

BERGEN COUNTY ACADEMIES

Academy for Visual and Performing Arts - Music Concentration

CEEB Code 310451

CLASS of 2016 PROFILE

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www.bergen.org/bca



School and Community

A model for innovation and reform in the 21st century, the Academy for Visual and Performing Arts (AVPA) is part of the Bergen County Academies (BCA), located in a multicultural suburban community within 5 miles of New York City. Students are accepted from across the county and commute up to twenty miles to a diverse public magnet school of choice with an enrollment of 1,050 students. BCA features career-focused academies operating as a cohesive unit to provide a dynamic, specialized, student-centered environment. Applicants from seventy towns in Bergen County are selected through a rigorous admissions process that considers middle school grades, standardized test scores, interviews, as well as assessments in writing and math. BCA has an extended school day from 8:00 am until 4:10 pm. Underclassmen, grades 9–11, devote Wednesday mornings to interdisciplinary projects and independent research. The faculty has many years of experience as instructors and industry leaders.

Curriculum

The AVPA-Music program is one of the seven programs at the Bergen County Academies. Students in this program study an honors-level college preparatory curriculum with a focus in music. Core music courses include: Digital Keyboarding (beginner piano where applicable, and transposition and keyboard harmony for advanced pianists), Musicianship (students learn woodwind, brass, string and percussion instruments as well as conducting techniques), Electronic Music Synthesis (MIDI composition using state of the art software), Music & Society (a course that teaches the evolution of the style of music, with corresponding art and socio-political trends), AP (Advanced Placement) Music Theory in the Digital Age, Advanced Problems in Music Theory & Technology, Senior Music and Media Seminar. Finally, each AVPA-M student is required to participate in two trimesters of a performing music course each year.

BCA Highlights

- A highly competitive, diverse public magnet high school which typically accepts 250 of the over 1500 students who apply
- Named a 2015 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence by the U.S. Department of Education
- Named a Model School in the Arts by the N.J. Department of Education
- Home of a 2015 Gold Medal Winner of the International Math Olympiad.
- Home of the 2013 Winner of the International Biology Olympiad.
- Home of Two 2014 National Intel Science Talent Search Finalists
- Ranked #5 in the Nation on the list of America's Top High Schools by Newsweek
- Ranked #1 in New Jersey, #2 in the Northeast and #15 in the Nation on the list of Top High Schools by The Daily Beast
- Member of the National Consortium of Secondary STEM Schools (NCSSS)

Advanced Placement Courses

AP Art History	AP Computer Science	AP Physics C
AP Biology	AP Macro Economics	AP Psychology
AP Calculus AB, BC	AP Micro Economics	AP Statistics
AP Chemistry	AP Music Theory	AP Studio Art

International Baccalaureate Courses

IB Environmental Systems	IB Literature	IB Spanish
IB History	IB Math	IB French

In May 2015, 269 students took a total of 635 IB exams (5.39 average) and 493 students took a total of 904 AP exams (4.26 average).

A note about International Baccalaureate courses: Students may choose to challenge themselves by taking IB courses, even though the Academy for Visual and Performing Arts does not offer the opportunity to earn an IB Diploma.

Due to the number of core course requirements, even the most ambitious students may have limited access to Advanced Placement (AP) courses and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses.

Graduation Requirements

The requirements of AVPA exceed state graduation requirements.

Performing Ensembles ...4 years	Music History..... 1 year
PE/Health4 years	Piano/Composition..... 1 year
Mathematics4 years	Musicianship 1 year
English4 years	Biology 1 year
Social Studies.....3 years	Chemistry 1 year
World Language3 years	Physics 1 year
Music Theory (including AP Music Theory) ...2 years	Senior Internship 1 year
Technology2 years	Community Service40 hours

ACT / SAT COMBINED TEST RESULTS

Test	State	Nation	AVPA
ACT	23.2	21.0	31
SAT	1520	1490	2007

SAT Score Summary – Class of 2015 – AVPA

Critical Reading	Math	Writing
Average: 646	3 Perfect Scores Average: 678	Average: 683

AVPA - Music Accolades

County band/Chorus - 22

Regional Band/Orchestra/Chorus - 30

All-State Band/Orchestra/Chorus - 17

All- Eastern Band/Orchestra/Chorus - 4

All-National Band/Orchestra/Chorus - 6

Regional and national competition winners - 6

Full Year - All Day Senior Internships

All of our seniors devote Wednesdays to a yearlong individualized internship experience. Students receive (9) academic credits for this supervised graduation requirement. Over two hundred employers offer experiential learning opportunities in research centers, hospitals, universities, non-profit organizations, government agencies, major corporations and large and small businesses in the NY/NJ metropolitan area.

