

Nashville School of the Arts

Principal: boB Wilson

Vice Principal: Tonja Williams

School Counselors:

Charlotte Lampley and Amy Flajnik

1250 Foster Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37210
(615) 291-6600
FAX (615) 271-1767

Vision Statement

The vision of Nashville School of the Arts is to become the best fine arts and performing arts school in the nation, preparing students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for their profession in the arts or academics.

Mission Statement

The mission of Nashville School of the Arts is to provide the highest quality instruction in the fine and performing arts and in the academic curriculum for the talented and creative students in the public school community we serve.

Beliefs

- Learning is a life-long process and the chief priority of our school.
- All students can learn.
- All arts and academics will be integrated collaboratively to promote learning.
- All students will perform a or above the set state and local school board standards.
- Continual assessment of student performance will determine instruction.
- All students will be provided with the proper forums to display their arts.
- The whole school community's commitment to continual academic and performing arts improvement is imperative in producing confident performers and learners.
- Federal., state, and district policy will help guide the school decision making process.
- School policy development will reflect the needs and best-interest of the students and school community.
- All students will be provided opportunities for personal development to acquire self-discipline and a sense of responsibility to self, family, school, and community.

Eligibility

Students approaching grades 9 through 12 are eligible to apply to NSA. Applications are accepted beginning in November. Auditions and interviews are set up through each art department. Each department selects their students who are notified by mail if accepted or if placed on a waiting list.

T A B L E O F C O N T E N T S

General Information

School Information	1
Graduation Requirement	2
Extra Curricular & performance Opportunities	3
Curriculum	4
Academics at NSA, Dual Enrollment	5
Scholars Program	6
Testing	7
Middle School Credit, HS Transcript, Transfer Students, Special Education	8
Grading Scale, Promotion Policy, Transportation	9
Gateway Exams, Counseling Program, Class Ranking, Senior Exam Exemption	10
Selecting Courses, Policies, and Course Levels	11
Ninth Grade Information	12

Academic Course Descriptions

English	13
Mathematics	15
Science	16
Social Studies	18
Foreign Languages	19
Non-Departmental, Wellness, PE, Athletics, Marching Band & Majorettes	20, 21

Art Course Descriptions

Visual Art	21
General Music	22
Guitar	23
Piano, Band	24
Orchestra, Vocal Music	25
Mass Media	26
Theater Arts	27
Imaginative Writing	28
Dance	29
Registration Worksheet	33
Maps to NSA	34, 35

<h2 style="margin: 0;">What it takes to Graduate at Nashville School of the Arts</h2>

Course	Number of Credits
English	4
Math (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II)	3
Science (Physical and Biological)	3
Social Studies	
U. S. History	1
World History OR World Geography	1
Economics	1/2
Government	1/2
Foreign Language (two years of the same language)	2
Physical Education	1
Lifetime Wellness	1
Fine or Performing Arts	6
Elective (or additional arts credit)	1
 Total	 24

Extra Curricular Activities and Performance Opportunities

Art Club
Art Showcases in Partnership with The Frist Center
Athletics *
Beta Club
Blues Band
Book Club
Community Service Club
Dance Ensemble
Early Music Consort Choir
Fellowship of Christian Artists
Forensics
French Club
Hip Hop Club
Jazz Ensemble
Madrigals
National Honor Society
National Art Honor Society
Orchestra
Pop Ensemble
Spanish Club
Student Government Association
Swing Band
Theatrical Performances
The Mark (Dance Competition Team)
Yearbook

*NSA has a cooperative agreement with M. L. King and Hillsboro High Schools for sports programs. (See page 20)

For More Specific Arts Information, Contact: 291-6600

Debra Perry , Dance, Ext. 131
Laurie Poole, Visual Art, Ext. 136
John Newsom, Mass Media, Ext. 121
Michael Graham, Vocal Music, Ext. 137

Kara Kindall, Theater, Ext. 124
Richard Griffin, Instrumental Music, Ext. 123
James Satterwhite, Guitar, Ext. 119
Crystal Wells, Piano, Ext. 113

CURRICULUM

Academic and Arts Departments

ENGLISH

English I*
 English II*
 English III*
 English IV*
 AP English IV

MATHMATICS

Algebra I *
 Algebra II*
 Geometry *
 Pre-Cal w/Trig**
 AP Calculus

SCIENCE

Physical Science
 Biology *
 Chemistry*
 Physics
 Ecology
 AP Biology

SOCIAL STUDIES

World Geography
 World History
 Government ½
 Economics ½
 U. S. History *
 Psychology ½
 African American Stds. ½
 AP U. S. History

