ABOUT THE CHICAGO ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS
Established in 1981, The Chicago Academy for the Arts is a nationally recognized, internationally influential independent high school acclaimed for its unique co-curricular program composed of rigorous college-preparatory academics and professional-level arts training. Designated a National School of Distinction by the John F. Kennedy Center, The Chicago Academy for the Arts provides a challenging and stimulating environment in which young scholar-artists master the skills necessary for academic success, critical thought, and creative expression.

MISSION
The Chicago Academy for the Arts transforms emerging artists through a curriculum and culture which connect intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, and creativity to impart the skills to lead and collaborate across diverse communities.

STUDENT BODY
Students are admitted to The Academy each year based on demonstrated ability in both academics and the arts. For the 2020-2021 school year, 50% of applicants were accepted to The Academy.

The 136 students of The Academy form a diverse community: 65% Caucasian, 13% African American/Black, 7% Latino/Hispanic American, 2% Asian American, 10% Multiracial American, and 3% International. Academy students live in Chicago, its suburbs, and beyond: 47% Chicago, 53% suburbs and beyond. Many students commute over three hours each day to attend The Academy.

Approximately 49% of students receive need-based tuition assistance each year. A total of $1.2 million was awarded for the 2020-2021 school year.

One hundred percent of the students of the Class of 2020 were admitted to universities, colleges, art institutes, or conservatories. The 143 students comprising the classes of 2017-2020 collectively earned over $31 million in college scholarships.

The average academic class size is 15 students.

FACULTY
The Academy’s faculty consists of 55 members, including full-time, certified academic teachers and arts instructors, as well as part-time artist-teachers of local, national, and international acclaim. The student-to-faculty ratio is 4:1. Fifty-three percent of Academy teachers hold graduate degrees.

ARTS CURRICULUM
Each student is a member of one of The Academy’s six arts departments: Dance, Media Arts, Music, Musical Theatre, Theatre, or Visual Arts. Each department provides core courses that immerse the students in the discipline of the respective department. Faculty members assess students individually in each course each semester. In addition to their regular arts classwork, students participate in numerous productions throughout the school year. The Academy has over 100 productions each year, including concerts, plays, musicals, readings, screenings, and exhibitions. Additionally, The Academy’s urban location offers students unparalleled access to, and partnerships with, some of the world’s most renowned arts organizations and professionals.

Seniors in each arts department also present major final projects (such as recitals, exhibits, and films) as a graduation requirement.

ACADEMIC CURRICULUM
The Academy’s rigorous, college-preparatory academic program is built upon core studies in English, mathematics, science, social studies, and world languages. Honors courses are offered in selected disciplines. AP courses are offered during a student’s junior and senior years.

ACCREDITATION
The Academy is accredited by the Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS) and is a member in good standing of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS). The Academy is recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and is a member of the Illinois High School Association (ISHA) and the Arts School Network (ASN).

DAILY SCHEDULE
The Academy’s school day begins at 8:30 a.m. and consists of six 45-minute academic periods followed by a three-hour immersion in the student’s respective arts discipline.

While the standard school day officially ends at 4:30 p.m., students are required to stay later on the majority of school days for rehearsals, performances, private lessons, or student-led projects. The Academy’s extended school day and the significant commutes of many of our students limit their availability for extra-curricular activities.
The Academy provides a cumulative GPA that includes both academic and arts courses as well as a cumulative GPA that includes academic courses only. The Academy does not rank its students.

### COURSE OFFERINGS

#### SUBJECT/REQUIREMENTS

##### ENGLISH
4 credits
- African American Literature*  
- American Literature  
- Analysis and Composition  
- AP English Literature & Composition  
- Chicago Literature*  
- Detective Fiction  
- Gothic Literature

##### MATHMATICS
3 credits  
*Not offered in 2020-2021
- Algebra I  
- Algebra II  
- AP Calculus AB  
- AP Calculus BC

##### SCIENCE
3 credits  
*Not offered in 2020-2021
- Anatomy & Physiology  
- AP Computer Science Principles  
- Astronomy  
- Biology  
- Chemistry  
- Health and Wellness  
- Physics  
- Plagues, Pests, and Politics

##### SOCIAL STUDIES
3 credits  
*Not offered in 2020-2021
- AP Art History  
- AP European History  
- Being and Knowing: Introduction to Ontology and Epistemology  
- Civics  
- Global Affairs  
- Global Affairs  
- Honors Philosophy*  
- Honors World Religions*  
- Intro to Sociology and Psychology  
- Modern American History Through Film

##### WORLD LANGUAGES
2 credits
- AP French  
- AP Spanish  
- French I-III  
- Honors French IV  
- Honors Spanish IV  
- Spanish I-III

##### ARTS ELECTIVES
(Offered to students of all arts departments)
- Business & the Arts  
- Digital Arts and Media  
- Introduction to Acting  
- Music Composition  
- Rhetoric, Discourse, Speech, and Debate  
- Studio Art  
- Urban Design

Each student is a member of one of the following arts departments and must complete the courses shown.

