
“What is the Conservatory program?”

It is a three-year program that enables you to explore your artistic side in one or more mediums and culminates in a capstone experience which varies depending on the area of specialization. Visiting artists, performers and professionals are brought onto campus to meet with you, look at your artwork or performance and give you valuable feedback.

“How can this benefit me?”

-You will be given many opportunities to compete at the local, regional and national levels. Awards in these types of competitions can be helpful in your college applications.

-Demonstrating that you are multi-faceted with strengths in creative fields and the ability to commit to a three-year program in addition to your academics can also be helpful in your college applications.

-Problem solving skills are employed every day during the creative process. These skills are valuable regardless if your future college major is business, medicine, engineering or law.

“I’m not the artist/performer type so I probably can’t get in?”

The Conservatory program attracts students with many interests. The most important element of a Conservatory student is that they enjoy creating or performing art and that they have a desire to become better.

“How big of a commitment is this?”

-Application to the Conservatory program requires two to three courses by the end of your sophomore year, depending on the area of concentration.

-There are a handful of lunch meetings that you will be required to attend. Some are organizational meetings and the rest are colleges presenting their programs to you as a group.

-During the last two years of high school, you are required to take four to five semesters of visual or performing art courses. This still gives you the opportunity to double up in another subject if you choose.

Faculty and Facilities

Faculty

Jim Davis, Executive Director, Visual, Performing and Communication Arts

jdavis@dcds.edu

Jiro Masuda, U/S Department Chair, Visual and Performing Arts, Jewelry and Metalsmithing

jmasuda@dcds.edu

Stacey Bowen, M/S Department Chair, Performing Arts, Orchestra

Jessica Bryer, Theatre, Social and Emotional Wellness, Positive Peer Influence

Phill Harmer, Theatre

Ruth Kay, Communications, Forensics, Debate

Susan Lucas, Photography, Digital Media

Kelly Munsell, Dance

Alan Oliphant, Band, Jazz Band

Kathleen Robinson, Drawing, Painting, Fashion Design

Brett Salamin, Film

John Schwarz, Ceramics, Sculpture

Ron Weiler, Choir

Facilities

Nicole and Stephen Eisenberg Studio Theatre

Seligman Performing Arts Center

Studios for Band and Orchestra, Ceramics and Sculpture, Choir, Dance, Digital Art and Photography, Drawing and Painting, Fashion Design, Film, Jewelry and Social Emotional Wellness

DCDS Conservatory in Visual and Performing Arts

Communication

Dance

Film

Music

Theatre

Visual Art



Communication

The Communication program at the Upper School includes the areas of Forensics, Debate as well as Creative Writing and Social Media Marketing. The ability to create a message, craft how the message is presented and choosing the appropriate method of broadcasting that message to the rest of the world is the central focus of the Communication program.

Dance

Dance at the Upper School allows students an opportunity to investigate, create and explore movement in a non-intimidating environment. In addition to becoming more acquainted with basic dance technique and anatomical awareness, students are encouraged to find confidence and enjoyment in movement.

Film

The Film program in the Upper School is designed to introduce students to the art and science of film making, while providing pathways for growth and development that meet the needs of film actors, producers, directors, screenwriters and students desiring to attend film school.

Music

The Music program is designed for students to follow their passions and to have an outlet for creative expression. We seek to create independent musicians who will be life-long patrons and supporters of the arts.

Theatre

The Theatre program at the Upper School is designed for student actors/technicians/artists of all interest levels and abilities. The program provides an experience that builds confidence and communication skills, challenges the imagination and gives the students the freedom to explore and create in a safe environment.

Visual Art

The Visual Art program at the Upper School focuses on student-driven creativity in safe environments. Students are encouraged to express themselves freely both within and across mediums in order to develop their own unique visual "voice."

Introductory Level Courses

Communication in a Digital World* CM201/202***

Forensics* CM221

Debate* CM222

Dance Foundations DN111/112

Foundations of Film Making FM211/212***

Concert Band BD413

Concert Orchestra OR413

Concert Choir CR413

Theatre 1* TH111/112***

Theatre Production 1: Stagecraft TH121/122

Performance Analysis TH131/132

Foundations of Studio Art** AR101/102

Options For Full Year 8th grade Art Students

Introduction to Drawing AR111/112

Introduction to Ceramics AR121/122

Introduction to Sculpture AR131/132

Introduction to Photography AR141/142

Introduction to Jewelry AR151/152

Introduction to Computer Graphics AR161/162

Introduction to Painting AR171/172

Introduction to Architectural Design AR181/182

Advanced Level Courses

Dance Performance Studies DN211/222

Dance Repertory Ensemble DN413

Advanced Dance Practicum DN433

Dance Directed Studies DN513

Acting Techniques for Film I FM231/232***

Acting Techniques for Film II FM241/242

Acting Studio for Film FM343

Intermediate Film Making FM221/222

Film Directed Studies FM311/312

Film Studio Production FM323

Film Independent Studies FM411/412

Foundations of Music Theory I MU311/312

Theatre II TH211/212

Studio Theatre Ensemble TH413

Theatre Production II: Theatrical Design TH221/222

Technical Theatre Studio TH323

Advanced Level Courses cont

Advanced Drawing AR211/212

Advanced Ceramics AR221/222

Advanced Sculpture AR231/232

Advanced Photography AR241/242

Advanced Jewelry AR251/252

Advanced Computer Graphics AR261/262

Advanced Painting AR271/272

Fashion Research and Design AR311/312

Mixed Media Exploration AR321/322

Fibers & Textiles AR341/342

Directed Studies (by area) AR411/412

Portfolio Development (by area) AR441/442

IB Studio Art AR451H/452H

AP Art History AR463H

Capstone Courses

Social Media Marketing CM401/402***

Dance: Directed Study DN513

Advanced Film Studio Production FM423

Jacket Big Band BD403H

Honors Symphonic Orchestra OR423H

Honors Chamber Music Ensemble OR403H

Bella Voce CR403H

AP/IB Music Theory MU413H

Advanced Music Performance Practicum MU421

Advanced Theatre Performance Practicum TH443

Advanced Theatre Design Practicum TH453

Theatre Directed Study TH513

Business and Theatre TH533

AP Art and Design (by area) AR443H

* **Fulfills Communication requirement for Graduation**

** **Students without 8th grade full year art are required to take this course first**

*** **NOT recommended for 2nd semester Seniors**