

math & science

The Math/Science Department at ASFA

The focus in every class in the Mathematics and Science Program at the Alabama School of Fine Arts is hands-on, technology-based teaching and learning. Each major course is taught at an honors level and leads, when appropriate, to Advanced Placement examinations. Every student is required to take honors courses in biology, chemistry, physics, the full mathematics sequence through AP Calculus BC and Differential Equations, and the Computer Science Principles. Many students choose to take AP courses in other academic subjects as well. Every senior is required to develop a research project in mathematics, science, engineering, or computer science. The senior student will gain research experience in a laboratory, craft a research paper and an oral presentation.

Profile of a Successful Math/Science Student

- Has a natural curiosity and interest in learning
- Has exceptional ability in math and/or science
- Is truly passionate about math and science
- Actively participates in classes on a daily basis
- Works effectively in groups, as well as independently
- Is willing to dedicate the time to be successful in an accelerated math/science program
- Is involved in departmental and school-wide activities outside the classroom
- Is respectful and appreciative of, and concerned about, fellow ASFA students
- Is of high character and acts as a role model for other students
- Is reliable, honest, and demonstrates leadership qualities

Alabama School of Fine Arts Mission Statement

The mission of the Alabama School of Fine Arts, a diverse community of explorers, is to nurture impassioned students by guiding and inspiring them to discover and fulfill their individual creative abilities in an atmosphere distinguished by the fusion of fact and feeling, risk and reward, art and science, school and society.

Accommodation Statement

ASFA was created by the State to provide a more challenging education for impassioned, talented students in Creative Writing, Dance, Math & Science, Music, Theatre Arts and Visual Arts. Consistent with its mission, only those students will be admitted to ASFA and allowed to remain who are able to meet the demands of a rigorous curriculum. Applicants with existing Individualized Education Plans (IEP) are obliged to inform ASFA administration during the application period and to provide a copy or authorization for release of the applicant's most recent IEP and any related records deemed necessary by ASFA. If a qualifying disabling condition is substantiated before or after enrollment, a committee appointed by Dr. Tim Mitchell, President, Alabama School of Fine Arts will determine if the school can reasonably accommodate the student's needs or if these needs will be better accommodated in a different educational environment.

Equal Opportunity Statement

It is the policy of the Alabama School of Fine Arts not to discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religion, color, creed, national origin or any other proscribed category, in its educational programs, activities, or employment policies as required by local, state, and federal policies and laws. Inquiries or complaints regarding compliance with applicable laws or this policy may be directed DR. Tim Mitchell, President, Alabama School of Fine Arts, 1800 Rev Abraham Woods, Jr Blvd., Birmingham, AL 35203, or by calling her at (205) 252-9241.

**About the
Alabama School of Fine Arts**

The Alabama School of Fine Arts (ASFA) operates as a public secondary school with the entire state as its district. Situated in Birmingham, the population center of Alabama, ASFA offers residential facilities for students who are beyond commuting distance. The ASFA campus is in downtown Birmingham and is a major part of the Cultural District.

- Partially residential, publicly funded secondary school grades 7-12 for fine arts and 8-12 math/science
- Semester system, modified block schedule (90 minute block periods only in specialty areas)
- Extended school day begins at 8:00 am and follows an internal department schedule for dismissal, with 6 periods running 47 minutes each and two specialty periods running 80 minutes each
- Extended school day and departmental activities evenings and weekends preclude sports and other extracurricular activities
- College preparatory curriculum in core academics
- Specialty courses (those listed in departmental profiles) are open only to students within those departments
- Member of the National Association for College Admission Counseling; The College Board; The International Network of Performing and Visual Arts Schools; The Alabama Association of School Boards; The National Consortium for Specialized Secondary Schools of Mathematics Science and Technology, and the Coalition of Essential Schools
- Enrollment for 2021-2022 school year is 329

- **ACT COMPOSITE**

		ASFA	State	Natl.
Middle 50%.....22—32	Mean:	27	18.9	20.7

- **SAT I REASONING**

	Middle 50%	ASFA	State	Natl.
Reading & Writing	620-640	665	591	533
Math	570-730	655	568	528
Composite	1190-1410	1320	1159	1060

- 2021 ASFA Seniors (65) awarded over \$11.9 million in college scholarships and grants
- 12 National YoungArts Foundation Finalists in Creative Writing, Music, Visual Arts
- Two Gold Medals in the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards in Visual Arts and Creative Writing
- 4 National Merit Scholars
- 6 National Achievement Scholars
- 5 Scholastic Art & Writing Gold Medal Winners
- 2 Intel International Science & Engineering Finalists
- 4 representing Alabama in the National Science Bowl
- Faculty: full time 73; part-time and adjunct 26
- Four teachers certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards

math & science information

Frequently Asked Questions

When is the best time to apply to ASFA?

- Our applications are available in late October and the deadline is **January 28, 2022**.

