Program Overview

The Academy for Performing and Visual Arts at Heritage High School was founded in 2014 for students with exceptional talent in the arts. Its goal is to develop and nurture talented young artists for successful vocations, avocations and advocacy in the arts through extensive training programs and classes in dance, drama or technical theatre, instrumental music, visual arts, and vocal music while maintaining high academic achievement. The Academy for Performing and Visual Arts faculty views academics and the arts as equally important and is committed to developing lifelong learners and arts advocates.

Components for Student Success

Each accepted student is enrolled in a major –

- Vocal Music
- Instrumental Music
- Dance
- Theatre
- Technical Theatre
- Visual Arts

Students study in their major concentration area for two class periods each semester. They are expected to remain in the program every semester of their high school careers. Students are actively involved in extracurricular performances and are given the opportunity to work with top professionals in the arts from the Atlanta area and throughout the United States.

Activities

Theatre and Technical Theatre
- GHSA One Act Competition
- International Thespian Society
  Troup #4048
- Georgia Thespian Conference
- ESU Shakespeare Monologue Competition
- True Colors Theatre Next Narrative Competition
- Shuler Hensley High School Musical Theatre Awards
- Fall Play
- Fall Musical
- Cabaret
- October Tales of Terror
- Winter Musical
- Spring Play
- Spring Musical
- Individual Showcase
- Friday Night Live
- Theatre for Social Change

Dance
- National Honors Society for Dance Arts
- Winter Dance Concert
- Spring Dance Concert
- Student Choreography Showcase
- KSU Dance Festival
- Jazz on Tap Festival
- Atlanta Ballet Matinee Performances
- College Dance Program Visits
- Dance-related field trips

Instrumental Music
- Marching Band
- Symphonic Band
- Jazz Band
- Wind Ensemble
- Wind Symphony
- Solo and Ensemble
- String Ensemble
- Spring Musical Orchestra
- District Honor Band
- All-State Band

Vocal Music
- AP Music Theory
- All-State Chorus
- All-State Sight Reading Chorus
- District Honor Chorus
- Georgia State Univ. SingFest
- Governors Honors
- Ladies’ Trio
- Literary Competition
- Large Group Performance Eval.
- Men’s Quartet
- UGA Choral Day

Visual Arts
- AP Studio Art
- Ceramics
- Drawing
- Painting
- Graphics
- Media Arts
- Photography
- Media Club
- National Art Honor Society
- Youth Art Month
- NAHS Conference
- Visual arts field trips
- Student Art Shows

Application, Eligibility, and Artistic Review

RCPS will use an electronic application process for 2023-2024 School Choice programs. No paper applications will be accepted. Students may apply for one School Choice program only for the 2023-2024 school year.

The application window is November 11 through 5 p.m., December 9, 2022, to apply for the 2023-2024 school year.

The online application will be available on the district website at: rockdaleschools.org

Only completed applications will be accepted for consideration.

Eligibility Criteria

- Students must meet the student registration requirements for Rockdale County Public Schools.
- Students who change schools after day one of their 9th grade year may not be eligible for varsity sports, literary competitions or One Act Play. All GHSA eligibility rules apply for all programs.
- Students and parents must agree to the Choice contract.

Audition/Artistic Review

Eligible applicants must complete the audition/artistic review process for final selection. The date for audition/artistic review will be Saturday, January 21, 2023. Applicants who complete the RCPS School Specialty and Choice application will be notified via email of the submission process.
Academy for Performing and Visual Arts at Heritage High School
Audition/Artistic Review Requirements

All Areas

Teacher Recommendations - Students must submit two letters of recommendation using the HHS APVA Recommendation Form, one of which should be from a fine arts teacher.

Dance
1. What to wear
   Girls: leotard and convertible tights, ballet shoes with the elastic sewn on and tie strings tucked for ballet, bare feet for modern dance. Hair should be nice, neat and away from the face and neck with no jewelry, bows or accessories other than Bobby pins and/or a hair net.
   Boys: solid T-shirt with tights or gym shorts, ballet shoes with the elastic sewn on and tie strings tucked for ballet, bare feet for modern dance. Hair should be nice, neat and away from the face and neck.

2. Expectations - Audition begins in ballet with an amended barre followed by exercises and combinations in center and across the floor. There will be a quick break to transition into the modern dance portion of the audition. During this time students will remove their ballet shoes and prepare to work with bare feet. The modern portion of the audition will consist of a warm-up in center, followed by exercises and combinations in center and across the floor. Students will be required to sight read and reproduce movement in groups for the dance faculty. Auditionees do not need to prepare a solo. HHS Dance Faculty will provide demonstration videos of the ballet and modern dance audition combination and exercises. Auditionees are required to learn and record the material and submit virtually by the required audition deadline.

