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### 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 2023-2024 school year, 70% of applicants were accepted to The Academy.

The 116 students of The Academy form a diverse community: 46% Caucasian, 24% African American/Black, 13% Latino/Hispanic American, 6% Asian American, 9% Multiracial American, and 2% Other. 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.

Each year, approximately half of all students receive need-based tuition assistance. The Academy typically awards over \$1.5 million in financial aid per year.

100% of the students of the Class of 2023 who admitted to post-secondary programs. The 125 students comprising the classes of 2019-2023 collectively earned over \$50 million in scholarships.



### FACULTY

The Academy's faculty consists of over 50 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 less than 3:1. 71% of Academy teachers hold graduate degrees. The average academic class size is 15 students.



*The Skin of Our Teeth, 2022*

### 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. Academy students participate in over 120 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 Lake Michigan Association of Independent Schools (LMAIS) and the Arts School Network (ASN).



### DAILY SCHEDULE

The Academy's school day consists of a modified block schedule of three 75-minute blocks of academic courses and a 45-minute Academic Advisory period followed by a three-plus hour immersion in a student's chosen arts department.

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.

## GRADING POLICY

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.

## HONORS AND AP COURSES

The Academy offers seven 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.

## GRADING SCALE

Grade	Standard	Honors	AP
A	4	4.5	5
B	3	3.5	4
C	2	2.5	3
D	1	1	1
F	0	0	0

## COURSE OFFERINGS

*A one-semester course is equal to .5 credits. Course titles reflect changes made at the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year.*

