble at the Senior Showcase *(Senior year only)*
10. Maintain a B average in all Fine Arts courses and remain in overall "Good" Academic standing

TAMD African Drumming Focus Requirements

1. 3 credits (minimum) in TAMD & Sankofa **(Senior Year Required)**
2. 1 or 0.5 credit (minimum) in a different Fine Arts discipline
3. Completion of at least 1 drum workshop
4. Participation in all required events/concerts/performances
    a. *Students must list their performances and provide the Playbill for the BMHS performances*
5. In Person Attendance as a **non-performing audience member** at 2 McNamara Fine Arts Performances
    a. Written reviews required
6. In-person attendance at 1 outside performance
    a. *High school (not BMHS), college, or community/professional*
    b. *Pop concerts do not count towards this requirement*
    c. Written reviews required
7. Attendance at a minimum of 4 Guest Artist Series each year enrolled in F.A.D.E
    a. *Written reviews required*
8. Perform a solo and/or small ensemble at the Senior Showcase *(Senior year only)*
11. Maintain a B average in all Fine Arts courses and remain in overall "Good" Academic standing

Theatre Focus Requirements *(Performance/Theatre Tech)*

1. Audition or tech (for credit) in at least 3 fall musical productions
    a. *Students must list their role and provide the Playbill for the BMHS Musical*
2. Audition or tech (for credit) in at least 2 spring productions
    a. *Students must list their role and provide the Playbill for the BMHS Play*
3. 1.5 credits (minimum) earned from a Theatre course (Non-production based)
4. 1 or 0.5 credit (minimum) in a different Fine Arts discipline
5. Completion of at least 1 audition or tech crew role outside of McNamara (e.g. college admission or community theatre)
6. Member in good standing of the International Thespian Society at the time of graduation
7. In Person Attendance as a **non-performing audience member or run tech for** at 2 McNamara Fine Arts Performances
    a. Written reviews required
8. In-Person Attendance at 1 outside performance

    a. *High school (not BMHS), college, or community/professional*
    b. *Pop concerts do not count towards this requirement*
    c. Written reviews required
9. Attendance at a minimum of 4 Guest Artist Series each year enrolled in F.A.D.E.
    a. *Written reviews required*
10. Perform a solo and/or small ensemble work at the Seniors Showcase *(Senior year only)*
    Students doing the tech track will do a presentation of their technical work or do live tech design/run tech in their area of expertise during the senior showcase *(Senior year only).*
11. Maintain a B average in all Fine Arts courses and remain in overall "Good" Academic standing

Visual Art Focus Requirements

1. 3 credits (minimum) of Visual Art courses **(Senior Year Required)**
2. 1 or 0.5 credit (minimum) of Theatre Tech, Yearbook, Creative Writing, Web Design, or Video Game Design
3. Significantly contribute to building/painting a set for a theatrical production or become a member of tech crew
4. Enter at least 1 different art competition/exhibit outside of McNamara ***each year***
5. In Person attendance as a **non-performing audience member** at 2 McNamara Fine Arts Performances
    a. Written reviews required
6. Attendance at an outside art exhibit ***each year***
    a. *High school (not BMHS), college, or community/professional*
    b. Written reviews required
7. Attendance at a minimum of 4 Guest Artist Series each year enrolled in F.A.D.E.
    a. *Written reviews required*
8. Display a collection of your work at the Senior Showcase *(Senior year only)*
9. Maintain a B average in all Fine Arts courses and remain in overall "Good" Academic standing

General Fine Art Focus Requirements

1. Course Requirements
    a. 1 or 0.5 credit (minimum) in a Dance course
    b. 1 or 0.5 credit (minimum) in a Music Ensemble course
    c. 1 or 0.5 credit (minimum) in a Theatre course
    d. 1 or 0.5 credit (minimum) in a Visual Art course
    Earn additional credit in any Fine Arts class for a total of 5 credits
2. In Person attendance as a **non-performing audience member** at 2 McNamara Fine Arts Performances
    a. Written reviews required
3. In-person attendance at 1 outside performance
    a. *High school (not BMHS), college, or community/professional*
    b. *Pop concerts do not count towards this requirement*
    c. Written reviews required
4. Attendance at a minimum of 4 Guest Artist Series each year enrolled in F.A.D.E.
    a. *Written reviews required*
5. Performance or Art display of your choice at the Senior Showcase *(Senior year only)*
6. Maintain a B average in all Fine Arts courses and remain in overall "Good" Academic standing