



**ALABAMA
SCHOOL OF
FINE ARTS**

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School Code: 010-326

A public school with the entire state as its district, Alabama School of Fine Arts (ASFA) admits students through application and audition, providing tuition-free instruction in six specialty areas: creative writing, dance, math & science, music, theatre, and visual arts, plus a full college preparatory curriculum. Located in the heart of Birmingham’s downtown cultural district, ASFA provides a dormitory for students living beyond commuting distance.

WHAT MAKES ASFA DIFFERENT?

- Partially residential, publicly funded secondary school enrolling grades 7-12.
- Six major Specialties: Creative Writing, Dance, Math & Science, Music, Theatre, and Visual Arts.
- Competitive admission based on application, letters of recommendation, school records, audition and/or interview.
- Extended school day (8:00 am - 4:40 pm) includes six core academic periods of 45 minutes and minimum of 3 hours of Specialty instruction per day.
- Due to our extended school day and significant departmental commitments, ASFA sponsors no athletics or extracurricular activities unless directly tied to our Specialty programs.
- All seniors create an original, substantial research project, written work, performance or exhibit in their Specialty.
- We do not rank.
- We ask students to answer application questions about disciplinary history honestly in a written statement to the admission office.

MARKING SYSTEM AND RELATED PROCEDURES

- Grades assigned on a 10-point grading scale as follows:
A= 90-100, B= 80-89, C= 70-79 and D= 60-69
- GPA based on a 4.0 scale.
- For weighted GPA, 1 point is assigned to all Specialty and AP courses.
- On the transcript, the symbol > precedes weighted courses.
- We report both weighted & unweighted GPAs on transcript.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- Specialty area — 16 credits
- English — 4 credits
- Social Studies — 4 credits
- Math — 4 credits *
- Science — 4 credits
- Foreign Language — 2 credits
- Fine Arts — 1.5 credits for Math/Science students
- Health & Wellness — 1.5 credits
- Computer Applications — .5 credit *

ADVANCED COURSES

These demanding courses require extra preparation, rehearsal, and/or study time. Most use college texts and teaching methodologies, and are paced to match undergraduate offerings. **We strenuously urge colleges to include ASFA Specialty courses in GPA calculations and to weight them at or beyond Advanced Placement level—as you would the most rigorous academic courses.** See complete Specialty profiles & curriculum guide at www.asfa.k12.al.us/about-asfa.

CORE CLASSES—Open to All Students:

English British Literature

Mathematics *
AP Calculus AB

Science
AP Environmental Science
AP Psychology
Human Anatomy and Physiology
Physics

Social Studies
Advanced Studies in U.S. History II
AP U.S. Government and Politics
AP Macroeconomics

Computer Science
AP Computer Science A
AP Computer Science Principles *
Problem Solving with C/C++

World Languages
AP French, AP Spanish, and AP Latin

Electives
Advanced Art History

SPECIALTY COURSES—Available only to students within each Specialty listed below:

Creative Writing
Practicum I
Practicum II
Senior Thesis Workshop

Dance
Ballet/Pointe
Modern/Repertory
Rehearsal/Performance

Math/Science Specialty
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
AP Statistics
Abstract Algebra
Differential Equations

AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism
AP Physics C: Mechanics

Music
Advanced Music History
MusicTheory
Senior Recital

Theatre Arts
Directing
Theatre History
Senior Theatre Project

Visual Arts
Senior Thesis

* AP Computer Science Principles may fulfill math requirement for arts students.

ADMISSIONS TO ASFA 2017-2021

42% OVERALL ACCEPTANCE RATE

BY SPECIALTY DEPARTMENT

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Creative Writing43% | Music47% |
| Dance54% | Theatre Arts..... 32% |
| Math/Science.....54% | Visual Arts.....28% |

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

339 students grades 7-12. 55 seniors
31% male, 69% female

- 27% African-American
- 17% Asian
- 55% Caucasian
- >1% Hispanic
- 1% Native American/Pacific Islander
- 1% Multiracial

11% qualify for free or reduced lunch program.