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

French I, II, III**
 Spanish I, II*, III**

PE/WELLNESS

PE I, II, III, IV
 Lifetime Wellness

VISUAL ARTS

Art Survey
 Art I, II, IV
 Art III ½
 Ceramics ½
 Sculpture ½
 Drawing ½
 Printmaking ½
 Exp. Palette (Painting) ½
 AP Art Studio
 AP Art History

CREATIVE WRITING

Imaginative Writing

DANCE

Ballet I, II, III, IV
 Adv. Ballet I, II, III
 Musical Theater
 Choreography
 Movement/Performance
 Folk Dance
 Jazz I, II, III, IV
 Adv. Jazz I, II, III, IV
 Modern Dance I, II, III, IV
 Intermediate Tap

GENERAL MUSIC

Conducting & Comp.
 Music Theory I
 Music Understanding
 AP Music Theory
 Songwriting (Mus. Th. II)

VOCAL MUSIC

Chamber Choir I, II, III, IV
 Vocal Techniques I, II, III, IV
 Women's Choral I, II, III, IV
 A Cappella Choir I, II, III, IV

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Class. Guitar I, II, III, IV
 Adv. Guitar I, II, III, IV
 String Ensemble I, II, III, IV
 Stage Band I, II, III, IV
 Instrument Tech. I, II, III, IV
 Jazz Improv I, II, III, IV
 Wind Ensemble I, II, III, IV
 Concert Band I, II, III, IV
 Beg. Orchestra (Mus. Comp.)
 Orchestra I, II, III, IV
 Pop Ensemble I, II, III, IV
 Class. Piano I, II, III, IV
 Adv. Piano I, II, III, IV

THEATER ARTS

Theater Arts
 Acting I
 Make-Up for the Stage ½
 Costuming for the Theater ½
 Directing Theater
 Speech Arts ½
 Creative Dramatics ½
 Intro to Tech. Theater
 Intro to Cinema
 Production Design (Scene
 Design/Stage Lighting)

MASS MEDIA

Mass Media
 Media Production
 Mass Media Process
 Intro to Cinema Studies
 Med. Prod. II/Internship

**All courses are yearlong unless they are marked ½.
 *Honors and Standard levels offered. ** Honors Only**

Academics at Nashville School of the Arts

Nashville School of the Arts offers opportunities for excellence in academics as well as the arts. Regardless of which area of art a student pursues, a rigorous academic curriculum is also required.

All students who graduate from NSA have completed the academic requirements of a university preparatory curriculum as well as the required arts curriculum. An average of 40% of graduates complete the Scholars Program required for an Honors Diploma.

Approximately 4 out of 5 NSA graduates enroll in a 4-year college or university. A sampling of the post-secondary schools attended by NSA graduates includes the University of Southern California, DePaul University, Columbia College (Chicago) Fordham University, Belmont University, Tuskegee University, Vanderbilt University, and Berklee.

Honors courses are offered at every grade level. Advanced Placement courses are offered in English, U. S. History, Biology, Calculus, Music Theory, Art History, and Studio Art. Students who take these courses and pass a standardized exam may receive college credit. In 2004, two NSA students were recognized as AP Scholars by the College Board. (These students have received a score of at least 3 on at least 3 AP exams.)

Five levels of mathematics, six levels of science, and four levels of foreign language are offered. Extra curricular activities which promote academic excellence include National Honor Society, Beta Club, Book Club, Forensics Team, Spanish Club, and French Club.

Over 50% of NSA's faculty members hold advanced degrees, including several doctorates. NSA's academic teachers have received recognition for their achievements, including the Secondary Teacher of Excellence Award for Tennessee awarded by the National Council of Teachers of English.

Mr. Bob Wilson, principal at NSA for seven years, has been chosen as Metro Nashville Public School's High Principal of the Year 2006/07. We are extremely proud to have someone with his background in arts and music as principal at Nashville School of the Arts.