#### DANCE
- Ballet A, B, & C  
- Dance Composition  
- Jazz A, B, & C  
- Men's Class  
- Modern Graham Technique A, B, & C  
- Pas de Deux  
- Pointe A & B

#### MEDIA ARTS
- Animation Studies  
- Animation Techniques  
- Audio Production  
- Cinematography  
- Creative Non-Fiction  
- Directing  
- Expanded Narrative  
- Film Fiction  
- Film Aesthetics  
- Introduction To Creative Writing  
- Media Design  
- Poetry  
- Publications Lab  
- Screenwriting  
- Sequential Narrative  
- Studio  
- Video Production  
- Workshop

#### MUSIC
- Chamber Ensemble  
- Classical Vocal Workshop  
- Composition  
- Contemporary Writing and Production  
- Jazz Combo  
- Jazz Vocal Workshop  
- Music History  
- Musicianship I, II, III, and IV  
- Piano Lab  
- Studio  
- Theory and Ear Training I, II, and Advanced

#### MUSICAL THEATRE
*Through Dance Dept.*
- Advanced Acting  
- Dance (Ballet, Modern, and Jazz)*  
- Intermediate Acting  
- Introduction to Acting  
- Musical Theatre Dance  
- Musical Theatre Studio I and II  
- Private Voice Instruction  
- Voice Repertoire and Music Theory

#### THEATRE
*One-semester course
- Acting for the Camera*  
- Advanced Acting  
- Circus*  
- Combat for Stage and Screen*  
- Costume Concepts*  
- Directing  
- Improvisation*  
- Intermediate Acting  
- Introduction to Acting  
- Makeup for Stage and Screen*  
- Playwriting*  
- Scenic, Lighting, & Sound Design  
- Scenic, Lighting, & Sound Design  
- Script Analysis  
- Stagecraft  
- Stage Management  
- Voice and Movement

#### VISUAL ARTS
- Color Theory  
- Design  
- Digital Photography  
- Drawing  
- Four-Dimensional Studio  
- Interdisciplinary Art  
- Painting  
- Printmaking  
- Sculpture

---

**HONORS AND AP COURSES**

The Academy offers eight honors-level courses and nine AP courses. These courses are offered to students based upon teacher recommendation. Due to AP course availability and scheduling conflicts, students are typically able to take a total of no more than five AP courses. Honors and AP courses are weighted in the GPA.

#### HONORS AND AP COURSES

- Myth and Hero*  
- Native American Literature*  
- Postcolonial Literature*  
- Shakespeare as Literature and Drama*  
- Women's Literature*

- Honors Algebra II  
- Honors Geometry  
- Honors Precalculus  
- PreCalculus

- Scientific Discourse and Debate  
- Thought Experiment

- Studies in Value: Introduction to Ethics and Aesthetics  
- U.S. History  
- World History

#### GRADING SCALE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Honors</th>
<th>AP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*One-semester course. Offered in alternating years.
**ACT SCORES 2019**

*2020 ACT scores will be released toward the end of 2020.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Academy Average</th>
<th>National Average</th>
<th>Academy % Higher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>25.3</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>24.2</td>
<td>20.3</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>25.9</td>
<td>21.2</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>23.5</td>
<td>20.6</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composite</td>
<td>24.8</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ACT COLLEGE READINESS* SCOR ES 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>% Academy Students</th>
<th>% National Students</th>
<th>Academy % Higher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting all four</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>127%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The ACT's “College Readiness” statistic predicts the likelihood of a student earning an 'A' or a 'B' in a particular college course.*