CLASS OF 2021 GPA DISTRIBUTION

| | WEIGHTED | UNWEIGHTED |
|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| First Quartile | 4.35—4.56 | 3.87—4.0 |
| Second Quartile | 4.20 — 4.30 | 3.72—3.86 |
| Third Quartile | 3.93—4.19 | 3.46—3.60 |
| Fourth Quartile | 3.40—3.92 | 2.86—3.45 |

STANDARDIZED TESTING

| | ACT | ASFA | State | Natl. | |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Middle 50% | 22—32 | Mean: 27 | 18.9 | 20.7 | |
| | | SAT | ASFA | State | Natl. |
| Reading & Writing..... | 620-640 | Mean: | 655 | 591 | 533 |
| Math | 570-730 | | 665 | 568 | 528 |
| Composite..... | 1190-1410 | | 1320 | 1159 | 1060 |

COLLEGE CHOICES AND MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS 2017-2021

Over the past five years, 90% of ASFA graduates have won merit scholarships, compared to the national average of 15%. Approximately 95% of ASFA students matriculated to four-year institutions, 2% to two-year colleges, 3% took a transition year, and <1% entered the workforce or military. During this period, ASFA graduates attended the following:

Bold indicates 3 or more students attending.

Agnes Scott College
Appalachian State University
Auburn University
Bard College
Barnard College
Belmont University
Bennington College
Berklee College of Music
Birmingham-Southern College
Brenau University
Brigham Young University
Brown University
California Institute of Technology
California Institute of the Arts
Carnegie Mellon University
College of the Atlantic
Columbia College (Chicago)
Columbia University
Cooper Union for Advancement of Science & Art
Eastern Kentucky University
Eastman School of Music
Eckerd College
Florida Southern College
Florida State University
Gadsden State Community College
George Mason University
Goucher College
Hollins University
Howard University
Indiana University (Bloomington)
Jacksonville State University
Jefferson State Community College
Kansas City Art Institute
Knox College
Louisiana State University

Loyola University Chicago
Loyola University New Orleans
Manhattan School of Music
Marion Military Institute
Marymount Manhattan College
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Middle Tennessee State University
Miles College
Mills College
Minneapolis College of Art and Design
Mississippi State University
New College of Florida
New York University
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Oberlin College
Oxford College of Emory University
Pace University (New York City)
Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts
Pepperdine University
Point Park University
Pratt Institute (Main Campus)
Princeton University
Purdue University (Main Campus)
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhode Island School of Design
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rutgers University (New Brunswick)
Samford University
Sarah Lawrence College
Savannah College of Art and Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
School of the Museum of Fine Arts/Tufts
Southern Methodist University
Southern University and A&M College
Spelman College
Stanford University

Syracuse University
Temple University
Texas Christian University
The Juilliard School
The Ohio State University
The University of Alabama
Trinity University
Tulane University of Louisiana
Tuskegee University
University of Alabama at Birmingham
University of Alabama in Huntsville
University of Cincinnati
University of Hartford
University of Maryland (College Park)
University of Memphis
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota (Twin Cities)
University of Mississippi
University of Montevallo
University of New Orleans
University of North Alabama
University of North Carolina School of the Arts
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of South Alabama
University of Virginia
University of Wyoming
Vanderbilt University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Wallace State Community College
William and Mary
Wright State University
Xavier University of Louisiana
Yale University

COVID STATEMENT ASFA conducted all virtual learning from mid March 2020 through mid October 2020. After that, students had the option to attend in a hybrid model in which the core academic classes continue virtually while Specialty classes met in person. The Specialty Departments were split into two cohorts with each cohort meeting in person for three weeks at a time. It was especially challenging to deliver Specialty instruction in our arts areas as well as lab sciences. Students received standard numerical grades throughout this period.