



NFMHS Center for Arts and Media

Program Descriptions/ Audition Requirements

The Center for Arts and Media provides an existing opportunity for artistically talented high school students in Lee County. Once selected, students will become part of an artistic environment designed to develop their talents to the highest possible level while fostering an appreciation and love of the arts which will serve them well in the pursuit of the next step in their educational training and chosen careers.

Admission to the Center for Arts and Media program is by **audition ONLY**. In addition to the Center for Arts and Media application, students **must** complete the necessary paperwork to register for Lee County Schools according to the published timeline. Should a student be accepted into the arts program following the audition, that student will automatically be enrolled at North Fort Myers High School as long as the corresponding **letter of intent is returned by the appropriate date**. All students enrolling in the Center for Arts and Media **must complete four semesters** in the program to be considered for a waiver should they choose to leave the arts program (School District of Lee County Administrative Regulation 1.63).

DANCE

Students concentrating in dance will complete an intensive course of study in choreography, performance, ballet, modern, and other dance techniques. In addition to providing instructional opportunities within the full spectrum of recognized dance styles, the program places a strong emphasis upon artistic quality, aesthetics, and career preparation. Regular association with practicing professionals as well as multidisciplinary programming with other departments will be an important aspect of the dance department's curriculum. It is the goal of the dance department to provide all of its students with a wide range of quality opportunities and experiences that will allow them to prepare for advanced study, professional growth, and personal fulfillment.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS:

- Students will be asked to demonstrate knowledge of ballet by performing exercises at the ballet barre - - - exercises needed will be instructed during the time of audition
- Student will be asked to execute specific dance skills (pirouettes, battements, splits, jetes, and side leaps) - - - all skills will be done on both the left and right side
- Students will have a **one minute prepared selection** of choreography of the student's own choosing - - - music will be provided by the student.

DRESS CODE: Females should wear a leotard and tights, ballet or jazz shoes, and hair should be secured back off of the face. Males should wear gym shorts and a t-shirt with any hair secured off of the face.

MUSICAL ARTS

VOCAL ARTS (CHORUS)

EACH student will participate in a live audition to include the following:

- A major scale sung on a neutral syllable, solfeggio, or number a cappella, evaluate for accuracy
- A rhythmic sight-reading exercise evaluated for rhythmic accuracy
- A melodic sight-reading exercise evaluated for melodic accuracy
- EACH student will perform from memory two contrasting songs representing the student's current level.

Live accompaniment is suggested, as no accompanist will be provided. A recorded accompaniment is acceptable as long as it contains no vocalist singing the student's part. **A cappella performances are unacceptable for the audition.**

ORCHESTRA

EACH student will participate in a live audition to include the following:

- Sight-reading of a short selection presented at audition
- 12 major scales and arpeggios, as many as known and as many octaves from memory, at a tempo, range, and style representing the student's current level
- A prepared solo to include both a slow lyrical section and a fast technical section appropriate to the student's current ability level.

Excerpts from "full ensemble" literature are inappropriate. Accompaniment is neither required nor recommended.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC (BAND)

EACH student will participate in a live audition to include the following:

Woodwind/Brass

- 12 major scales and arpeggios, as many as known from memory. Students must use all-state articulations and demonstrate a consistent tempo and range of their instrument.
- A prepared solo of choice with at least two contrasting sections that demonstrate lyrical and technical aspects.
- Sight-reading of a short selection presented at the audition.

Percussion

- 12 major scales and arpeggios, as many as known from memory, on a mallet instrument.
- A prepared exercise or etude on any mallet instrument.
- Drum rudiments on snare drum.
- Tuning the timpani on pitches (Students will be provided initial pitch and asked to tune).

THEATRE ARTS

Students selecting a concentration in the theatre arts will have the opportunity to obtain intensive training in acting, directing, design, and technical theatre. The course of study will include opportunities in acting, voice, and diction, mime and movement, improvisation, directing and playwriting, state make-up, theatre technology, theatre history, vocal techniques, dance, musical theatre, and other classes.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS:

- Prepare two (2) contrasting monologues. Monologues must be memorized. Choices might include one comic and one dramatic piece or one classical and one contemporary piece. Monologues must be chosen from published plays. Scripts from movies are unacceptable.
- **Maximum monologue time is a total of three minutes** for both pieces. Check materials carefully to ensure that you meet this time limit.
- Students who wish to demonstrate vocal ability may sing a solo selection of up to 16 bars from a published musical for theatre in addition to the two required monologues. Vocal selections must be included in the three minute time limit. Accompaniment may be live CD or Ipod. Recorded accompaniment is only acceptable as long as it contains no vocalist singing the applicant's portion. **A cappella performances are unacceptable for this audition.**

Applicants are expected to arrive at the beginning of the audition time to sign in with administration and complete any remaining paperwork. All students will be escorted to the audition room at the appropriate time. Parents/Guardians will be asked to wait in the auditorium and are not permitted inside the audition room.

