



Duke Ellington School of the Arts

Our School

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Accreditation
The Duke Ellington School of the Arts, an award-winning Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, is accredited by the Middle States Association for Colleges and Schools through 2014, confirming its pursuit and achievement of academic and artistic excellence.

About Duke Ellington School of the Arts Project (DESAP)
DESAP is an independently operated public school in partnership with:
D.C. Public Schools;
The George Washington University;
The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts;
and The Ellington Fund

Located in Washington, D.C., The Duke Ellington School of the Arts, founded in 1974, is the only DC Public high school providing professional arts training and college preparation to talented DC public school students (grades 9-12) from every ward in the city.

Each student enrolls in a full academic course load and, additionally, majors in one of eight arts disciplines: Dance, Instrumental Music, Literary Media, Museum Studies, Technical Design and Production, Theater, Visual Arts and Vocal Music.

Our Mission

The mission of Duke Ellington School of the Arts is to nurture and inspire passion for arts and learning in talented students who might not otherwise have an opportunity to develop their artistic skills. We ensure that our students are prepared for post-secondary education and/or careers in the arts by offering an intensive arts-based program. We prepare our students to become productive citizens in our global society through our strong focus on community service.

Our Students

Enrollment is 470 students from the Washington, DC Metropolitan area (District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia). Duke Ellington annually accepts foreign exchange students from many countries, including, Italy, Germany, Sweden, Turkey, Israel and Jamaica.

Our Honors & Awards

In 2008, the Show Choir performed at Carnegie Hall in New York and at Strathmore Hall in nearby Rockville, MD. In addition, the Show Choir's all-jazz repertoire took first place at the national FAME competition held in Honolulu; the Concert Choir took third place.

In 2008, Ellington's Street Law team won a city-wide mock trial competition.

In 2008, seven of nine Ellington students were finalists at the Kennedy Center's August Wilson monologue competition, where Ellington theater students took first and second place. Also, in 2006, Ellington was one of two schools nationwide (out of a pool of 1,800 applicants) to win a Grammy in the Schools grant to partially fund a new recording studio.

In 2007, the concert choir brought home a very prestigious 1st runner-up trophy from FAME, a national choir competition in Branson, MO – the "live music capital of the world." The show choir won awards for best repertoire, best female vocalist, and best song selection.

Duke Ellington School of the Arts has also received the Grammy Recording Academy DC Heroes Award, the Department of Education Blue Ribbon School Program for Excellence in Education, and was recognized as America's Best School for Overall Excellence by *RedBook Magazine*. Ellington students have traveled and performed extensively throughout the United States, including White House, Congress, CNN performances, and internationally throughout Europe, Asia and the Caribbean.

Graduation Requirements: While the DCPS graduation requires students to complete 24 credits, Ellington students are required to complete 32.5 credits. Those credits are:

English	4
Math	3 (beginning class of 2010, 4 years req.)
Science (incl. Lab Science)	3 (beginning class of 2011, 4 years req.)
World Language	2
World History	1
US History	1
US Government	.5
DC History	.5
Physical Education	1
Health	.5
Geography	.5
Art	.5
Music	.5
Multicultural	.5
Career/Vocational	1
Electives	1.5

Arts major program requirements include 10-10.5 credits for entering ninth grade students and 7.5 credits for entering tenth grade students.

Grading Scale: Ellington uses a 4.0 grading scale. Arts courses are included in computing grade point average. Advanced Placement (AP) course grades are based on a weighted 5.0 scale and honor courses are awarded an extra .5 point.

A= 93-100 A-= 90-92
 B+= 87-89 B= 83-86 B-= 80-82
 C+= 77-79 C= 73-76 C-= 70-72
 D+= 67-69 D= 64-66 F= 63-0

Course Load: Given the dual academic and arts curriculum, students are required to take 10 courses each semester.

Community Service: Ellington students are required to complete 100 hours of service.

College Admission Testing:

SAT I Mean Scores (2007-08): CR 465 M 399 W 455

students: 84 (86% of seniors)

ACT Median Scores (2007-08): E 16.2 M 15.8 R 17.2 S 15.5 C 16.3

of students: 18 (18% of seniors)

Advanced Placement courses

2008-09: Art History, Calculus AB, English Language, English Literature, Music Theory, Studio Art and United States History

2008 COLLEGE ENROLLMENTS/ACCEPTANCES (schools where students matriculated are italicized)

Approximately 96% of our graduates attend two-year and four-year colleges, universities and arts conservatories.

Academy of the Arts University
 American University
 Art Institute of Phoenix
 Art Institute of Washington
 Barnard College
 Bard College
 Barry University
 Benedict College
 Bennett School of Cosmetology
 Bennett College
 Berklee College of Music
 Bethune Cookman College
 Boston Conservatory
 Bowie State University
 California Institute of the Arts
 Catholic University
 Catonsville College
 Clark Atlanta University
 Colby College
 Columbia College of Art & Design
 Columbia College of Chicago
 Concordia University
 Coppin State University
 Delaware State University
 Delaware University
 Drexel University
 Eastern Menonite University
 Eugene Lang College
 Fashion Institute of Technology
 Florida A&M University
 Florida Memorial University
 Frostburg State University
 Full Sail University
 George Mason University
 George Washington University
 Goucher College
 Hampton University
 Hofstra College

Hood College
 Howard University
 Humboldt State University
 Illinois Institute of Art, Chicago
 Indiana University
 James Madison University
 Johnson & Wales University
 Johnson C Smith University
 Knoxville College
 Laverne University
 LeMoyne College
 Liberty University
 Lincoln University of Missouri
 Lincoln University of Pennsylvania
 Liverpool Institute
 Long Island University
 Los Angeles Recording School
 Loyola College of New Orleans
 Loyola University
 Manhattan School of Music
 Marshall University
 Maryland Institute College of Art & Design
 Maryland University, College Park
 Marymount College of Manhattan
 Marymount College of Virginia
 Marymount Manhattan College
 Marymount University
 Michigan State University
 Minnesota State University
 Montgomery Community College
 Morgan State University
 New World College
 Norfolk State University
 Oakwood College
 Oberlin Conservatory
 Ohio State College
 Peabody Conservatory
 Penn State University

Pennsylvania Academy of Visual Arts
 PG Community College
 Point Park University
 Pratt Institute
 Rutgers University
 Salisbury University
 San Diego School of the Arts
 Savannah College of Art & Design
 School of the Art Institute of Chicago
 Shaw University
 Shippensburg University
 Skidmore College
 Smith College
 Spelman College
 St. John's University
 St. Mary's College
 SUNY New Paltz
 SUNY Purchase
 Temple University
 Towson University
 Trinity University
 University of the Arts
 University of California of the Arts
 University of Connecticut
 University of Maryland, Baltimore County
 University of Maryland College Park
 University of Maryland, Eastern Shore
 University of the District of Columbia
 University of Michigan
 University of Northern Iowa
 Vassar College
 Virginia Commonwealth University
 Virginia State University
 Wesleyan University
 Xavier College
 Xavier University