



“You don’t often get to pick the community where your child grows up. This is an opportunity to do that, and there is no other community I would choose.”

- Liz, Academy Media Arts Parent



The Chicago Academy for the Arts

ART. There's a future in it

ABOUT THE ACADEMY

Preparing future leaders in the arts and life.

1010 W Chicago Ave, Chicago IL 60642 • (312) 421-0202  
 chicagoacademyforthearts.org • #CAArts



# QUICK FACTS

- Academy students' composite ACT scores were nearly **20% higher** than the state average in 2015 and 2016.
- The 63 students comprising the Classes of 2015 and 2016 were collectively awarded over **\$11.5 million** in college scholarships, an average of **\$182,500 each**. Recent accolades include National Merit Scholar, Presidential Scholar, and YoungArts Finalist.
- Over **70%** of our college acceptances between 2010 and 2016 were to institutions ranked in the **Top 300 Colleges and Universities** in America by Forbes Magazine.
- The student body composes, produces, and participates in more than **100 productions**, including concerts, plays, readings, screenings, and exhibitions each year.

# ARTS DEPARTMENTS



Perspective  
Animation by Emily Gay



AIDS Benefit 2015

## MEDIA ARTS

Media Arts majors explore their vision within the following distinctive modes: as animators, writers, and digital motion picture makers. The program includes classes in animation, poetry, fiction, screenwriting, cinematography, and fictional, documentary, and experimental video. Above all, the Media Arts Department focuses on storytelling. The process-based program values workshop, and is designed to hone a student's voice and ideas, and their ability to communicate both to an audience.

## MUSICAL THEATRE

In the Musical Theatre Department, students must master storytelling in three different disciplines: voice, dance, and acting. The Musical Theatre Department produces four main stage shows per year: a large department production, a devised revue, a smaller department production, and a Shakespeare play.

## DANCE

The Academy Dance Department is recognized as one of the leading preparatory institutions for the top dance companies in the country. Students take a foundational class of ballet every day, delving deep into classical technique — also taking jazz, modern, pointe, and pas de deux. Academy dancers will have the opportunity to audition for The Academy's repertory company, and perform in Chicago and beyond.

“ Somewhere between 400 and 1,200 kids audition for each musical theatre BFA program, and she was accepted as **one of ten boys and ten girls** at her school. The experience here at The Academy really helped her with that kind of competition.”

—Mindy, Academy Musical Theatre Parent



Eat To The Beat 2013

## THEATRE

The Theatre Department employs a unique project-based curriculum that intersects students with a selective overview of theatre and performance studies. In addition to regular and intensive work in the Acting Studio, Theatre students will explore up to twenty topics in the discipline including all facets of stagecraft and scene design, directing, makeup, auditioning and professional business, dialects, stage combat, improvisation, on-camera, playwriting, circus, and more.

## MUSIC

The Music Department curriculum is firmly rooted in the traditions of classical music and jazz, and is comprised of high-level private study, academic music courses, chamber ensembles, jazz ensembles and performances, as well as master classes with world-renowned artists. The focus of the Music Department is private instruction, and each student has two 45-minute private lessons every week.

## VISUAL ARTS

Within the Visual Arts Department framework of studio practice, critique, and exhibition, students develop skills to articulate their ideas and process, and are encouraged to become self-directed in pursuing their own subject matter and concept areas in their artwork. Each student takes classes in drawing and design and selects from electives in printmaking, painting, sculpture, and interdisciplinary arts.

“ I feel like I was given the independence I needed for the real world. There is no padding at this school, no constant monitoring or micromanagement. Here, you are put into an environment with expectations, and if you don't meet them, you're not letting down the faculty, you're letting down yourself. **It's all about you and your ability to work for your future.**”

—Elenna, Music

# BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

From musical collaborations with Grammy Award-winning artists to presentations for professional film juries, Academy students become comfortable working with professional arts organizations and artists from around the world. These partnerships create dynamic programs for students that live at the intersection of the classroom and community, facilitating a third space for teaching and learning, rooted in cultural connections and civic engagement throughout the city of Chicago.

Students are also active in leadership roles outside of class. In addition to student government, Academy students lead our annual **AIDS Benefit** (raising over \$10,000 for HIV/AIDS research and support), the **Gay-Straight Alliance**, and **Special Connections**.



Nine 2016



“The Chicago Academy for the Arts is nationally recognized for its **professional level of training**. I am delighted that two of our company members are graduates of this outstanding institution.”

—Peter Martins, Ballet Master in Chief of New York City Ballet



Visual Arts students and guest artist Tom Torluemke



Dance students and guest choreographer Preston Miller



Music students with Eighth Blackbird

“What attracted me to the school was the community, and to this day it is still what I love the most. I was really looking for a school that would immerse me into a community, and the Academy's community is sacred. **Someone always has my back.**”

—Jacques, Visual Arts

# ADMISSIONS

Admissions is a two-step process, beginning with an audition for your chosen department. Once you successfully advance through the audition, we then review your academic record. We know the process can be daunting but we are here to help give you the tools that you and your family need. The best place to start is by getting to know us better!

Please contact the Academy Admissions Office at **(312) 421-0202** with any questions, and keep the below important dates in mind.

Find more information, news, and important registration details at [chicagoacademyforthearts.org](http://chicagoacademyforthearts.org)

**Kitsana Salyphone**  
Director of Enrollment Management

“As we complete the school year and reflect on the growth, accomplishments, and connections our daughters have made, it feels very much like **a place like no other** in preparing them for a demanding future.”  
-Gary, Academy Dance Parent



2016 Opera Dragonfruit

## 2016-2017 ADMISSIONS CALENDAR

### OCTOBER

- 4 Classical Recital with Open House and Information Session
- 7-8 Theatre Fall Show with Open House and Information Session
- 11 Parent Coffee
- 15 Dance Company Rehearsal with Open House and Information Session
- 27 Academic Night
- 29 Audition Day 1

### NOVEMBER

- 5 Dance Company Rehearsal with Open House and Information Session

- 8 Parent Coffee
- 10 Academic Night
- 12 Musical Theatre Fall Show with Open House and Information Session
- 18 Visual Arts Alumni Exhibit and Media Arts Fall Show with Open Houses and Information Sessions
- 19 Independent School Entrance Exam
- 28 Fall Jazz Concert with Open House and Information Session

### DECEMBER

- 10 Audition Day 2
- 17 Independent School Entrance Exam

### JANUARY

- 4-5 Independent School Entrance Exams
- 19 Academic Night

### FEBRUARY

- 3 Visual Arts Winter Juried Exhibition with Open House and Information Session
- Academy Review

### MARCH

- 23 7th Grade Preview Day

“The faculty really push us towards our chosen paths and work to figure out what our strengths are. At the same time, they are **always pushing us to do more.**”

-Sydney, Dance

Photos by Thomas Mohr Photography



Senior Choreographed Dance Show 2016