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
- One Act
- Improv Impire
- Fall Play
- Fall Musical
- Cabaret
- October Tales of Terror
- Winter Musical
- Spring Play
- Spring Musical
- Great Playwright Series
- Individual Showcase
- Friday Night Live
- Theatre for Social Change
- August Wilson Monologue Contest
- Shuler Hensley Performance
- Thespian Conference
- One Act Play Competition
- Summer Children's Theatre
- ESU Shakespeare Monologue Competition

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
- 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
- Talent Show
- UGA Choral Day

Visual Arts
- Ceramics
- Drawing
- Painting
- Graphics
- Photography
- 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 2022 - 23 School Choice programs. Students may apply for one School Choice program only for the 2022 - 23 school year.

The application window is November 12 - December 10, 2021. The online application will be available on the district website at: rockdaleschools.org

Only complete applications will be accepted.

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 15, 2022. 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.

Theatre
For audition music/practice materials, go to hhs.rockdalechools.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 (Total time not to exceed four minutes).

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.

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, 2022 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, or any works the student feels exhibit their abilities in the visual arts. NO VIDEO SUBMISSIONS ARE 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.

Instrumental Music
No minimum score to be accepted but teacher recommendation required.
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.)
- 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.

SCALES AND RUDIMENTS
Orchestra:
- All stringed instruments will perform a chromatic scale in first position across all strings in quarter notes at 60 bpm in one octave
- Violin – A, D, and G major scales performed in quarter notes at 60 bpm in one octave
- Viola/Cello – D, G, and C major scales performed in quarter notes at 60 bpm in one octave
- Bass – E, A, and D major scales performed in quarter notes at 60 bpm in one octave
- Top priority students will perform the current year’s GMEA All-State Audition scales and arpeggios for their grade level. See www.gmaea.org for audition criteria each year.

Band:
- All students will perform a chromatic scale in one octave using quarter notes at 60 bpm in one octave
- Concert B flat, E flat, A flat, and F in quarter notes at 60 bpm in one octave
- Percussion candidates to also perform a closed single, double, or multiple bounce stroke drum roll and a paradiddle rudiment. Paradiddle must be demonstrated slow to fast to slow. Consult your teacher or visit www.pas.org for more info on all essential rudiments.
- Top priority students will perform the current year’s GMEA All-State Audition scales and arpeggios for their grade level. See www.gmaea.org for audition criteria each year.

PREPARED SELECTIONS
- All Band and Orchestra students must perform two prepared pieces, preferably, recommended by teacher or private instructor.
- Each piece must be at least 45 seconds and no more than 90 seconds in length.
- All styles and genres are welcome (jazz, world, music for tv/film, hip hop, classical, baroque, technical etudes, melodic etudes, pop, spiritual, etc.).
- One piece should highlight tone quality and lyrical ability on the instrument; candidates will be able to play melodies with a singing quality.
- The other piece should highlight virtuosity; candidates will be able to play with technical ability—varied articulations and some degree of velocity.

Vocal Music
For sheet music/practice materials go to:
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.
   - 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
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
3. Sight Reading - Students will sing one four-measure sight reading using the method with which they are accustomed (solfege, numbers, note names, etc.).