



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 Speciality commitments, ASFA sponsors no athletics and limited extracurricular activities.
- 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 curriculum catalog at www.asfaschool.org/academics.

CORE CLASSES—Open to All Students:

English
British Literature

Mathematics *
AP Calculus AB

Science
AP Environmental Science
Human Anatomy and Physiology
Genetics
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 *

World Languages
AP French, AP Spanish, and AP Latin

Electives
Advanced Art History
AP Psychology

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

Creative Writing
Senior Thesis Workshop

Dance
Dance 12
Professional Dance Practicum

Math/Science Specialty
Abstract Algebra
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC

AP Statistics
AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism
AP Physics C: Mechanics
AP Seminar
Differential Equations
Senior Research

Music
Advanced Music History
Conducting
Music Theory

Theatre Arts
Directing
Theatre History
Senior Acting Workshop
TA Senior Capstone

Visual Arts
VA Senior Thesis

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

ADMISSION TO ASFA 2020-2023

37% OVERALL ACCEPTANCE RATE

BY SPECIALTY DEPARTMENT

Creative Writing40%	Music80%
Dance50%	Theatre Arts..... 25%
Math/Science.....43%	Visual Arts.....22%

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

358 students grades 7-12. 60 seniors
29% male, 71% female

- 19% African-American
- 12% Asian
- 39% Caucasian
- 6% Hispanic
- 24% Multiracial

23% qualify for free or reduced lunch.

CLASS OF 2024 GPA DISTRIBUTION

	WEIGHTED	UNWEIGHTED
First Quartile	4.42—4.56	3.96—4.0
Second Quartile	4.32—4.41	3.88—3.95
Third Quartile	4.00—4.31	3.57—3.87
Fourth Quartile	3.41—3.99	2.88—3.55

STANDARDIZED TESTING

		ACT		
		ASFA	State	Natl.
Middle 50%	22—30	Mean: 25.8	18	19.8
		SAT		
		ASFA	State	Natl.
ERW.....	710-720	715	586	529
Math	780-790	785	560	538
Composite.....	1490-1510	1500	1146	1050

COLLEGE CHOICES AND MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS

Over the past four years, 90.2% of ASFA graduates have won merit scholarships, compared to the national average of 22%. Approximately 96% of ASFA students matriculated to four-year institutions, 1% to two-year colleges, 3% took a gap year, and <1% entered the workforce or military. Following is a representative college list:

Bold indicates 3 or more students attending.

Agnes Scott College

Alabama State University

Appalachian State University

Auburn University

Bard College

Barnard College

Belmont University

Bennington College

Berklee College of Music

Berry College

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

Cornell 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

Georgia Institute of Technology

Georgia State University

Howard University

Huntingdon College

Indiana University Bloomington

Jacksonville State University

Jefferson State Community College

Kansas City Art Institute

Knox College

Lipscomb University

Louisiana State University

Loyola University Chicago

Loyola University New Orleans

Manhattan School of Music

Marymount Manhattan College

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Middle Tennessee State University

Miles College

Mills College

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

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

Stanford University

SUNY at Purchase College

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 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

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 continued 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.