



Audition Requirements

Prospective students **MUST** have applied and been selected through the School District [website](#) during the Fall School Selection window to audition. For next year's incoming students, the 2023-24 SY, the application window is currently open and will close on Friday, November 4th at 11:59 pm EST. Please do not send your student's information directly to us. The School District of Philadelphia's Central Offices review all academic data and provide us with the list of students eligible to audition.

When applying through the SDP portal, students may select up to FIVE criteria-based High School placement slots, so your child may apply for more than one major at CAPA (for example, you may use two of those slots for "CAPA-Dance" and "CAPA-Creative Writing"). Each Major at CAPA is considered its own "school" in the admissions process. We do not have the ability to change the selected Major in the portal, so please make sure to read through the audition requirements (linked in the right-hand side of this page in the tabs) before choosing.

CAPA's seven art majors: **Dance, Theater, Vocal Music, Instrumental Music, Creative Writing, Visual Arts, MDTV (Media, Design, Television & Video)**. *When applying you must indicate what major. If invited to audition, it will be for that major ONLY.*

Please do not submit anything directly to CAPA in advance of an audition.

All portfolio or audition materials would be brought to the audition if you receive an audition offer. Auditions are typically held in mid-late December and are by invitation only. All auditions are evaluated by the individual Arts Teachers.

After the initial school district application has been approved, prospective students are notified to attend an audition at CAPA for their chosen art major. We cannot change the Major that you chose in the School Selection engine. Determining acceptance is a combination of the academic criteria, audition criteria, and then by lottery. Students who meet all the criteria but do not get accepted by lottery will be placed on a waitlist. If available space becomes available, students will be pulled off the waitlist by The Office of Student Placement at the School District of Philadelphia.

Audition requirements by Major

***(click on each to be taken directly to the audition requirements)**

[Creative writing](#)

[Dance](#)

[Instrumental](#)

[MDTV](#)

[Theater](#)

[Visual Art](#)

[Vocal](#)

CREATIVE WRITING

The audition will consist of a writing exercise, approximately one and a half hours in length, which will include a verbal review of your portfolio. . A portfolio containing approximately 5-8 current, typewritten samples of your fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and academic writing samples **MUST** be brought to the audition. If you have a chromebook or other device, please bring it with you to the audition. If you do not have one, we will provide one to use during the audition.

DANCE

****Prior experience is valued but not required****

The audition will consist of a dance class involving ballet, jazz, and modern dance technique. All students are required to have a one (1) minute solo prepared to show us how they move through their own choreography. Students must bring their own music.

YOUNG LADIES: Wear leotards, footless tights and ballet shoes.

YOUNG MEN: Wear tights or jazz pants, a solid white or black t shirt or sleeveless shirt w/no writing or logo and ballet shoes ***NO BAGGY CLOTHES**

Hair **MUST** be pulled back off the face and neck - contained with a hair tie, pins, etc.

The attire for the audition is highly suggested but not required. If these items can't be obtained, please wear form fitting clothes

We are looking for students who demonstrate a strong passion for the art of dance, a positive attitude, and a willingness to accept discipline and positive corrections.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

The audition will consist of the performance of 2 major scales of your choice, and 2 contrasting solo pieces or etudes. Music from school concerts is perfectly acceptable! *Please choose music you are comfortable playing and you feel best represents your ability*

Drum and percussion students should demonstrate a familiarity with the “13 Essential Rudiments”. The audition will be administered on snare drum and/or keyboard percussion

Students are welcome to audition on Piano and Guitar. Because our program is centered around participation in Concert Band and Orchestra, students accepted on Piano and Guitar must be willing to learn a secondary Band or String instrument. Once accepted, instruments and instruction will be provided by CAPA for those students.

NOTE: Please bring your instruments and sheet music to the audition.

MDTV (Media, Design, Television and Video Production)

**Career and Technical Education(CTE): Digital Media & Communications
Technology**

STUDENTS SHOULD BRING TO THE AUDITION:

1. **A Resume** (*Outline ANY and ALL related prior media experience, skills, hobbies, clubs, software, camera equipment, youtube channel, art, extra curricular activities, and the like...*
 - a. [RESUME TEMPLATE DOWNLOAD](#)
2. **Photo of Applicant**
3. **Portfolio Items**
 - a. The applicant should provide **ANY** of the following media related samples of work; and not limited too...
 - b. Digital files, web links, and photos of physical art can be submitted
 - i. Visual Art Portfolio (i.e. illustration, drawing, graphic design, Photoshop, Storyboard)
 - ii. Original typed script, screenplay, theater play, or short story
 - iii. Photography, Video Samples, youtube links

AT THE AUDITION:

1. Perform an on site task in **Video Production Storyboard** creation and **Logo Design Illustration** (*hand drawn*)
 - a. All materials will be provided at the audition
2. Meet the teachers to discuss your portfolio and why you'll be a good fit for the CAPA MDTV Program

THEATER

We are looking for students who have a passion for and an interest in live performance and an eagerness to learn.

Students should prepare for the Audition:

MEMORIZE

- **two (2) monologues** from published plays
(Monologues can be found on the Internet or in books at the Free Library of Philadelphia.)

AND

- **one stanza of a song from a Broadway-type musical without accompaniment.**

Students should bring to the Audition:

- **A Photograph** (Photos will not be returned.)
- **A Resumé or List of theater study or experience.**
(*A sample can be found [HERE](#)*). Included within this resumé or list should be:
 1. A description of your previous dramatic experience
 2. An explanation of why you want to study theater at The Philadelphia High School for Creative and Performing Arts

At the Audition, Students will do the following:

- **a warm-up** (Students should wear clothing suitable for light exercise.)
- **the performance of the prepared monologues**
- **the prepared song**
- **a cold reading**
- **a conversation about the student's interests**

Students' auditions will be evaluated in each of these areas.

VISUAL ART

There are 2 components to the Visual Arts Audition. A student Portfolio, and a live drawing exam done at CAPA:

1) **STUDENT PORTFOLIO: (4) 2D Pieces & (1) 3D Piece**

2D Pieces may exhibit an array of drawing mediums (pencil, paint, ink, etc.)

3D Piece may be clay, paper mache, sculpture etc.

- Portfolio pieces must be **Observational Drawings from Life.**
 - **1 human figure**
 - **1 landscape**
 - **1 still life**
 - **1 self portrait**
 - *Optional: 1 Abstract/Surreal/Personal Style based piece*

No anime/cartoon/works from photos accepted

2) **LIVE STUDIO OBSERVATIONAL DRAWING**

- Directions will be given at the audition. Students should prepare for a 45 minute live drawing session. We will provide all materials.

VOCAL MUSIC

The vocal audition consists of three parts:

1. Performance of two, memorized, student-selected solos. Kindly select twenty-four measures, or a section of the song that best showcases your ability, that lasts no more than two minutes in length. You may only be asked to perform one selection, but please have both prepared. Classical, musical theater, jazz, pop, contemporary, and gospel genres are welcomed. Printed sheet music should be brought with you to this audition (this could also be lead sheets with chords and lyrics that coincide with the section of the song you have chosen.) Please come prepared to sing along with piano accompaniment, or you may accompany yourself on piano/guitar.
2. Tonal memory exercises that include imitation of pitches and rhythm.
3. Execution of simple sight-reading examples.