Nashville School of the Arts is one of two Nashville Public Schools designated as an "Outstanding School" by the Tennessee Department of Education. NSA is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

Community College/Dual Enrollment

Students who wish to earn college credits while still in high school may participate in the Dual Enrollment Program. Classes will meet at the Southeast Center Campus of Nashville State Community College (NSCC). Participants will receive both high school and college credit for all dual enrollment courses. The credits may fulfill core requirements at many colleges and universities. To qualify, students must have a 3.0 GPA, and score 19 or above on the ACT. Above all, students must be willing to take a challenging course in a college environment. Each class at Nashville State will cost approximately \$325 per semester, plus the cost of books, however, the Dual Enrollment Grant will cover \$300 of tuition per semester (maximum \$600 in one year).

Scholars Program

ADMISSION

Students in the Scholars Program should be willing to engage in the rigorous curriculum required for an Honors Diploma. Students need a teacher recommendation in order to take honors and/or AP classes.

OBJECTIVES

- To provide opportunities for in-depth study in all subject areas
- To strengthen academic skills and motivation
- To improve scores on college admissions tests
- To increase options for university admissions, college majors, and careers

SCHOLARS PROGRAM CURRICULUM

Students must meet NSA's graduation requirements (see page 2), and take the following courses:

- Complete 8 credits of honors and/or Advanced Placement (AP) courses. At least two of the eight classes must be AP classes.
- At least one of the AP classes must be taken in the junior or senior year.
- Students must take 2 of the 8 honors/AP classes in the junior year, and 2 in the senior year.

GRADES

In computing numerical grades for honors and AP courses, three points shall be added to the numerical six weeks and examination grades for honors courses, and five points will be added for AP courses.

Students who take AP examinations and pass with a score of three or above shall be reimbursed for the cost of the examination(s) by the Metropolitan Board of Public Education.

The averages for Academic Honors and Distinguished Scholar shall be computed from the first seven semesters of grade averages.

ACHIEVEMENT LEVELS

1. A Distinguished Scholars Diploma will be awarded to students who earn the specified 24 credits in the Scholars Program, attain a 93-100 average, and pass the Gateway exams in Algebra I, Biology, and English II
2. An Academic Honors Diploma will be awarded to students who earn the specified 24 credits in the Scholars Program, attain an 85-92 average, and pass the Gateway exams in Algebra I, Biology, and English II
3. Students who complete the Scholars Program curriculum but have a 7-semester average of less than 85 shall receive a Regular Diploma. The diploma and the cumulative record shall be stamped, "Scholars Program Curriculum."

Testing

<u>Test</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Required/Recommended</u>
Gateway (Alg I, Bio, Eng II)	Early May	During School	Required for graduation
End of Course (Eng I, Phys Sci, US Hist. Geom, For. Lang.)	Early May	During School	Required. Scores comprise part of the final exam grade for the course.
PLAN (10 th)	November	During School	Recommended pre ACT test
PSAT (10-11)	October	During School	Recommended pre SAT test
TCAP Writing Assessment (11 th)	February	During School	Required
ACT (11-12)	Oct., Dec., Feb., April, June	Saturday at specified locations	Entrance exam for college admission
SAT (11-12)	Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., March, May, June	Saturday at specified locations	Entrance exam for college admission

National Tests

The following is a brief description of the national tests that are offered to students preparing to apply to college. For further information visit www.collegeboard.org or www.act.org.

1. PLAN—Given in the fall to sophomores, the PLAN is useful as an indicator of ACT scores and/or test practice. It is the same format as the ACT. All 10th graders take the PLAN. No registration is required.
2. ACT (American College Testing Program)—Many colleges and universities require ACT for admission. Four 35-50 minute tests are given in academic areas of English Usage, Mathematics, Reading, and Science Reasoning. The composite score is an average of the four subtests.
3. AP (Advanced Placement)—AP tests are given in May. The tests are usually three hours in length and are based on college level courses taken in that subject.
4. PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test/National Merit Qualifying Test)—Given in October to high school juniors, and some sophomores and freshmen, the PSAT is the basis for National Merit Scholarships Only juniors can qualify for merit scholarships. It is the same format as SAT I and is useful as an indicator of SAT scores and/or test practice. Register with the school counselor in September. There is a fee.
5. SAT I (Scholastic Assessment Test)—Many colleges and universities require SAT for admission. It is a three hour and forty minute test measuring verbal, mathematical, and writing ability.
6. SAT II Subject Tests—These one-hour tests measure application knowledge in specific subject areas. Students can take up to three one-hour tests on one test date. Some four-year colleges require three subject tests; one is usually English Composition. SAT II test(s) are taken in the spring of the junior year or the terminal year of the subject taken. SAT I and SAT II tests cannot be taken on the same day.