<b>ENGLISH</b> 4 credits  *One-semester course. Offered in alternating years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>African American Literature*</li><li>American Literature</li><li>AP English Literature &amp; Composition</li><li>Creative Writing: Fiction</li><li>Creative Writing: Poetry</li><li>Detective Fiction</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Film as Literature</li><li>Graphic Novel as Literature</li><li>Gothic Literature</li><li>Imagining The End of the World: Dystopian and Apocalyptic Fiction</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Introduction to Literary Analysis</li><li>Literature and the Comedic Form*</li><li>Literature of World War I*</li><li>Poetic Genre and Form</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Shakespeare as Literature and Drama*</li><li>Women's Literature*</li><li>Myth and Hero*</li><li>World Literature</li></ul>
<b>MATHEMATICS</b> 3 credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Algebra I</li><li>Algebra II</li><li>AP Calculus AB</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>AP Calculus BC</li><li>AP Statistics</li><li>Discrete Mathematics</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Geometry</li><li>Honors Algebra II</li><li>Honors Geometry</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Honors Precalculus</li><li>Precalculus</li></ul>
<b>SCIENCE</b> 3 credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Advanced Concepts: Chemistry</li><li>Advanced Concepts: Physics</li><li>Anatomy &amp; Physiology</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>AP Computer Science Principles</li><li>Biology</li><li>Botany</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Environmental Science</li><li>Health and Wellness</li><li>Laboratory Methods</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Scientific Discourse and Debate</li><li>Sophomore Chemistry</li><li>Sophomore Physics</li></ul>
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b> 3 credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>AP Art History</li><li>AP European History</li><li>Civics</li><li>Global Affairs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Honors Philosophy*</li><li>Honors World Religions*</li><li>Introduction to Psychology</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Introduction to Sociology</li><li>Modern American History Through Film</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Street Law</li><li>U.S. History</li><li>World History</li></ul>
<b>WORLD LANGUAGES</b> 2 credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>AP French</li><li>AP Spanish</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>French I-III</li><li>Honors French IV</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Spanish I-III</li><li>Honors Spanish IV</li></ul>	
<b>ARTS ELECTIVES</b> (Offered to students of all arts departments)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Business and the Arts</li><li>Digital Arts and Media</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Introduction to Recording Arts and Commercial Music</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Public Speaking</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rhetoric, Discourse, Speech and Debate</li></ul>
<i>Each student is a member of one of the following arts departments and must complete the courses shown.</i>				
<b>DANCE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Allegro</li><li>Ballet A, B, &amp; C</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dance Composition</li><li>Jazz A, B, &amp; C</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Modern Technique A, B, &amp; C</li><li>Partnering</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pointe A &amp; B</li><li>Pre-Barre Body Alignment</li></ul>
<b>MEDIA ARTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Advanced Animation</li><li>Animation Essentials</li><li>Animation Studies</li><li>Book Design</li><li>Creative Nonfiction</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Fiction I</li><li>Fiction II</li><li>Film Aesthetics</li><li>Film Editing</li><li>Lighting &amp; Cinematography</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Photography I</li><li>Photography II</li><li>Poetry</li><li>Screenwriting</li><li>Senior Seminar</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Studio Class</li><li>Video Production I</li><li>Video Production II</li><li>Workshop</li></ul>
<b>MUSIC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Advanced Digital Production</li><li>Audio Engineering</li><li>Chamber Ensemble</li><li>Classical Lessons</li><li>Classical Vocal Workshop</li><li>Commercial Music Lessons</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Composition Lessons</li><li>Electronic Ensemble</li><li>Introduction to Recording Arts and Commercial Music</li><li>Jazz Combo</li><li>Jazz Lessons</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Jazz Vocal Workshop</li><li>Music History</li><li>Musicianship I, II, III, and IV</li><li>Piano Lab</li><li>Pop/Rock Ensemble</li><li>Songwriting</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Studio Class</li><li>Theory and Ear Training I, II, and Advanced</li><li>Vocal Jazz Ensemble</li><li>Jazz Combo</li><li>Jazz Vocal Workshop</li></ul>
<b>MUSICAL THEATRE</b> *Through Dance Dept.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Advanced Acting</li><li>Ballet, Jazz, and Modern Dance*</li><li>Ensemble Singing</li><li>Intermediate Acting</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Introduction to Acting</li><li>Music Theory</li><li>Musical Theatre Dance Repertoire</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Musical Theatre History &amp; Studio 1 and 2</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Private Voice Instruction</li><li>Voice Repertoire and Studio</li></ul>
<b>THEATRE</b> *Offered on a rotating basis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Acting for the Camera*</li><li>Advance Acting</li><li>Circus*</li><li>Directing</li><li>Ensemble</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Improvisation*</li><li>Intermediate Acting I</li><li>Intermediate Acting II</li><li>Introduction to Acting</li><li>Introduction to Theatre</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Playwriting*</li><li>Production &amp; Design I</li><li>Production &amp; Design II</li><li>Rehearsal/Performance</li><li>Script Analysis</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Senior Seminar</li><li>Stage Combat*</li><li>Stagecraft I</li><li>Stagecraft II</li></ul>
<b>VISUAL ARTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Color Theory</li><li>Design</li><li>Digital Photography</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Drawing</li><li>Four-Dimensional Studio</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Interdisciplinary Art</li><li>Painting</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Printmaking</li><li>Sculpture</li></ul>

## ACT SCORES 2022-2023

Section	Academy Average	National Average	Academy % Higher
English	28.7	19	15.1%
Math	24.3	19.3	12.6%
Reading	20.4	20.4	15.3%
Science	25.2	19.9	12.7%
Composite	27.5	19.8	13.9%

National statistics provided by "Average ACT Score by State." OnToCollege, September 26, 2023. <https://www.ontocollege.com/average-act-score/>.



