

HWDSB

*my*PATH.*my*WAY.

HWDSB TIER 3 AUDITION-BASED PROGRAM OF THE ARTS

PROGRAM OVERVIEW



www.hwdsb.on.ca/mypathmyway

curiosity • creativity • possibility

PROGRAM IDENTITY

VISION

The Arts give students a dynamic opportunity to develop personal and artistic identities, to recognize and value the identities of others and to develop creative and critical-thinking skills. Collaborative and creative Arts experiences can enrich our students' lives now and in the future.

MISSION

We educate and support the training of students in all aspects of the Arts, including Foundations of Theory and Technique, Individual and Collaborative Creation and Performance as well as Critical Analysis and Appreciation of the Arts.

Together, students, staff and the school community can support and serve as strong advocates for Arts education for all students.

SLOGAN:

This is your stage.

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) Audition-Based Program of the Arts is a Tier 3 Specialized Learning program based at Glendale Secondary School. Students in grades 9 to 11 – growing to grades 9 to 12 in 2018-19 – from across HWDSB participate in specialized arts courses in dance, drama performance, drama production, instrumental music, instrumental strings, vocal music, visual arts or media arts at a professional level. HWDSB provides transportation for students living 3.2 km or more from the school.

Students at each grade level can enter the program and expect to work with guest artists, attend performances and exhibitions and regularly perform or exhibit their own work. Arts department staff are specialists in their field who regularly welcome community artists to work directly with students.

In addition to required credits, students have experiential learning opportunities such as career exploration, professional certification, discipline-specific training, opportunities beyond the classroom and seasonal collaborations on large-scale stage productions, small-scale studio productions/exhibitions and informal studio productions/exhibitions that invite broader school participation.

Graduating students receive an HWDSB Certificate of Recognition (Distinction) in the Arts, in addition to their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) and additional qualifications such as industry training, professional résumé, head shot and professional portfolio.

Students may also complete this program in collaboration with HWDSB Tier 3 Strings and the Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) Arts and Culture programs, also based at Glendale.

The HWDSB Audition-based Program of the Arts supports the needs of all students and pathways, some of whom are exploring the possibility of a career in the arts; others whom are passionate about learning about ‘art for art’s sake.’

The program’s safe and caring environment inspires lifelong learning and a desire for personal excellence for all of its students.

PROGRAM GOALS

Students will...

- continue to develop the ability to generate ideas and bring them to life, appreciate, think critically, collaborate, explore and experiment, problem solve and reflect (Creative Process)
- develop transferrable skills in observation, analysis, interpretation, and evaluation (Critical Analysis Process).
- broaden their training in various artistic disciplines at a professional level
- deepen their understanding of the role and value of the audience
- demonstrate responsible and ethical practices in all areas of performance
- make connections to their learning in other curriculum areas, including literacy and numeracy
- develop personal identity and self-esteem, values beliefs, well-being, and understanding of self and others in our diverse world
- reflect on personal, group, and cultural identity
- deepen skills for self-assessment of learning

Staff will...

- use their unique skills, experiences, and professional training in their disciplines to facilitate learning
- continue their own exploration of relevant works and evolving technologies
- teach professionalism by holding students to high expectations
- know their students and encourage them to pursue their passions and grow as both individuals and artists
- provide ongoing feedback to encourage and facilitate the success and growth of their students

Community will...

- Communities provide an essential support in students' learning by...
 - ❖ Supporting opportunities and experiences that bring the arts to life in the community, and allow for an appreciation and sustainability in our student's lives.
 - ❖ Supporting ongoing development of partnerships in each of the arts to enrich student learning opportunities (experiential, reach ahead, coop, etc.)
 - ❖ supporting the success of all students' academic achievement in school and within the specialized arts program
 - ❖ encouraging and attending performances as audience members

ADMISSION / AUDITION PROCESS

General Information Sessions & Workshops:

