

Buffalo Academy for Visual and Performing Arts

Audition procedures for the 2022-2023 school year with guidance by the Buffalo Public Schools Safety Restrictions during the COVID-19 crisis.

Overview of audition process and requirements

Students who want to apply to the Buffalo Academy for Visual & Performing Arts must follow these steps:

1. Access information thru the Arts Academy's website at buffaloartsacademy.org and the *Admissions* link or thru the Buffalo Public Schools website at buffaloschools.org and click on the *SCHOOLS* tab and go to the *Admission & Registration* link.
2. Complete and submit the on-line **Arts Academy Audition Application – 2022-2023 School Year** on the school's website.
3. From the information on the application, the student will be entered into a Schoology Audition Course for the artistic area they want to audition for.
4. In the on-line Schoology Course, the student will:
 - a. Upload recent academic records & report cards from previous schools.
 - b. Complete department assignments, interviews & questionnaires (if they are required by the department)
 - c. Upload portfolio artwork, recordings of artistic, dance, musical, theatrical performances or presentations (if they are required by department)
 - d. Submit any supporting documents or reference letters that will further assist in detailing the student's academic and artistic skills
5. On the BPS website under Admission & Registration, the student will complete a 2022-2023 High School or Elementary Registration Process and recommendations.

Things to Know About Applying and Auditioning

- A. Students must fulfill the audition requirements for the artistic area of their choice.
- B. Students must display a commitment to their art major and understand that each department requires time invested in rehearsals, practicing, performances, and shows after regular school hours.
***** Students will participate in afterschool or evening performances and must stay from the beginning of the show to the end of the production.**
- C. Acceptance Rubric Scoring: the Audition accounts for **70%**, the student's Academic Standing accounts for **25%** and Recommendations accounts for **5%**.
- D. **NOTE**: Acceptance is based on successful completion of your current grade and having met all areas of criteria for the audition process.

E. Submission of auditions is open from November 1, 2021 to February 1, 2022.

Audition Requirements by Artistic Area / Departments

THEATRE – Audition Requirements:

1. Complete questionnaire listed as Task One in the Schoology Audition Course.
2. Students will need to submit a self-taped video of an approximately 2-minute monologue (speech by one person) that is memorized and prepared in advance.
3. Students must provide their most current report card as well as their final report card from the previous year.

VISUAL ARTS – Audition Requirements:

1. Students will complete a student questionnaire listed as Step One in the Schoology Audition Course.
2. Students will need to submit a portfolio of artwork that they created. The portfolio should include at least 10 original pieces of art. Artwork could include: drawings from life (still life), a variety of media (materials), abstract work, sculpture, portraits, and sketchbooks.
3. Students must provide their final 2020-21 report card as well as their most recent report card from year.
4. Students must complete the BPS district 2022-2023 School Registration Process for High School or Elementary School located on the BPS website at buffaloschools.org under the Admissions & Registration Department.

DANCE – Audition Requirements:

Dance Department Auditions - General Information

- Who can audition - Prospective Students wishing to audition for our middle or high school program for the 2022 - 2023 school year.
- Auditions this year are being administered using the Schoology platform and are held during the 2021 - 2022 school year. Mandatory submission dates are provided throughout the process.

- All components of the audition must be completed for consideration for the Dance Department.

Dance Department Auditions - Requirements

- **The following will be separated into individual assignments within Schoology to be completed by the applicant.**
 - Dance Department profile sheet, department questionnaire, and Arts Academy Audition Requirements Info and Confirmations.
 - Photos/Headshot - These do not need to be professional, but should show your accuracy in the following positions: (explanations and instructions in Schoology)
 - first position with arms in second
 - 5th position arms in first
 - 1st arabesque
 - Skill's Demonstration -
 - Technique video - Various modern and ballet steps are to be modeled, demonstrated and/or performed. (Specific criteria are specified in Schoology.)
 - Doctor's physical form stating that your child can participate in all dance activities without restriction as well as free from contagious diseases.
 - Grade Reports
 - 2020 - 2021 final report card
 - 2021 - 2022 progress report
 - 2021 - 2022 1st marking period report card
 - Solo Demonstration
 - Solo video - Genre of your choice with criteria specified in Schoology
 - As part of the process there is also the Buffalo Public school Student Placement and Registration application component that needs to be completed. Please consult the admission and registration page in the departments tab for further information.

DIFFERENTIATED TECHNICAL THEATRE and MAINTENANCE – (For IEP students only) Audition Requirements:

1. Students will view a PowerPoint presentation about the Technical Theatre program and answer question about it.
2. Students will complete a student questionnaire listed as Step Two in the Schoology Audition Course.

3. Students must provide their final 2020-21 report card as well as their most recent report card from year.
4. Students must complete the BPS district 2022-2023 School Registration Process for High School or Elementary School located on the BPS website at buffaloschools.org under the Admissions & Registration Department.

MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS (Grades 9-12 only)

– Audition Requirements:

STEP 1: Student will complete 3 Audition Tasks

- Creative Writing (Prompt will be provided)
- Short Film Analysis (Film & corresponding questions will be provided)
- Video Submission Telling Us About YOU! (Guiding questions will be provided)

STEP 2: Upload Image of 2020-2021 Report Card & the most recent Report Card from this school year.

