

School Highlights

Learning opportunities with professionals from Montclair State University, Paper Mill Playhouse, the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey, and many more ...

Nationally recognized AVID program to support student readiness for college

Widest variety of performing and visual arts courses of any high school in Union County

Over 40 performance and production opportunities every year

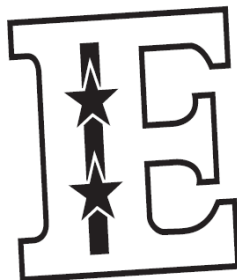
Home of the largest theatrical productions across all Elizabeth Public Schools

Award-winning art exhibitions and performing ensembles including concert choir, barbershop quartet, guitar ensemble, concert band, and more ...

Alumni studying visual and performing arts at colleges across New Jersey and New York, and others performing in professional theater companies

Our Vision

***Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness
made real for every student
through academic and creative excellence.***



Arts

Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy

27 Martin Luther King, Jr. Plaza
Elizabeth, NJ 07202

(Located across from City Hall)

Phone: 908-436-6767

Fax: 908-436-6733

Website: www.epsnj.org/tjaa

Audition FAQ: www.epsnj.org/tjaa-audition-faq

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/TJArtsAcademy>

Flickr: <http://flickr.com/TJArtsAcademy>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/TJArtsAcademy>

E-mail: ojedami@elizabeth.k12.nj.us

Studio Programs



Audition Guide

*Inspiring
young artists
to think,
to learn,
to achieve,
and to care*

Studio Programs

Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy offers five studio programs in the arts, in addition to a rigorous college preparatory academic program. These include:

Audio and Visual Media. The A/V Media program offers preparation in audio and video editing, programming, and production techniques. Students have the opportunity to study in both our state-of-the-art graphic print shop, as well as in the Jefferson Arts Television Studio.

Creative Writing. The Creative Writing program offers young authors a rich curriculum to support their creative talents. Students study various writing genres and have opportunities to publish through in-school and out-of-school publications.

Performing Arts. The Performing Arts program offers preparation in instrumental music, vocal music, and dance. Performers may participate in several concert band, orchestra, string, and jazz ensembles, while receiving instruction in music theory, composition, and improvisation. Live performances are an important focus of this program.

Theater. The Theater program offers preparation in live performance, technical theater, stage movement, principles of scenic design, children's theater, costume structure and design, and make-up. Live performances are an important focus of this program.

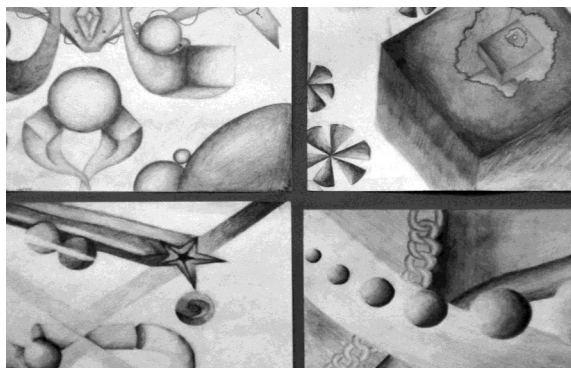
Visual Arts. The Visual Arts program prepares young artists for advanced study in drawing, painting, computer graphics, commercial art, and sculpture. Students have multiple opportunities over the course of each school year to exhibit their work in school and throughout the community.

Audition Guide

Audio and Visual Media. Students will create a short video explaining why they wish to study media and television production. This video may be submitted by mini-DV tape, DVD, or uploaded electronically by directions explained at the audition. All videos must be labeled clearly with full name, ID number, and present school. Genuine interest and creativity should be highlights of this video. Cameras will be available at Saturday auditions for those who wish to create a video on-site.

Creative Writing. Students will prepare a portfolio that includes three poems, one work of fiction and a reflection page. The poems should be of substantial length (at least 15 lines). The work of fiction may be a first draft and be of considerable ambition or length (at least 400-500 words). The reflection is an overall response on students' goals, current works in progress, and previous literary and writing experiences.

Visual Arts. Students will submit a portfolio of original artwork including at least five pieces that show evidence of visual experience and demonstration of artistic strengths and talents, including the capacity for learning different media. Portfolio pieces and sketch books should display a student's abilities with use of color, composition, two-dimensional and three-dimensional concepts, creativity, tone, and presentation. They may be original or representational drawings from life demonstrating ability for entry into *Drawing & Painting*, *Photography*, *Sculpture*, *Creative Crafts*, and *Graphic Design* concentrations.



Performing Arts. After an interview, students will select an audition focus:

Dance: Students will take a mini-ballet/modern combination class and perform a 1-minute solo dance. Wear attire which includes (but is not limited to) leotard and tights, black tank and jazz style pants, or black shorts (no baggy clothes). Please bring musical accompaniment.

Instrumental Music: Students will prepare a piece to be played from memory or sheet music, play any major and minor scale (up to 4 flats and 4 sharps) on the instrument, and play a variety of chords. Students will also sight read a simple melodic piece which will be provided at the time of audition. Band students should talk to their present band directors for guidance about prepared pieces.

Vocal Music: Students will prepare a song (no more than one minute) a cappella (no instrumental accompaniment) and sing several scales while a teacher plays the scales on the piano.

Theater. Students will perform a 1-3 minute memorized monologue (i.e. a speech made by one person portraying a character and directed at the audience; the performer may pretend that the audience is the other character). Monologues can be dramatic or comedic, but not a stand-up act. The audition focuses on how well the performer portrays a character while delivering the monologue. Monologues should come from published plays, monologue books, or online archives. Successful candidates know the characters that they play very well—that means they "get into character" so they can act a part well. Please do not dress in costume or bring props for your audition.