- **Pathways Information Night**
 - ❖ Parent and student information session on programs at HWDSB (see website for details)
 - ❖ Located at Michelangelo's Banquet Centre (see website for date)
- **Grade 8 Information Night**
 - ❖ Parent and student information sessions on academics and programs offered at Glendale Secondary School
 - ❖ Located at Glendale Secondary School (see website for date)
- **HWDSB Audition-Based Program of the Arts Information Night**
 - ❖ Parents will have the opportunity to hear from program leads, principals, consultants and Superintendents about the program.
 - ❖ At the end of the information session there will be a question and answer session with program Staff.
 - ❖ Located at the Education Centre (see website for date)
- **HWDSB Audition-Based Program of the Arts Student Audition Workshops**
 - ❖ Students will take part in a detailed information session and workshop to support a successful audition.
- **Grade 8 Audition-Based Program of the Arts Option Sheet Night**
 - ❖ Parent and student complete option sheets for following year with support of program teachers, Learning Resource Teachers and Guidance Counsellors
 - ❖ Located at Glendale Secondary School (see website for date)

Admission Timelines:

- **Application Package:** due December (See [website](#) for details.)
- **Audition & Interview:** end of January (beginning of February) during secondary exams. (See [website](#) for details.)
 - ❖ Student Applicants will be contacted with a date and time
 - ❖ Students perform in their major discipline area only (up to two majors)
 - ❖ Individual interviews are done generally with a full panel from the various disciplines
 - ❖ Locations: Glendale Secondary school and others TBA (See website for details)
 - North, South and West Families of HWDSB Schools

- **Admission Information:** February
 - ❖ All applicants will be contacted with admission information by the Program Coordinator (in time for option sheet selection)
 - ❖ Applicants will complete option sheets at their home school for HWDSB Audition-Based Program of the Arts
 - ❖ Program begins each September

PROGRAM PATHWAYS

Students enter a Program/Discipline Stream (with options for additional requirements and flexibility). Options are also available for Specialist High Skills Major and Strings. Students major in one of seven disciplines:

1. Dance
2. Drama – Performance
3. Drama – Production
4. Music – Instrumental (Band)
5. Music - Instrumental (Strings) (collaboration with HWDSB Tier 3 Strings Program)
6. Music - Vocal
7. Visual & Media Arts
8. Creative Writing/Scripting

Experiential Learning Opportunities:

- Credit bundles
 - ❖ Mandatory core courses + additional requirements: **minimum 8**
 - ❖ Interdisciplinary Ensemble-Based courses available
 - ❖ Extracurricular involvement is strongly encouraged
- Participate in career exploration and post-secondary Reach Ahead opportunities
- Professional certifications
- Discipline-specific training workshops
- Experiential learning opportunities beyond the walls of a traditional classroom
- Seasonal collaborations
 - ❖ Disciplines come together for a large scale Mainstage production once a year
 - ❖ Small scale studio productions and exhibitions geared to student interest are featured in both semesters
 - ❖ Potential for informal studio productions and exhibitions that invite broader school participation (e.g. - Improv Fridays, Move to Your Own Groove, multimedia presentations, pop-up concerts, art gallery exhibitions, student publications, etc.)

Upon Graduation:

➤ **Students will receive...**

- ❖ Certificate of Recognition in the Arts
 - For students who complete the Community Pathway for their program
 - For students who complete one (1) or two (2) years of their program
- ❖ Advanced Certificate of Recognition in the Arts
 - For students who complete workplace, apprenticeship, college or university pathways for their programs
 - For students who complete (3) or (4) years of their program
- ❖ Additional Qualifications:
 - Further Training Program Opportunities
 - Industry Certifications & Training
 - Professional working resume and headshot
 - Professional portfolio (for postsecondary admissions or professional workplace)

In grades 9 and 10, students will study in their Arts focus area for two of their eight courses. They will join the regular grades 9 and 10 students for their other six required courses.

As the program builds into grades 11 and 12, students will study more in depth in their Arts focus area to complete eight required Arts courses for the Performing Arts Program. Students may also complete additional required courses, including co-op, to support the Specialist High Skills Major designation.

For more information please contact:

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