STUDENTS MUST REGISTER TO TAKE THE PSAT, ACT, AND SAT.

Middle School Credit

Students taking high school courses in middle school (Algebra, Geometry, Spanish I, French I, or Physical Science) receive high school credit **by passing the course and the credit exit exam** for the course (grade 70 or above). Credit received is noted as “p” (passing grade) on the transcript and is given no grade point (GPA) value.

If a student passes Algebra I and the Algebra I Gateway exam in 8th grade at a private school, they will receive high school credit. If they do not meet both of these conditions they will not be awarded credit. They will have to take Geometry, Algebra II and Pre Cal/Trig to graduate.

High School Transcript

The transcript is an historical document of all courses taken at NSA. All grades, passing and failing, are permanently recorded on the transcript. All subjects (including summer school courses) for which a numerical grade is awarded shall be used in determining the numerical average. If a course has been repeated to improve the grade, only the higher grade will count in the grade point average.

Transfer Students

Students transferring from an approved or Southern Association accredited school will have their credits accepted in full. These credits must fall within the framework found in Rules, Regulations and Minimum Standards, Tennessee State Board of Education. No credit will be given for courses offered by correspondence. Students from outside the system shall bring with them evidence of previous attendance and standing.

Transfer from Non-Accredited Schools

If a student enters from non-accredited schools (schools not approved by the Tennessee State Department of Education or by comparable agencies), the principal will make temporary placement in view of available evidence, with permanent placement to be at the grade or level best suited to the student’s academic, social and emotional development, as indicated by observation and testing. **Home school students entering public schools are treated as students entering from non-approved schools.** Written examinations will be administered by the principal or the designated representative. The examinations administered to students in grades 9-12 will cover the individual subjects appearing on the official transcripts. The examination for subjects of more than one unit need cover only the last unit completed. Subject examinations will be administered only one time. The examinations given to rising ninth graders will cover language and math.

Special Education

All special education services are provided in an inclusive environment. Students with Individual Education Plans (IEP’s) participate fully in the general curriculum at NSA. As set by the Board of Education, magnet schools are not staffed to accommodate any “pull out” resource services. Students with IEP’s have the option of one Learning Strategies class provided by the special education teacher. Five (5) hours is the maximum number allowable on a student’s IEP to attend NSA. All IEP’s are reviewed at the beginning of the school year to ensure successful implementation.

Grading Scale

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>GPA</u>	<u>QPA</u>
A	93-100	4.0
B	85-92	3.0
C	75-84	2.0
D	70-74	1.0
F	0-69	0.0

For students transferring to NSA from schools using letter grades, the following equivalents will be used:

A+= 98	B+= 91	C+= 84	D+=74	
A = 95	B = 88	C = 80	D =73	F = 69 &
A- = 93	B- = 85	C- = 75	D- =70	below

Promotion Policy

In grades 9-12 students must pass individual courses with a minimum numerical grade of 70 to receive credit. Class placement is determined at the beginning of the school year. Classification of students will be as follows:

9 th Grade	Fewer than 6 credits
10 th Grade	6 credits required
11 th Grade	12 credits required
12 th Grade	17 credits required

Transportation

Metro Transit Authority has bus service at a special rate.
Contact MTA at (615) 862-5950

Pencil Partners

The Frist Center, Cheekwood, Belmont University
Tennessee Performing Arts Center

Major Contributors to NSA

Country Music Association

Gateway Exams

Students must pass three Gateway end-of-course tests in order to receive a regular high school diploma. The three Gateway tests are Algebra I, Biology I, and English II (sophomore English). These tests count as 15% of the course grade in the semester in which the test is taken. Students take the test upon completion of the course. If they fail to pass, opportunities will be given each year to retake the exam. End-of-course examinations will be given in physical science, U. S. History, and English I. Although not a part of the graduation requirement, scores are calculated as 15% of the semester grade for that class.

School Counseling Program

The school counseling program and college/career center are designed to address the needs of all students by helping them to acquire competencies in career planning and exploration, knowledge of self and others, and academic development. Certified school counselors organize and implement the counseling program with the active involvement and support of parents, students, teachers and administrators. Confidentiality is important to the counseling relationship because it facilitates trust; therefore, all information shared will be taken in confidence.