3. Evaluation - Auditionees will be evaluated on: Physique and Body Alignment, Coordination and Flexibility, Evidence of Natural Ability and Potential, Rhythmic Accuracy, and Ability to sight read and reproduce movement combinations given by dance faculty.

Instrumental Music
To remain in program each year, student must:
• Pass the course with a B or higher.
• Audition for Georgia Music Educators Association all-state band or orchestra on primary instrument or participate for a full season with the marching patriots (all skill levels accepted. Must attend weekly practices and participate in region game halftime shows. You may also be a band member without being in a band class if schedule conflicts arise.)

Students displaying high level of skill will be considered top priority and placed in advanced band/orchestra if schedule permits.
• According to national and state standards, middle school advanced band does equate to high school advanced band/orchestra. Most 9th graders will be assigned to the beginning level courses.

VOCAL MUSIC

Scales and Rudiments
Orchestra
Violin – A, D, and G major scales performed in quarter notes at 100 bpm in one octave
Viola/Cello – D, G, and C major scales performed in quarter notes at 100 bpm in one octave
Bass – E, A, and D major scales performed in quarter notes at 100 bpm in one octave

Band
• Perform a one-octave chromatic scale using quarter notes at 100 bpm.
• Perform the GMEA Middle School All-State scales for your instrument at 100 bpm (Concert F, B-flat, E-flat, and F – ranges differ for each instrument).
• Percussion should also perform a double stroke roll, a multiple bounce roll, paradiddles, and flams, and one additional rudiment of their choice. Each student should pick a tempo that shows off their technique and rhythmic accuracy.

Piano
• Perform 4 major scales of your choice. Each scale should be two octaves and use the standard fingerings.

Prepared Selections
Band and Orchestra
• Perform two prepared pieces, preferably recommended by teacher or private instructor. Students performing one or both of the GMEA All-State etudes for their instrument will be given top priority.
• Each piece should be at least 45-90 seconds long.
• One piece should highlight tone quality and lyrical ability on the instrument. The other piece should highlight technical skill, speed, and articulation.

Piano
1. Navigate to https://bit.ly/3tL4DBK and play one of the pieces in the folder. Pick the piece that best reflects your skill and experience level.
2. Perform a prepared piece that you have worked on by yourself or with your teacher. Please bring/submit sheet music to accompany your audition.

Sightreading
Each student will have 40 seconds to look at a short selection before performing. Pianists may sight read hands together or separately.

Technical Theatre
1. Prepare a portfolio of your work with at least TEN images of your work from sound, lights, set, costumes, makeup, video, graphic design, marketing, etc.
2. Interview with a panel of judges about your experience in theatre production and interest in the field.

Theatre
For audition music/practice materials, go to hhs. rockdaleschools.org/specialty, scroll down to Theatre: CLICK HERE.
1. Slate your audition by giving your name, age, and title/author/character of your monologue and song selection.
2. Memorize and perform two contrasting monologues from published materials. Monologues should be one minute each for a total of two minutes.
3. Memorize and perform one to two minutes of a song from musical theatre posted on the website above.
4. Total audition time of monologues and song not to exceed four minutes.

Visual Arts
The visual arts audition includes a portfolio and on-site art production.

1. Portfolio: By 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, January 15, 2023, students must submit a portfolio with a maximum of 10 artworks. The portfolio must be in the form of a PowerPoint and may include the following items: photographs, drawings, paintings, 2-D design, 3-D artwork, videos, or any works the student feels exhibit their abilities in the visual arts. Any videos must be shared on a PowerPoint slide within the portfolio as a YouTube link. For video submissions, only one, two-minute-long clip per student is allowed. All works must be original and completed by the student.

2. On-Site Art Production: On audition day, students will be required to create an artwork using materials available on-site. Students will be given a prompt to follow in the creation of their artwork. If your area of strength is photography or digital media, you are advised to bring cameras and any editing tools that you will require to create your on-site piece.

Vocal Music
For sheet music/practice materials go to: http://heritagehighschoolchorus.weebly.com/vocal-major-audition-information.html

1. Vocal Solo - Students will perform one of the following solos that aligns with their current grade level in the specific key related to their voice part (soprano, alto, tenor, bass). The solo must be memorized and you may not sing a cappella.

2. Scales - Students will sing a major, minor, and chromatic scale from memory using one of the recommended starting pitches:
   • Soprano 1- F
   • Soprano 2- E flat
   • Alto 1- D
   • Alto 2- Middle C
   • Tenor 1- F below middle C
   • Tenor 2- E flat below middle C
   • Bass 1-D below middle C
   • Bass 2- B flat a 9th below middle C

3. Sight Reading - Students will sing one four-measure sight reading excerpt using the method with which they are accustomed (solfege, numbers, note names, etc.).