



Arizona School for the Arts
A COLLEGE PREPARATORY AND PERFORMING ARTS TRADITION

Arts FAQ

How are students placed in arts classes?

- Students select their arts classes when they apply online; however, placement in first choice classes is not guaranteed.
- Students are placed in arts classes according to skill level, rather than grade level.
- New students interested in a higher placement than beginning take a placement evaluation (see arts admissions information page).
- PLEASE NOTE: All students interested in dance must audition.
- All placements are made by the content area teacher.

Does my student need a placement evaluation?

- All dance students must audition to determine readiness for the arts discipline.
- Students (5th - 12th) who want to be placed above beginning level in instrument (band, strings, guitar) must be evaluated.
- Students (10th-12th) who want to enroll in the theatre program must provide previous coursework.
- Students (10th-12th) with no arts experience or previous coursework can be placed in programs in music or theatre.
- High school students who want to enroll in the piano program must have a placement evaluation.
- All applicants can submit a video evaluation or in-person placement evaluation, please review the Arts Placement and Audition page

Can students be a beginner in the arts?

- Students entering ASA in 5th-9th grade can be beginners in music (choral arts and instrument) or theatre. No audition required for these beginning students.
- Students entering 5th grade can be beginners in dance, however they must be evaluated for program readiness in ballet.
- ASA does not offer a beginning dance program for students in 6th-12th grades.
- High school students interested in beginning piano instruction may take a fee-based class for credit during 9th hour (3:15-4:15 pm).
- Students are placed in arts classes by skill level, not by grade.

What instruments are offered at ASA?

- 5th and 6th grade students can choose from:
 - Band: Flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, brass instruments (trumpet, trombone, French horn, euphonium and tuba)
 - Strings: violin, viola, cello & string bass
 - Guitar: classical only (nylon string). Beginners may take the fee-based class and more advanced student must be evaluated for placement.
- 7th - 12th grade students can choose from:
 - Band: Flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, bassoon, brass instruments (trumpet, trombone, French horn, euphonium and tuba) , orchestral percussion
 - Strings: violin, viola, cello & string bass
 - Guitar: classical only (nylon string)
- Piano: all 5th-8th grade students receive this class. High school students must be evaluated into the program.

Does ASA provide instruments?

- Instruments are rented by individual students through suggested vendors.
- ASA only provides the following music instruments for use at school: string bass, certain oversized percussion instruments, baritone saxophone, and tuba.
- Students bring their instruments to school daily and take them home for nightly practice.
- Rooms in which instruments are stored are locked or supervised during academic periods.

What type of dance program does ASA offer?

- Students enrolled in the ASA dance program have ballet three days a week, modern one day, and one other dance special.
- Students in high school can be evaluated for placement in the Classical Core or Contemporary Core program. Details for these programs can be found on the ASA website.
- ASA offers classical ballet study employing the Vaganova method. ASA does not offer recreational ballet.

Can students change their arts classes during the semester?

- All classes are year-long at ASA.

Why would my student take a 9th period class?

- Some arts classes are only offered 9th period.