The Center provides individual planning through test interpretation, academic planning, and college and career counseling. Responsive services are available for personal and small group counseling. The guidance curriculum is implemented through large group activities, classroom guidance, newsletters, and transition services. In addition, the counseling program provides system support through parent/school communication and by building staff and community relationships.

Class Ranking

Each year Nashville School of the Arts recognizes a valedictorian and a salutatorian. These shall be the two students who have completed the requirements of the Scholars Program and achieved the two highest grade point averages, respectively, at the end of seven semesters. Other seniors are not ranked academically.

Senior Exam Exemption

A senior must have maintained a minimum average of 90 with at least one grade of 93 or above in a subject, based on the three six weeks grades of the current semester for which he/she is applying for exemption. Students who have been suspended (out of school) are not eligible for exemption.

Selecting Courses

Nashville School of the Arts builds its master schedule based on student requests for courses. Spring registration determines the courses offered the following fall. Once the master schedule has been determined, students who requested and who were recommended for Honors and Advanced Placement courses will be obligated to take these courses. In other words, students will not be allowed to change their minds in the fall and drop down one level. However, if after the first six weeks grading period a student is failing an honors or AP course, reevaluation of placement may be necessary to ensure the success of the student. Students who plan their schedules in a thoughtful, careful manner maximize their chances to receive the classes they request and to be successful in those classes.

Scheduling Policies

Schedule changes take place through the first 10 days of school only. All courses listed in the Program of Studies require a sufficient number of student registrants to apply in a given year. If there is not a sufficient interest in a particular course, it may not be offered during the upcoming school year. Changes in individual student schedules may be necessary due to changes in the master schedule or to balance class size. Students will not be allowed to enter full-year courses at the beginning of the second semester UNLESS they are making up deficiencies.

1. VALID schedule change requests are considered only through the first ten school days. Valid course or level changes do not include dropping a level because students change their minds over the summer, want a different teacher, desire a more favorable schedule, have not done the summer reading or desire to have classes with friends.
2. Full-year courses may not be dropped at the end of the first semester. Exceptions to this policy can be made only by appealing to the Principal. A parent conference will be required. Every student must register for seven (7) courses each semester.
3. For honors and AP classes, a teacher recommendation is necessary. Parents who wish to override that course recommendation may do so by completing a course override form. Students can obtain an override form from the School Counselor. At the end of each grading period of the first semester, a teacher may recommend course level changes based on their observations and evaluation of student performance.
4. All arts classes require a teacher recommendation.

Course Levels

Standard level courses are offered in each discipline and are open to any student. **Honors** courses provide a greater challenge and cover more material at a faster pace than standard courses. To enroll in an honors course, a student must be recommended by his or her present teacher in that discipline. Students should have records of high achievement, most often defined as an average of 85 or better.

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are college-level courses with a prescribed core curriculum. The AP National Examination is provided by and graded by the College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) and is administered to AP students in May of each year. Individual colleges and universities have their own specific standards for granting credit for AP work. To enroll in an AP course, a student must be recommended by his or her present teacher in that discipline. **All students taking an AP course will be expected to take the AP exam.** Teachers will add 8 points to each six weeks average and to the exam grade. The registration fee for 2006 AP exams is \$83.00. A fee payment schedule can be arranged.

Nashville School of the Arts

Ninth Grade Art Classes

The following Arts courses are available for incoming 9th graders. All arts courses require a teacher recommendation.

Music Understanding
Music Theory I
Treble Ensemble (Women)
A Cappella Choir
Concert Band
Wind Ensemble I
Orchestra I
Musical Competency (Beg. Orch.)
Classical Piano I
Classical Guitar I
Ballet I
Jazz Dance I

Folk Dance
Modern Dance I
Musical Theater
Theater Arts
Speech Arts and Creative Dramatics
Intro to Technical Theater
Mass Media
Intro to Cinema
Visual Arts I
Art Survey
Imaginative Writing

Schedule for Ninth Grade Students

STANDARD PROGRAM

English I
Algebra I
Physical Science
Spanish I or II/French I or II
3 Art Classes
(or 2 arts classes and Wellness)

SCHOLARS PROGRAM

English I (Honors or Standard)
Algebra (Honors or Standard) or Geometry (Honors or Standard)
Physical Science or Biology (Honors or Standard)
Spanish I or II/French I or II
3 Art Classes
(or 2 arts classes and Wellness)

It is recommended that students take at least 2 honors classes in ninth grade in order to meet the requirements of the scholars program. See page 6 for details