

Founded in 1995, Arizona School for the Arts is a college preparatory charter school with a specific emphasis on conservatory level instruction in the performing arts. High schools students attend academic classes from 7:45 am to 12:20 pm and arts classes from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. All students complete the same rigorous college preparatory curriculum, which includes four years of instruction in each of the following disciplines: English, social studies, math (through pre-calculus or calculus), science (including physics and chemistry), and foreign language. There are no electives in the academic curriculum; however, we do offer an AP statistics course. Honors credit is offered in all core academic courses for juniors and seniors. Seniors take part in an innovative challenge-based learning program that utilizes their problem-solving and critical thinking skills.

Although underclassmen are required to take a variety of courses in the arts, they choose a major during their junior year and focus specifically on that discipline during the last two years of high school. Student must have at least eight arts credits to graduate; each credit is the result of a year-long course. All arts classes are taught by professional artists with extensive performance experience. ASA uses a conservatory model for the arts program which includes ballet, choral arts, instrumental music, piano, and theatre arts. ASA partners with Ballet Arizona, the professional ballet company of Phoenix, to provide ballet instruction. Phoenix Theatre, the oldest professional theatre company in Phoenix, is another partner, providing space for ASA's production studies students. Honors credit is available in only the most advanced ensembles.

The Class of 2011 was the 13th graduating class and includes four National Merit Semifinalists and one AP Scholar. In the past 12 years, 15 students have been National Merit Finalists, 21 students have been recognized as National Merit Commended students and two students (Class of '04/ Class of '08) were chosen as Flinn Scholars. Since 2007 we have had seven National Hispanic Scholars. Six of our graduates accepted professional positions with ballet companies, including American Ballet Theater and the Boston Ballet, and an historic moment of having the first American accepted as a principle dancer in the Bolshoi Ballet.

Arizona School for the Arts is given College Preparatory Accreditation from the North Central Association (NCA). In 2011 ASA was awarded the Reading Excellence Award from the Arizona Department of Education and the GRAMMY Signature School Enterprise Award for their music program.

Quick Facts

- ◆ 98% of ASA sophomores met or exceeded standards on all portions of the AIMS test on the first attempt
- ◆ 100% graduation rate
- ◆ 98% of ASA graduates pursue four-year postsecondary education
- ◆ 2% of ASA graduates pursue study or a career in the performing arts
- ◆ "One of the top four schools in the state," Wall Street Journal
- ◆ "An education powerhouse," US News and World Report

Awards

- ◆ NCLB National Blue Ribbon School, US Department of Education
- ◆ Model Dissemination School, US Department of Education
- ◆ Excelling School, Arizona Department of Education
- ◆ Spotlight on School Success Award, Arizona Department of Education
- ◆ Reading Excellence Award, Arizona Department of Education Excellence Awards
- ◆ Determined to Succeed Award, Arizona Department of Education and ASU
- ◆ Creative Ticket School of Excellence, Arizona Alliance for Arts Education
- ◆ Grammy Signature School Winner
- ◆ Finalist for Arizona Charter School of the Year awarded by the Arizona Charter Schools Association

Student Achievement

- ◆ Presidential, Flinn, National Merit Finalist, National Hispanic, National Merit Commendations & Honorable Mentions, AP Scholar, and Arizona Community Foundation Scholars
- ◆ National Achievement Scholarship for Black American students
- ◆ Prix de Lausanne winner
- ◆ International Dance Competition finalists
- ◆ NFAA Young ARTS dance winner
- ◆ Alliance for Young Artists & Writers – Gold Key Winner
- ◆ Utah Shakespeare Competition winner
- ◆ Phoenix Symphony Guild Grand Prize winners
- ◆ Phoenix Young Artist winner
- ◆ Arizona Awards for Excellence in Theatre “AriZoni” winners
- ◆ Dr. Voie Stuart Chase Coy Scholar-Activity Participant of the Year Award (AIA Award)
- ◆ First Place in Ayn Rand Institute international essay contest
- ◆ Horatio Algier Association Scholarship winner
- ◆ Acceptance into: Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Stanford, Columbia, Brown, Dartmouth, Stanford, USC, Rice, Indiana University, Brandeis, Georgetown, Wesleyan, Northwestern, Vassar, Duke, Swarthmore, Tufts, Vanderbilt, Williams, Johns Hopkins, UC Berkley, Notre Dame, Rutgers, Bard, University of Wisconsin – Madison, Oberlin, Peabody Conservatory of Music, Cleveland Institute of Music, Berklee School of Music, Manhattan School of Music, St. Olaf College, New England Conservatory of Music, and the three Arizona university honors colleges

Additional Information:

- ◆ SAT average of the class of 2011: Reading: 618 Math: 575 Writing: 610
- ◆ GPAs and ranks are weighted: 1.00 grade point added for honors courses (only jrs. & srs. are eligible)
- ◆ There are no shared ranks
- ◆ GPA range for the Class of 2011 based upon 6th semester GPAs: 4.64 – 2.37
- ◆ No credit is given for grades below a C- or 70%

Contact Information

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