Can I apply to more than one department?

- No. ASFA is looking for students who are passionate and serious about a particular specialty program.

What is the cost?

- We are a public school. There is **no tuition** for Alabama residents. There is a \$275 Math/Science fee that is due once a year.

How do classes work each day?

- Students have eight class periods and one lunch period each day. Six class periods are academic periods of about 45 minutes. Students meet the last two and a half hours of the day in their Math/Science classes.

What time are Math/Science students dismissed each day?

- Students are dismissed at 4:05 pm daily.

What classes are offered in the Math/Science Department?

- 8th grade Honors Algebra I, Honors Chemistry and Honors Physics
 - 9th grade Honors Geometry, Honors Biology
 - 10th grade Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry and AP Chemistry or AP Biology
 - 11th grade AP Calculus AB or BC, AP Chemistry or AP Biology or AP Physics
 - 12th grade two college level mathematics courses and AP Chemistry, AP Biology or AP Physics
- In addition, students are encouraged to take a one-period Math/Science elective each semester, and are required to take one year of AP Computer Science Principles and successfully complete a Senior Research Project. In addition, all 11th graders are required to take the yearlong AP Seminar.

How well do Math/Science students do on AP exams?

- Over 81% of all AP exams taken by the students have been graded at 3 or higher with approximately 31% at 5. The average number of exams taken by an individual student is 8.

How many students are accepted each year?

- The number varies each year according to space available in the department and the overall school enrollment.

Does the Alabama School of Fine Arts offer bus service?

- Unfortunately, no. Our students are from so many different locales that it would be impossible to run a bus service. We do have carpool lists available.

When are auditions held?

- Auditions will be held March 12, 2022.

How soon after the audition will I know if I have been accepted?

- Letters will be mailed on March 23, 2022.

What is the Student Shadow Program at ASFA?

- It offers a prospective student an opportunity to experience a typical day at ASFA.
Go to www.asfa.k12.al.us, click on *Apply to ASFA*, click on *Visit ASFA*, click on *ASFA Shadow Form*.

Any information submitted by mail should be sent to:

Melanie Lee
Alabama School of Fine Arts
1800 Rev Abraham Woods, Jr. Blvd.
Birmingham, AL 35203

For questions about your application contact

Melanie Lee
205.252-9241
205.458-0342 (fax number)
Email: mlee@asfa.k12.al.us

For questions about specific audition requirements contact

Hungsin Chin
Supervisory Chair, Math/Science Department
Email: hchin@asfa.k12.al.us

math & science

application procedure

To apply to the Math/Science Department at ASFA, you must be a rising 8th—11th grader. There are limited openings in 10th and 11th grade.

Student Application: complete and submit online to ASFA **on or before the deadline.**

Student Essays: When writing the essay portion of your application, let your personality emerge. Demonstrate your sensitivity, sense of humor, insight and love of math and science in your responses. The essays must be printed out, completed by the student and **handwritten in black ink.** This form is to be mailed to the address below.

Student History Form: This form is under the application and you will need to print it out fax or mail to ASFA. You may also mail your résumé and copies of any awards you have received to ASFA. This form needs to be submitted **on or before the deadline.**

Application Fee: \$50.00 non-refundable application fee must be paid when the application is submitted **on or before the deadline.**

Teacher Recommendation Forms (3): **Forms are located on the First Page of the Application under School recs.** Forms must be electronically signed by the parent and student before forms are submitted to the teachers to complete. Forms must be completed by your **current English, Math and Science** teachers. Submit these forms to the appropriate teachers. Recommendations must be received **on or before the deadline.**

Counselor/Registrar Request for Grades Form: **Form is located on the Introduction Page of the Application under schoolrecs.** Form must be signed by the parent and student before the form is submitted to the Registrar or Guidance Counselor at your school to complete. This form and all of the requested information must be completed and submitted to ASFA **on or before the deadline.**

Only completed applications received on or before the deadline will be reviewed. When the audition committee reaches a decision, we will notify you.

If You Are Invited to Audition

If your application is selected for audition, you will be required to come to ASFA on March 12, 2022. On that day, students will take the ACT Sample Test Booklet for Math, English and Reading sections for placement into our program. Students also will participate in a 45 minute group interview. **Attendance is mandatory.** Failure to attend will result in non-admission. If you are unable to attend, please contact Melanie Lee, by email or call 205.252-9241 ext 2249, no later than March 5th to request alternative arrangements. Based on the faculty's review of completed application forms, interview, and test scores, students will be accepted to enter the program.

We strongly recommend that all students coming into our program attend our summer enrichment program. **Please note that this summer program does carry a fee.**

Students Essays should be submitted to:

Melanie Lee
Alabama School of Fine Arts
1800 Rev Abraham Woods, Jr. Blvd.
Birmingham, AL 35203
Email mlee@asfa.k12.al.us