

NORTHWEST SCHOOL OF THE

ARTS

DANCE MUSIC THEATRE VISUAL ARTS

CREATE

PERFORM

ACHIEVE



OUR SCHOOL

Northwest School of the Arts is the only public arts magnet school serving students in grades 6 - 12 in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School District.

NWSA combines a strong academic foundation with concentrated study of the visual or performing arts. Students choose to major in Band, Chorus, Costume Design, Dance, Musical Theatre, Orchestra, Piano, Theatre, Technical Theatre or Visual Arts. High school students can have more than one major.

Northwest is highly ranked among CMS schools for academic success and is known both nationwide and internationally for the quality of its arts programs.

OUR STUDENTS

NWSA is a diverse community of dedicated student artists from all over Mecklenburg County. In addition to engagement in core studies and the arts, students enjoy connecting with talented peers in a dynamic, pro-caring learning environment.

ELIGIBILITY & ADMISSION

Prospective students must reside in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School District and pass an audition or portfolio review for NWSA in order to be eligible to participate in the CMS School Options Lottery.

For current admissions information, visit the NWSA audition website at nwsaauditions.com



“ Northwest operates on the idea that arts education helps keep students in school and gets them to college. ”

- THE HECHINGER REPORT
ON INNOVATION AND INEQUALITY
IN EDUCATION



The NWSA Dance Department offers a rigorous program that prepares students for either a classical or a contemporary college program, or any of a wide range of careers in the field.

The curriculum has its foundation in the study of Ballet, Modern/Contemporary, and Jazz dance techniques. Students learn and perform while they study choreography and composition; anatomy and somatics; history and more.

In addition to daily instruction from NWSA's professionally credentialed dance instructors, students have opportunities to work with visiting choreographers and guest teachers. NWSA offers various dance classes, including:

**BALLET | BALLET EN POINTE | JAZZ
MODERN | TAP | DANCE FOR STAGE**

DANCE

Students who study Visual Arts at NWSA explore varied techniques and mediums, master fundamental concepts and study the intellectual ideas behind artistic expression.

Guided by professional instructors, students hone their foundational skills and learn to channel their creative impulses. Along the way, they produce a portfolio of work; gain confidence and self-awareness; and develop an open mindset.

Middle school students are immersed in year-long visual arts foundation classes, while high school students have access to a range of courses unmatched by any other school in the district, including:

CERAMICS | PAINTING/DRAWING
FIBER & METAL ARTS | JEWELRY
PRINTMAKING | STUDIO ARTS
SCULPTURE | AP ART HISTORY
AP STUDIO ART | PHOTOGRAPHY



VISUAL ARTS



Our collaborative team of experienced instrumental and vocal instructors prepares graduates to thrive in a conservatory or university setting.

The music department offers beginning through advanced level courses in each of the four disciplines. Performance projects, guest artist master classes, and innovative programs complement the core music curriculum.

Unique to Northwest is our partnership with the Charlotte Symphony and Opera Carolina through our instrumental and vocal Recital Seminar classes. Students receive specialized training on their chosen instrument from professionals in the field thanks to grant funding through the North Carolina Arts Council.

**BAND (WINDS & PERCUSSION) | PIANO
CHORUS | ORCHESTRA (STRINGS)
MUSIC THEORY**

MUSIC

The Theatre Department at NWSA offers a comprehensive program designed to engage passionate, dedicated, and curious young artists.

NWSA's theatre curriculum develops actors who communicate compelling stories through words, movement, and song. Upon completion of their studies at Northwest, students are ready for university, conservatory, or career.

In addition to actor training, NWSA's program offers concentrated study in technical theatre and apparel design. In both fields students learn through coursework and practical application in a professional setting.

Theatre students at Northwest have access to classes such as:

MUSICAL THEATRE | COSTUME DESIGN
THEATRE | DIRECTING | MOVEMENT
TECHNICAL THEATRE | VOICE & DICTION
PLAYWRITING | PLAY PRODUCTION



THEATRE

Admissions/audition information:
nwsauditions.com

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In compliance with federal law, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools administers all educational programs, employment activities and admissions without discrimination against any person on the basis of gender, race, color, religion, national origin, age or disability.