---

**COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES 2010-2020**

- AMDA College and Conservatory of the Performing Arts
- American Academy of Dramatic Arts
- The American Musical and Dramatic Academy
- The American University of Paris
- Antioch College
- Arizona State University
- The University of Arizona
- Augustana College
- Baldwin Wallace University
- Ball State University
- Bard College
- Barnard College
- Belmont University
- Beloit College
- Bennington College
- Berklee College of Music
- Biola University
- Boston Conservatory
- Boston University
- Bowling Green State University
- Bradley University
- Brooks Institute of Photography
- Burlington College
- Butler University
- California College of the Arts (Oakland)
- California Institute of the Arts
- California State University, Long Beach
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Los Angeles
- University of California, San Diego
- CAP 21 Performing Arts Conservatory
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design
- Centre College
- Champlain College
- Chapman University
- Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University
- University of Chicago
- Chicago State University
- University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music
- Cleveland Institute of Music
- Cofe College
- College for Creative Studies
- University of Colorado at Boulder
- Colorado College
- Colorado State University
- Columbia College Chicago
- Concordia University (Montreal, Quebec)
- Concordia University (IL)
- The Conservatory of Music
- The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art
- Cornell College
- Cornish College of the Arts
- Dean College
- University of Denver
- DePaul University
- Dominican University
- Dominican University of California
- Drake University
- Drew University
- Drexel University
- College of DuPage
- Earlham College
- Eastman School of Music
- Eckerd College
- Edinburgh College of Art
- Elmhurst College
- Elon University
- Emerson College
- Emory University
- Eugene Lang College
- The New School for Liberal Arts
- University of Evansville
- Evergreen State University
- Florida State University
- Fordham University
- Friends University
- George Mason University
- Goucher College
- Grand Valley State University
- Green Mountain College
- Grinnell College
- Guildford School of Acting
- Guildford College
- Hampshire College
- University of Hartford
- Harry S. Truman Community College
- University of Hawaii
- Hawaii Pacific University
- University of Hawaii at Manoa
- Hofstra University
- Howard University
- University of Illinois at Chicago
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Illinois State University
- Illinois Wesleyan University
- Indiana University at Bloomington
- The University of Iowa
- Ithaca College
- Johns Hopkins University
- Peabody Conservatory of Music
- The Juilliard School
- Juniata College
- Kansas City Art Institute
- University of Kansas
- University of Kentucky
- Kenyon College
- Knox College
- Lake Forest College
- Lawrence University
- Lewis University
- The Liverpool Institute for the Performing Arts
- London Contemporary Dance School
- University of Louisiana, Lafayette
- Loyola Marymount University
- Loyola University Chicago
- Manhattan School of Music
- Marquette University
- University of Maryland
- University of Maryland College of Arts and Sciences
- University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth
- McGill University
- Mercyhurst University
- Miami University, Oxford
- University of Michigan
- Middlebury College
- Millikin University
- Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design
- Minneapolis College of Art and Design
- University of Minnesota
- University of Missouri, Columbus
- University of Missouri, Kansas City
- Montana State University, Bozeman
- The University of Montana, Missoula
- Moody Bible Institute
- Muhlenberg College
- New England Conservatory of Music
- The New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music
- The New School
- New York University
- University of North Carolina School of the Arts
- North Central College
- North Park University
- University of North Texas
- Northeastern Illinois University
- University of Northern Colorado
- Northern Illinois University
- Northwestern University
- Oberlin College and Conservatory
- University of Oklahoma
- Oklahoma City University
- Ontario College of Art & Design
- Otterbein University
- Pace University, New York City
- Pace University, Westchester Campus
- Parsons The New School for Design
- Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts
- Pennsylvania State University, University Park
- Pepperdine University
- Point Park University
- Pomona College
- Pratt Institute
- Prescott College
- Princeton University
- University of Redlands
- Reed College
- Rhode Island School of Design
- Ripon College
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- University of Rochester
- Rochester University
- Roehampton University (UK)
- Roosevelt University
- Rose Bruford College
- Rutgers University-New Brunswick
- Saint John's University
- Saint Mary's College
- Saint Xavier University
- Sam Houston State University
- San Francisco Art Institute
- San Francisco Conservatory of Music
- University of San Francisco
- Santa Fe University of Art and Design
- Sarah Lawrence College
- Savannah College of Art and Design
- School of the Art Institute of Chicago
- School of the Museum of Fine Arts
- School of Visual Arts
- Scripps College
- Shenandoah University
- Skidmore College
- University of South Carolina
- University of South Florida, Tampa
- University of Southern California
- Southern Illinois University, Carbondale
- Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville
- Southern Methodist University
- Smith College
- Spelman College
- Springfield College
- Stanford University
- Suffo I University
- SUNY Purchase College, State University of New York
- Syracuse University
- The Ohio State University
- Temple University
- The Theatre School
- Triniton College
- Tulane University
- University of the Arts
- University of Utah
- Ursinus College
- Virginia Commonwealth University
- Viterbo University
- Wagner College
- University of Washington
- Washington University, St. Louis
- Wayne State
- Webster University
- Wesleyan University
- Western Illinois University
- Western Michigan University
- University of Wisconsin, La Crosse
- University of Wisconsin, Madison
- University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
- The College of Wooster

Graduation, 2016
The Chicago Academy for the Arts

1010 W. Chicago Ave.
Chicago, IL 60642-5414

P: 312.421.0202
F: 312.421.3816

chicagoacademyforthearts.org