Grading System

Students are NOT RANKED because of the selectivity of the admissions process. Grade point averages are calculated yearly based on the final grade attained in each course. Cumulative GPA is an unweighted calculation which includes academic courses only. 4.0 is the highest possible GPA. Each trimester students who achieve an A in each of their courses are distinguished by being named to the Academy High Honor Roll which is the school's highest academic honor.

Grade Key

A = 4.00 B+ = 3.33 C+ = 2.33 D+ = 1.33 P = Pass
A- = 3.80 B = 3.00 C = 2.00 D = 1.00 I = Incomplete
B- = 2.80 C- = 1.80 F = 0.00 W = Withdrew

AVPA Grade Frequency Distribution

GPA Ranges	Frequency
4.000 - 3.900	12%
3.899 - 3.800	15%
3.799 - 3.700	10%
3.699 - 3.600	17%
3.599 - below	46%

AVPA • College Acceptances and Enrollment • Class of 2015

Accepted (A) Matriculated (M)

	A	M		A	M		A	M
American University	2	1	McGill University	1		The Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins	1	
Arcadia University	1		Middlebury College	1	1	The Pennsylvania State University	2	
Bard College	1	1	Montclair State University	2		The University of NC at Chapel Hill	1	
Bates College	1		Muhlenberg College	5	1	The University of Texas	1	1
Boston College	1		New England Conservatory of Music	1		Tulane University	2	
Boston University	5		New Jersey Institute of Technology	1		University of California, Berkeley	1	1
Brown University	1	1	New York University	8	3	University of California, Davis	1	
Carnegie Mellon University	2	1	Northeastern University	2	2	University of California, Los Angeles	1	
College of the Atlantic	1		Northwestern University	3	3	University of California, San Diego	1	
Colorado College	1		Oberlin College	1		University of Chicago	1	1
Columbia University	2	1	Oberlin Conservatory of Music	2		University of Colorado	1	
Connecticut College	1		Pace University	2		University of Delaware	1	1
Cornell University	4	2	Pratt Institute	3		University of Hartford	1	
Drew University	2		Princeton University	1		University of Md, Baltimore County	2	
Drexel University	2		Providence College	1		University of Maryland, College Park	1	
Eastman School of Music	1		Ramapo College of New Jersey	2		University of Massachusetts	1	
Eckerd College	1		Rutgers, The State University of NJ	15	2	University of Miami	2	
Elon University	1	1	Savannah College of Art and Design	1		University of Michigan	1	
Emerson College	1		School of the Art Institute of Chicago	1		University of NC School of the Arts	1	
Emory University	3	1	School of Visual Arts	1		University of Pennsylvania	1	1
Fordham University	8	3	Skidmore College	3	1	University of Pittsburgh	1	
Gettysburg College	1		Smith College	1		University of Southern California	1	
Grinnell College	1	1	Stevens Institute of Technology	1		University of St. Andrews	1	
Harvard University	2	2	SUNY-New Paltz	2		University of Vermont	2	
Indiana University	2		SUNY-Purchase College	1		University of Virginia	1	
Ithaca College	1	1	Susquehanna University	2	1	University of Wisconsin	1	
Johns Hopkins University	1		The Catholic University of America	1		Vanderbilt University	1	
Kenyon College	1		The College of New Jersey	5		Vassar College	1	1
Lehigh University	3		The Curtis Institute of Music	1	1	Villanova University	1	
Manhattan College	1		The George Washington University	1	1	Virginia Commonwealth University	1	
Manhattan School of Music	3		The Juilliard School	1		Washington University in St. Louis	1	
Mannes College of Music	1		The New School	1		Wesleyan University	1	
Maryland Institute College of Art	1							

171 Acceptances for 38 Students