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**Charleston County School of the Arts**

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# CHARLESTON COUNTY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

## Profile 2015-2016

The School of the Arts is a public, countywide, stand-alone magnet school that provides a full academic and arts curriculum for 1094 students in grades 6 through 12. The school began in 1995 with grades 6 - 8 and added a grade of high school each year, graduating its first class in the spring of 2001. School of the Arts also participates in “High Schools that Work” and “Middle Grades that Work.”

The School of the Arts’ mission is to empower students to maximize their potential through the

integration of comprehensive arts and academic programs in order to instill a life-long passion for excellence.

The school is located in the center of the Charleston metropolitan that has a population of 500,000 and is located 12 miles from the historic peninsula of Charleston. Drawing its students from all areas of Charleston County, the socio-economic group ranges from high income families to those whose children qualify for free and reduced lunch.

### Program of Study and Entrance Requirements

The school blends intensive artistic instruction with a strong academic program. Together, academics and artistic preparation mold students into young people who have dedication, discipline and perseverance.

Through their arts majors, the students have opportunities to broaden and enhance their educational experiences far beyond what is possible for most regular students. These young people have gained poise and self-confidence by performing before audiences and have become strong, independent and self-assured.

Students may apply for the School of the Arts and audition in a maximum of two of the eight arts areas: creative writing, dance, string orchestra, piano, instrumental band, vocal music, theatre and visual arts. Students must also have a sound academic record. Once at School of the Arts, students must have satisfactory academic and artistic progress or they will be returned to their home schools.

must be driven to continue excellent in their art majors and to maintain the highest academic record of which they are capable.

School of the Arts is in our 4<sup>th</sup> year of implementation of the SOA Diploma, which is a supplementary diploma opportunity. This specialized diploma recognizes the accomplishments of School of the Arts students who exceed the standard South Carolina High School Diploma requirements. The SOA Diploma is endorsed by the local school board and by the South Carolina Arts Commission. Students must accomplish the following requirements in order to achieve rights to this special Diploma: successful completion of Senior Thesis, 3.0 overall weighted GPA, 20 hours of annual community service, and successful completion of the Honors Arts & Humanities course or AP Art History.

2014-2015

School of the Arts is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and is approved by the South Carolina Department of Education.

## South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale

A=93-100  
B=85-92  
C=77-84  
D=70-76  
70-lowest passing grade

All courses taken are computed in determination of the grade average and rank according to the South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale. Adding all grades for courses successfully passed, failed and retaken compute rank. In computation, Honors courses have the grades enhanced by a .5 weighting factor, and Advanced Placement and Dual Credit courses have the grades enhanced by a 1.0 weighting factor. The rank is computed at the end of six semesters to provide information for college applications. Rank is calculated again at the end of seven semesters to determine honor graduates.

Note about Ranking: Even students ranking lower among their peers are usually good students, having mostly B averages or above. For example, a student who ranks 108 of 119 members of the 2013 graduation class still has a weighted GPA of 3.0.

Note Regarding Environmental Science: The college preparatory environmental science course is a lab science and has a prerequisite of Biology 1 or Chemistry.

## Honors Academic Courses

English 1-4  
Geometry  
Algebra 2  
Pre-Calculus  
Statistics  
Calculus  
Physical Science  
Biology 1 and 2  
Chemistry  
Physics  
Global Studies 1 and 2  
World Geography  
World History  
United States History and Constitution  
American/U.S. Government  
Economics  
French 3 and 4  
Spanish 3 and 4

All Arts Major Courses are on the Honors Level.

## Advanced Placement Academic Courses

English Literature and Composition  
English Language and Composition  
Statistics  
Calculus  
Biology  
World History  
United States History  
American Government  
Studio Art, Drawing, 2D and 3D  
Art History  
Music Theory  
Total AP Students in 2015 – 227  
Total number of AP exams – 441  
% of Total AP Students with Scores 3+ - 86.6

### SAT Mean Scores for Graduating Class of 2014

Critical Reading 564  
Math 529  
Writing 556

90% of Class of 2015 taking the exam.

### ACT Average Scores for Graduating Class of 2014

English 25.3  
Math 22.1  
Reading 25.6  
Science 23.4  
Composition 24.5

100% of Class of 2015 taking the ACT exam.

### School of the Arts Class of 2014

Total in Graduating Class of 2015: 146

Students Attending Four Year Universities: 85%

Students Attending Two Year Universities: 5 %

# CHARLESTON COUNTY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS PREPARES STUDENTS FOR ADMISSION TO A WIDE VARIETY OF COMPETITIVE COLLEGES THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND ABROAD.

## Class of 2014 & 2015 Sample of College Acceptances:

American Academy of Dramatic Arts (NYC)	Montreat College
American University	Newberry College
American University of Paris	North Carolina A & T
Anderson University	Olympic College
Appalachian State University	Paul Mitchell School of Cosmetology
Berkeley College of Music	Penn State
Brown University	Princeton University
Catawba College	School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Charleston Southern University	Spellman
Clemson University	South Carolina State University
Coastal Carolina	Southern University A & M
Coker College	Temple University
College of Charleston	The Citadel
Columbia College	The New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music
Columbia College Chicago	Trident Technical College
Converse College	United States Air Force
Drexel University	United States Marine Corps
Duke University	University of Delaware
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	University of Illinois – Chicago
Emerson College	University of Mississippi
Francis Marion University	University of North Carolina School of the Arts
Furman University	University of Paris Descartes
Florence University, <i>Florence, Italy</i>	University of South Carolina – Beaufort
Harvard University	University of South Carolina – Columbia
Hampton University	University of South Carolina – Upstate
Indiana University	Utah Valley University
Indiana University Jacobs School of Music	Virginia Commonwealth University
Johns Hopkins University	Webb Institute of Naval Architecture
Johnson & Wales University	West Virginia University
Lone Star College	Winthrop University
Middle Tennessee State University	Yale University
Middlebury College	