Graduation, 2022

## RECENT COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

AMDA College and Conservatory of the Performing Arts	Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts	Oklahoma City University	The University of Arizona
American Academy of Dramatic Arts	Evergreen State University	Ontario College of Art & Design	University of Wisconsin, La Crosse
The American Musical and Dramatic Academy	Florida State University	Otterbein University	University of California, Berkeley
The American University of Paris	Fordham University	Pace University, New York City	University of California, Los Angeles
Antioch College	Fordham University	Pace University, Westchester Campus	University of California, San Diego
Arizona State University	Friends University	Parsons The New School for Design	University of Chicago
Augustana College	George Mason University	Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts	University of Cincinnati College
Baldwin Wallace University	Goucher College	Pennsylvania State University, University Park	University of Colorado at Boulder
Ball State University	Grand Valley State University	Pepperdine University	University of Denver
Bard College	Green Mountain College	Point Park University	University of Essex
Barnard College	Grinnell College	Pomona College	University of Evansville
Belmont University	Guildford School of Acting	Pratt Institute	University of Hawaii at Manoa
Beloit College	Guilford College	Prescott College	University of Illinois at Chicago
Bennington College	Hampshire College	Princeton University	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Berklee College of Music	University of Hartford	Reed College	University of Kansas
Biola University	Harry S. Truman Community College of Chicago	Rhode Island School of Design	University of Kentucky
Boston Conservatory	Hawaii Pacific University	Ripon College	University of Maryland Washington
Boston University	Hofstra University	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth
Bowling Green State University	Howard University	Rockford University	University of Miami
Bradley University	Illinois State University	Roehampton University (UK)	University of Michigan
Brooks Institute of Photography	Illinois Wesleyan University	Roosevelt University	University of Minnesota
Burlington College	Indiana University at Bloomington	Rose Bruford College	University of Missouri, Columbia
Butler University	The University of Iowa	Rutgers University-New Brunswick	University of Missouri, Kansas City
California College of the Arts (Oakland)	Ithaca College	Saint John's University	University of North Carolina School of the Arts
California Institute of the Arts	Johns Hopkins University Peabody Conservatory of Music	Saint Mary's College	University of North Texas
California State University, Long Beach	The Juilliard School	Saint Xavier University	University of Northern Colorado
CAP21 Performing Arts Conservatory	Juniata College	Sam Houston State University	University of Oklahoma
Carnegie Mellon University	Kansas City Art Institute	San Francisco Art Institute	University of Redlands
Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design	Kenyon College	San Francisco Conservatory of Music	University of Rochester
Centre College	Knox College	Santa Fe University of Art and Design	University of San Francisco
Champlain College	Lake Forest College	Sarah Lawrence College	University of South Carolina
Chapman University	Lawrence University	Savannah College of Art and Design	University of South Florida, Tampa
Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University	Lewis University	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	University of Southern California
Chicago State University	The Liverpool Institute for the Performing Arts	School of the Museum of Fine Arts	University of the Arts London
Conservatory of Music	London Contemporary Dance School	School of Visual Arts	University of Utah
Cleveland Institute of Music	University of Louisiana, Lafayette	Scripps College	University of Washington
Coe College	Loyola Marymount University	Shenandoah University	University of Wisconsin, Madison
College for Creative Studies	Loyola University Chicago	Skidmore College	University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
Colorado College	Manhattan School of Music	Southern Illinois University, Carbondale	The College of Wooster
Colorado State University	Marquette University	Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville	
Columbia College Chicago	Maryland Institute College of Art	Southern Methodist University	
Concordia University (Montreal, Quebec)	Marymount Manhattan College	Smith College	
Concordia University (IL)	Massachusetts College of Art and Design	Spelman College	
The Conservatory of Music	McGill University	Springfield College	
The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art	Mercyhurst University	Stanford University	
Cornell College	Miami University, Oxford	Suffolk University	
Cornish College of the Arts	Middleburg College	SUNY-Purchase College, State University of New York	
Dean College	Millikin University	Syracuse University	
DePaul University	Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design	The Ohio State University	
Dominican University	Minneapolis College of Art and Design	Temple University	
Dominican University of California	Montana State University, Bozeman	The Theatre School	
Drake University	The University of Montana, Missoula	Triton College	
Drew University	Moody Bible Institute	Tulane University	
Drexel University	Muhlenberg College	The University of the Arts	
College of DuPage	New England Conservatory of Music	Ursinus College	
Earlham College	The New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music	Valparaiso University	
Eastman School of Music	The New School	Vassar College	
Eckerd College	New York University	Virginia Commonwealth University	
Edinburgh College of Art	North Central College	Viterbo University	
Elmhurst College	North Park University	Wagner College	
Elon University	Northeastern Illinois University	Washington University, St. Louis	
Emerson College	Northern Illinois University	Wayne State	
Emory University	Northwestern University	Webster University	
	Oberlin College and Conservatory	Wesleyan University	
		Western Illinois University	
		Western Michigan University	

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