STEP 3: Complete the BPS District Application Form

MUSIC – Audition Requirements:

- Students may audition for either vocal or instrumental music. However, once accepted, music students in grade 5-8 will learn to sing and play an instrument.
- Vocal & instrumental students should work with their music teacher to prepare their auditions and **will need a letter of recommendation from their current school or private lesson teacher to be included with your application/audition materials.**
- **Prior to submitting an audition tape, please complete and submit the Music Department Survey (Step 1)**
- **Your video submission requirements are below, next to the appropriate major concentration.**

Please begin your video by saying the following:

- **Your Name**
- **Current School**
- **Current Grade**
- **Instrument/Voice Part**

****Before starting your performance piece, please say the title and composer of the piece.**

- Students must provide their final 2020-21 report card as well as their most recent report card from year.
- Students must complete the BPS district 2022-2023 School Registration Process for High School or Elementary School located on the BPS website at buffaloschools.org under the Admissions & Registration Department.

If you have any questions regarding audition materials and requirements, please contact us:

Band: JPitnell@buffaloschools.org or TBuckley@buffaloschools.org

Guitar: JTinkham@buffaloschools.org

Orchestra: AVafai@buffaloschools.org

Vocal: JKnight@buffaloschools.org or LStephan@buffaloschools.org

INSTRUMENTAL - BAND

GRADES 5-6: You will be *required* to perform the following:

- Performance Piece – Choose two short pieces or one solo piece appropriate for your playing level. (It is recommended you ask your music teacher to help you choose your audition music)
- PERCUSSION:
 - Choose one piece of music appropriate for your playing level
 - If you play drum-set, demonstrate at least 1 style of playing

GRADES 7-9: You will be *required* to perform the following:

- Performance Piece – Choose one solo piece of music appropriate for your playing level.
- PERCUSSION:
 - Choose one piece of music appropriate for your playing level
 - If you play drum-set, demonstrate at least 2 styles (i.e. Latin, Swing, etc.)

GRADES 10-12: You will be *required* to perform the following:

- Performance Piece – Choose one piece of music that shows us your very best playing. (It is recommended you ask your music teacher to help you choose your audition music)
- PERCUSSION:
 - Choose one piece of music appropriate for your playing level
 - If you play drum-set, demonstrate at least 3 styles (i.e. Latin, Swing, etc.)

INSTRUMENTAL - GUITAR

All of the guitar ensembles perform primarily as a classical guitar ensemble (similar to a string orchestra). Students are taught to perform using classical finger-style (p-i-m-a fingerings). You will also learn additional guitar specific components, such as reading TAB, performing singer-songwriter songs, performing electric guitar pieces, improvisation, and more. However, much emphasis is put on the students being able to fluently read and perform from standard notation.

GRADES 5-6: You will be *required* to perform the following:

- “Ode to Joy” with a steady tempo and correct rhythms.

- All circled chords included in the audition materials (see Website or contact BAVPA).
- Demonstrate use of finger picking (pima) and regular picking.

GRADES 7-9: You will be *required* to perform the following:

- “Bouree in E-” with a steady tempo and correct rhythms (no repeats).
- All circled chords included in the audition materials (see Website or contact BAVPA).
- Demonstrate use of finger picking (pima) and regular picking.

GRADES 10-12: You will be *required* to perform the following:

- “Snowflight” with a steady tempo and correct rhythms. *Use p-i-m for fingerings.*
- All major/minor barre chords in any key/position included in the audition materials (see Website or contact BAVPA).
- Demonstrate use of finger picking (pima) and regular picking

INSTRUMENTAL - ORCHESTRA

GRADES 5-6: You will be *required* to perform the following:

- Performance Piece – Choose one piece or excerpt from a piece appropriate for your playing level.

GRADES 7-9: You will be *required* to perform the following:

- Performance Piece – Choose one piece from a piece appropriate for your playing level.

GRADES 10-12: You will be *required* to perform the following:

- Performance Piece – Choose one piece and one excerpt from a contrasting piece appropriate for your playing level.

VOCAL

To prepare for your video submission:

- Please “arrive” in business casual attire.
- **In your video submission**, tell us about yourself: your past musical experiences, your goals for the future, and why you want to come to Performing Arts. *Give these ideas some thought.*

GRADES 5-6: You will be *required* to perform:

- Performance Piece - Perform a piece of your choice at an appropriate singing level and in an appropriate range that best showcases your voice.
- Scales - Prepare 1 scales in your comfortable range on solfege (Do, Re, Mi...Do).

GRADES 7-12: You will be *required* to perform:

- Performance Piece - Perform a piece of your choice at an appropriate singing level and in an appropriate range that best showcases your voice **and** a piece from the list below.

Vocal Audition Repertoire List:

- *Lift Every Voice and Sing* (Entire 1st verse ending with “Til victory is won”)
- *Amazing Grace* (Entire 1st verse ending with “Blind but now I see”)
- *The Star-Spangled Banner*
- Scales - Prepare 3 scales on solfege (Do, Re, Mi...Do), one in your lower range, one in your comfortable range, and one in your higher range.