DRESS CODE: Students should dress as they would for a professional audition but be able to move freely. Flat, closed-toe shoes that cover the entire foot are encouraged. Students wearing sandals, flip-flops or inappropriate footwear may not be permitted to audition if unsafe. Hair should be secured away from the face. Ladies are asked not to wear skirts or dresses.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If applicable/available applicants should bring a current headshot and/or resume to the audition. This is NOT a requirement, but is allowed if available and can be helpful.

DIGITAL MEDIA

The Digital Media Arts program focuses on developing each student's artistic creativity in electronic art communications. Students have the opportunity to explore graphic design, photography, animation, gaming, and video production while becoming familiar with a variety of advanced computer applications. In our state of the art multimedia facility, students will have access to professional camera equipment, computers, studio equipment, and an ever growing list of industry standard software.

Throughout their high school career, students will create a high quality electronic portfolio that showcases their artistic and technical abilities. By graduation, they will have the training and experience necessary to enter an advanced digital media arts program or to embark upon a career in their chosen media arts field.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS:

1. Each student **must bring a portfolio** the day of audition that accurately demonstrates his or her art and computer abilities with a focus on video, graphic design, gaming, animation and/or photography. Please include **at least three samples, no more than ten**. Include the original file + the rendered version. For example, if you are submitting a Photoshop file, you would include the Photoshop file + a jpeg version. If a video sample is included, it should be not more than five minutes in length, per sample.
 - Portfolio Items may include, but are not limited to:
 - Presentation in which the student played a production or talent role (camera, director, graphics, audio, reporter, writer, or actor)
 - A news segment from a school or arts related event
 - Computer graphics used in a multimedia production or publication
 - PowerPoint/Google Slides/Prezi presentations
 - Photoshop Projects
 - Edited Photography
 - Yearbook Spreads
 - Hand drawn sketches – please provide a digital copy (picture or scan)
 - Video Games
 - Game Art
 - 3D Model
 - Animation – 2D and/or 3D
 - Graphic Design
 - **DO NOT INCLUDE:** Word documents, unaltered photos, google searches
 - Diversity of Samples is strongly encouraged
2. Portfolios can be saved on a USB or CD. Portfolio work should be clearly labeled with the student's name, phone number, e-mail address, and middle school. **Portfolio work will NOT be returned to students, please be sure only portfolio work is submitted.**

DIGITAL MEDIA CONTINUED...

3. Each applicant will present their three samples and answer a variety of questions based on their portfolio to a panel of North High Digital Media teachers. Students should be prepared to explain HOW they created the project, what inspired them, what programs were used, and why they want to audition.
 - Students will have access to a computer to load their portfolio
 - Students are allowed to bring in personal computer equipment – iPad, laptop, etc.
 - EACH applicant **will ONLY have five minutes** to present – time will be kept in audition

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. *Do I audition for a specific program or Digital Media as a whole?*
You audition for the entire Digital Media department. Once you take the first class, you will begin to decide what program you want to focus on.
2. *What type of portfolio pieces do I bring to the audition?*
Any sort of portfolio items listed above in something you are interested in. We want to see what knowledge you have with no “official” training.
3. *What if I never took a computer class in middle school?*
That’s quite alright. There are free websites online that you can use to create portfolio pieces depending on what group you are interested in.

SEE: www.gimp.org

www.yoyogames.com

<https://krita.org/en/>

www.blender.org

kivuto.leeschools.net – sign in with leeschools credentials

Adobe software costs \$10 for the year.

4. How do you judge each applicant?
Each portfolio piece is judged based on creativity and effort put forth. The panel of judges will ask you specific questions per piece and rate your answers based on skills communicated and demonstrated. Each applicant is also judged on following the directions outlined in the audition requirements.
5. Will I get my Portfolio back?
No, please make sure your portfolio works as we have had several not work during audition. Label your portfolio. We will review your portfolio in the days following the audition.

