

SCHOOL



MISSION

The mission of the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities is to serve the artistically talented high school students of South Carolina through programs of pre-professional instruction in an environment of artistic and academic excellence. The school is a resource for all teachers and students in South Carolina. Arts concentrations include creative writing, dance, drama, music and visual arts. The school consistently ranks in the top 1% of high schools in the nation according to national rankings published by the Daily Beast and Newsweek.

The nine-month residential high school is modeled after a master-apprentice community with an arts faculty who are all practicing artists, as well as educators in their areas of expertise. In addition to rigorous pre-professional arts training, students receive an intense and innovative academic education that fosters connections to the arts while meeting all the requirements necessary for a South Carolina high school diploma. Over one-third of our full-time faculty have earned National Board Certification.

ADMISSION

Students apply and are selected through a process which includes auditions, portfolio reviews, master classes, interviews, and a review of academic and school records. Most students enter as rising juniors, except in dance and instrumental music, which accept students as rising sophomores.

SOUTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

English, 4 units
Mathematics, 4 units
U.S. History, 1 unit
Government, ½ unit
Economics, ½ unit
Additional Social Studies, 1 unit
Science, 3 units
Physical Education/Health or ROTC, 1 unit
World Language, 1 unit
Computer Science/Keyboarding, 1 unit
Electives, 7 units

TOTAL - 24 units

SCHOLARS DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

In recognition of their coursework beyond state diploma requirements, students who successfully complete the full curriculum in their arts area and in the humanities courses earn the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities' Scholars Diploma.

ARTISTIC REQUIREMENTS

While College Board policy does not allow most arts classes to receive Advanced Placement credit, the pre-professional rigor and advanced level of study within arts courses places them at a comparable level to college or Advanced Placement classes. Please refer to accompanying profile(s) specific to creative writing, dance, drama, music or visual arts.

ACADEMIC CURRICULUM

Faculty and students take creative, innovative approaches to traditional academic subjects. College Preparatory, Honors, and Advanced Placement courses are available. Courses leading to Advanced Placement exams are offered in Art History, Biology, Calculus AB, English Language, English Literature, Environmental Science, European History, French, General Art Portfolio, Music Theory, Spanish, Statistics, U.S. Government, and U.S. History. Given the rigors of both the arts and academic curricula and the extended school schedule, students must necessarily limit the number of Advanced Placement courses in which they enroll and often must choose between conflicting Advanced Placement courses.

SOUTH CAROLINA UNIFORM GRADING SCALE

The South Carolina Board of Education adopted a new grading scale, effective for courses beginning in the 2016-2017 school year: A (100-90), B (89-80), C (79-70), D (69-60), F (Below 60).

For courses taken prior to August 2016, the former grading scale remains in effect: (A (100-93), B (92-85), C (84-77), D (76-70), F (Below 70). GPAs will be calculated using both scales as applicable.

TRANSCRIPT

All courses are listed on the transcript, including ninth and tenth grade courses taken at previous schools. Grading scales at respective schools are listed if different from the South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale.

GPA

The GPA is determined by using the Uniform Grading Scale of South Carolina.

$$\text{GPA} = \frac{\text{sum of (quality points x units)}}{\text{sum of units attempted}}$$

RANK

Admission to and successful completion of the rigorous and challenging requirements of our unique school programs are marks of excellence; therefore, we do not rank our students.

ACCREDITATION AND MEMBERSHIPS

The Governor's School is fully accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Pre-collegiate Arts Schools (ACCPAS).

SCHOOL CALENDAR AND SCHEDULE

The Governor's School has a modified block schedule that incorporates five daily blocks of 85 minutes; academic classes meet on a year-long A/B rotation and arts classes meet daily for at least two blocks. Several classes are also offered in a block added to the end of the regular five-period day. The school year is divided into four quarters of approximately nine weeks each.

In addition to the extended school day, students spend considerable time in required evening and weekend instruction; depending upon their art area, students participate in open studios, rehearsals, performances, extra classes, etc. Given these commitments, students average 20-30 hours per week in arts instruction in addition to their academic course load.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS, CLASS OF 2019

(109 seniors)

2019 data will be released in October. In 2018 our school mean was:

SAT scores: school mean composite is 1199; national, 1049; state, 1064. **ACT scores:** school mean composite is 24.9; national, 20.8; state, 18.3. **AP test results:** 77% of students took one or more exams and scored a 3 or higher.

In recent years, Governor's School students have received numerous accolades and awards in both academics and arts. For example, students have been chosen as YoungArts Finalists, Presidential Scholars in the Arts, and National Scholastic Gold Key recipients. Consistently, every graduate is accepted to college and nearly all are awarded scholarship opportunities.

Alumni of the Governor's School attend post-secondary institutions throughout the country. 97% of seniors attended a 4-year college, 2% attended a 2-year college, and 1% took a gap year. Sample schools include:

Bennington	Morehouse
Brown	Pratt
Cincinnati Conservatory	Princeton
Clemson	Ringling
College of Charleston	Rutgers
Columbia	Southern Methodist
Converse	Swarthmore
Dartmouth	The Hart School
Duke	The Juilliard School
Eastman School of Music	University of South Carolina
Furman	West Point
Harvard	Winthrop
Manhattan School of Music	Wofford
Maryland Institute of Art	Yale

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Governor's School has been named a National Service Learning Leader School by the Corporation for National and Community Service, is committed to community service and service learning, and encourages students to adopt service-learning as a strategy for helping them develop a sense of responsibility as active citizens. Students participate in a variety of projects at the school, in the immediate community and within the state of South Carolina.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students have extensive demands placed upon them academically and artistically, so they are advised to make a limited commitment to extracurricular pursuits. Many still find the time to participate in a range of activities such as Book Club, Connecting Arts Through Service (CATS) Club, Gospel Choir, International Relations Club, Outdoor Club, National Honor Society, Student Council, Honor Council and Yearbook Committee.

The South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities endorses the *Principles of Good Practice* of the National Association of College Admissions Counselors.