School of the Arts Profile

CELEBRATING STUDENT SUCCESS…ACADEMIC, ARTISTIC, HUMANISTIC



CEEB/ ACT #334835 • REGISTERED BY NEW YORK STATE

OUR MISSION

School of the Arts (SOTA) is committed to student success…academic, artistic, and humanistic. We are a learning community that integrates the arts, humanities, and academics, valuing the dignity of self and others while celebrating our diverse community. By holding high standards of performance, we challenge students and staff alike. SOTA's dedication to excellence has earned national recognition, with honors from Newsweek, The Daily Beast, and US News & World Report as one of America's Best High Schools. Our graduates are lifelong learners who understand the privilege and responsibility of contributing to a larger community.

OUR SCHOOL

Nestled in the heart of Rochester's Cultural District, the School of the Arts is a public school for city residents. Approximately 1,160 students attend classes serving Grades 7-12. Upon graduation students receive a School of the Arts High School Diploma with a Fine Arts sequence in one of six subject areas: Creative Writing, Dance, Drama, Music, Theatre Technology or Visual Arts. Students are also required to fulfill New York State exam requirements for the Regents or Advanced Regents Diploma. SOTA celebrates diversity, with a student body consisting of 44.4% African American, 27.4% Hispanic, 23.2% Caucasian, and 5% other backgrounds. Students may enter School of the Arts in Grade 7. Admission for Grade 7 and all subsequent grades is through audition only. Any child who is a resident of the City of Rochester has the right to apply through the RCSD Schools of Choice process.

OUR COMMUNITY

SOTA's three theatres, four dance studios, David Silver Art Gallery, outdoor courtyard and three-story atrium provide students with an architecturally exciting and visually stimulating learning environment. As a prominent member of the Neighborhood of the Arts, there are numerous opportunities for students to experience Rochester's culturally diverse arts scene within walking distance of school. These include: the Memorial Art Gallery, Geva Theater Center, the Visual Studies Workshop, Writers and Books, the Auditorium Theatre Center, the George Eastman House, Garth Fagan Dance, Eastman School of Music, and the Rochester Museum and Science Center/Strasenburgh Planetarium.

ARTS MAJORS CURRICULUM COURSES FOR EACH DISCIPLINE

Creative Writing

Performance Word and Text, Reading and Writing for Self Discovery, Creative Grammar and Style, Writing for Publication, Creative Writing, Creative Journalism I, Contemporary Writers, Playwriting, Film Studies, Advanced Fiction, Advanced Poetry, Writers Across Cultures

Dance

Foundations of Dance: Ballet, Modern and jazz, Ballet II, and III, Tap Lab, Modern Jazz II and III, Modern II and III, Anatomy and Kinesiology, Somatics, Advanced Techniques, Ballet Lab

Drama

Theatre Tech for Drama Majors, Actors Studio I, II, III and IV, Music Theatre Dance, Music Theatre Literature, Advanced Dramatic Literature

Music: Band, Choir, Strings, and Piano

Music Theory, AP Theory, Instrumental and Vocal Lessons, Piano I/II, Voice I/II, Advanced Voice, Performance in Ensemble Groups:, Orchestra, jazz Band, Concert Bands, Chamber Groups

Theatre Technology

Intro to Drafting, CAD I/ II/III, Stagecraft I/II, Tech Practicum I/II/III/IV, Dramatic Literature, Costume Design, Lighting/Sound/Scenic Design, Production Management, Senior Project

Visual Arts

Foundations in Art I/II, 3D II/III, Drawing and Painting II/III, Media II/III, Photography I/II, AP Art History, Commercial Arts

RCSD ACADEMIC COURSE CATALOG

https://sites.google.com/rcsd121.org/rcsdcoursecatalog

SOTA CLASS PROFILE AVERAGE

Enrollment: 678 Students Grades 9–12
Senior Class: 160 Students

CLASS OF 2027 PROFILE

160 students
Top 10% of the class requires a 94.78
The upper half of the class requires a 83.93

AP STATISTICS

26.2% of seniors scored at least 3 on one AP exam over the course of high school (Class of 2027)

AP PROGRAM SUMMARY

Year	Courses	AP Students	Exams
2025-2026	15	196	347
2024-2025	15	173	300

AP COURSE OFFERINGS

Biology, Calculus AB, Chemistry, English Language & Composition, Music Theory, Physics 1: Algebra-Based, Research, Seminar, United States Government & Politics, United States History, World History: Modern

Full listing of Advanced Placement and Dual credit offerings through the Virtual Academy of Rochester is available on the following link: **https://var.rcsdk12.org/**

DUAL CREDIT OFFERINGS

SOTA Journalism – MCC* ENG 101, SOTA Writing Across Cultures – MCC* ENG 101, 105, 113, SOTA Introduction to Statistics – MCC* MTH160, SOTA Pre-Calculus – MCC* MTH175, SOTA Spanish IV – MCC* SPA 102, 203, SOTA Personal Health and Wellness – GCC^ HED 204, SOTA Responding to Emergencies – GCC^ HED 205

*Monroe Community College, ^Genesee Community College

CLASS OF 2026 POST-SECONDARY PLACEMENTS

2-Year College – 27% **4-Year College** – 45% **Employment/Other** – 26% **Military** – 2%

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Subject	Required Credits: SOTA Diploma	Required Credits: RCSD Diploma
English	4	4
Social Studies	4	4
Math	3	3
Science	3	3
Foreign Language	1	1
P.E.	2	2
Health	.5	.5
Arts	8	1
Electives	NA	3.5
Total Required Credits	**25.5**	**22**

Students must meet Regents test requirements as outlined on New York State Education Department Section 100.5 Diploma Requirements

GRADING SYSTEM

95-100	Superior
90-94	Excellent
85-89	Very Good
80-84	Good
75-79	Above Average
70-74	Average
65-69	Below Average
Below 65	Failure

SCHOOL COUNSELORS

Mrs. Sabrina Everts (Grades 7-9)
Mrs. Heather Kelly (Grades 7-9)
Ms. Nadia Adams (Grade 9)
Mr. Michael Murphy (Grades 10-12)
Mrs. Julie Rossette (Grades 10-12)
Mrs. Talya Sirianni (Grades 10-12)

School Of The Arts

45 Prince Street
Rochester, NY 14607

585.242.7682 **TEL**
585.256.6580 **FAX**

Alan Tirré, Principal
www.sotarochester.org

CEEB/ ACT #334835 • REGISTERED BY NEW YORK STATE