VISUAL ARTS

All students applying for admission to North Fort Myers High School Center for the Arts and Media must participate in a drawing assignment during the audition day. It is highly recommended that students bring portfolios with them to have them reviewed by the staff. Most importantly students must come with the desire and applied ambition to want to be a successful Art student.

Practicing for the Drawing Assignment

Practice drawing from observation (i.e. still-life). For example, arrange several objects clustered together on a table top and draw them as they appear. You should try to make the objects look 3-Dimensional on the page and apply the appropriate value and texture as you see them.

Practice a new drawing each week.

Ask your art teacher, if you have one, to critique your work and instruct you about how to create a good composition.

ROUND ONE: APPLICATION & PORTFOLIO SUBMISSION

The day of the audition you will be asked to submit a personal statement and portfolio as described below. Please note, the personal statement must be computer generated and taped to the front of the portfolio. Applications that do not have a completed portfolio and personal statement will be considered incomplete and will be disqualified.

Personal Statement

Please write a personal statement of 250 words or less, describing your previous art training experience (if any), your personal interest in the fine arts, and the goals that you hope accomplish as a Visual Art student over the next 4 years. Include this statement at the beginning of your portfolio.

- The Personal Statement must include on the top left hand corner:
 - Your name
 - Middle School/Art Teacher
 - Phone Number
 - Home Address

Portfolio

Please provide the following 4 required artworks in the portfolio, all other works will be looked at for ambition levels, understanding of basic principles and elements of design, and creative thought processes.

*You may also include examples of other media that demonstrate the diversity of your talent; any 3D piece please photograph and include in the portfolio. **WE DISCOURAGE PORTFOLIOS CONSISTING SOLEY OF ANIME, CARTOONS OR SUPERHERO IMAGES.***

DETAILS FOR PORTFOLIO CAN BE FOUND ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE...

VISUAL ARTS CONTINUED...

1. Include one self-portrait drawing done in pencil. It can be created from a mirror or from a photograph. Original drawing size should be 8.5 x 11 inches or larger.
2. Include one observational drawing of three objects done in graphite pencil OR in colored pencil. Objects should be realistic and drawing should include shading and/or shadows. Objects should sit together in a scene. Your chosen objects can be anything such as food (fruit), shoes, toys, bottles, shells, a phone, and plants. Original drawing size should be 8.5 x 11 inches or larger.
3. One colored drawing or color painting. Emphasis on color. Applicant can use any media (materials). Any subject matter is okay or abstract image is acceptable, too. Original artwork size should be 8.5 x 11 inches or larger.
4. One Art Piece of applicant's choice. This piece can be any medium or material. It can be 2D or 3D. It can also be computer art or photography or collage or clay or sculpture or jewelry or fabric. Original piece can be any size. If the art piece is computer art, photography, clay, sculpture, jewelry, fabric, etc. please photograph the finished object onto 8.5 X 11 inch paper and submit it in the art portfolio.

ROUND TWO: ON SITE INTERVIEW-AUDITION

- Students must bring a labeled portfolio or any type of carrying case containing the 4 Round One artworks and up to 10 more original artworks produced in the last 12 months only. **PLEASE LABEL OUTSIDE OF PORTFOLIO and all artworks. Please do not exceed 14 art pieces in the portfolio.**
- Artworks can include drawings, paintings, photos, prints, three-dimensional items, ceramics, computer graphic printouts, mixed media collage, etc. Drawings and sketches from life are more valued in the audition process. Artwork that is personal and reflective of the student's interests is best. It is fine to include 2 past school or workshop projects but also be sure to include 3 art pieces that were designed and created completely by the applicant alone. This type of a project could be as simple as a detailed drawing(s) of their bedroom, sibling portrait, pet or a character design. Good presentation and organization is appreciated. Titles are also helpful.
- 8.5 x 11 inch color copy or color photos of larger or unavailable artworks are acceptable.
- The average art piece high school students make (grades 10th thru 12th) should reflect 2 - 5 hours of work. The average junior high art piece should reflect 2 hours of work. The longer time invested in one drawing the better because it reflects more effort and focus.
- Any type of portfolio carrier is fine. A paper/cardboard or stiff flat envelope style portfolio is preferred due to space constraints but boxes and any type of bags are okay if necessary to transport work.
- The audition will last 120 minutes and consists of 2 drawing exercises, with a 15 min break in between, done in the classroom. You do not need to bring any drawing materials as they will be provided. Audition drawings will remain in the application file. There will be a pick up date for the applicant's portfolios given on the audition day.