

ACADEMIC SCHOOL PROFILE 2023 - 2024

CEEB Code: 192109

Start date: August 10, 2023
Graduation date: May 13, 2024

New Orleans Center for Creative Arts

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We aspire to create an educational community that nurtures and challenges young people to become more curious, kind, empathetic, engaged, and willing to grapple with complex problems in order to create a just, sustainable and joyful world.

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About New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA)

- Founded in 1973, NOCCA is an agency of the State of Louisiana and Louisiana's Conservatory for the Arts for high school students.
- Artist-Teachers offer students intensive, pre-professional training in 11 arts disciplines.
- Admission to NOCCA's tuition-free programs is by arts audition. Students enroll in only one art program for rigorous training. There is no academic screening.
- Students are enrolled for full-day (arts and academics) or half-day (arts only) instruction. Curriculum is delivered in the artist-apprentice model.
- Since students spend additional hours outside of class involved in their art (studio, rehearsal, performance, etc.), NOCCA does not offer sports or a wide range of traditional clubs.
- NOCCA is designated as a 2018-2023 Exemplary School by The Arts Schools Network, the nation's largest professional membership organization of specialized arts schools.
- Louisiana State Department of Education ranks NOCCA in the top 98th percentile of Louisiana schools in support of African American students and in the top 99th percentile in support of Economically Disadvantaged students.
- Arts courses are held 1:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. five days a week (400+ hours of arts training/year), and additional daily studio/rehearsal hours are expected. All arts classes are conducted at honors level and bear 3 credits.
- Full-day students enroll in NOCCA's Academic Studio, a diploma-granting innovative and rigorous academic program. Admission to Academic Studio is by lottery.
- Half-day students enroll in a "partner school" for academic coursework in the morning, then travel to NOCCA 5 days a week for arts instruction in the afternoon. NOCCA partners with 85+ public, private, parochial, and home schools across the region. The student population represents 13 Louisiana parishes.
- NOCCA is located at the corner of Chartres Street and Homer Plessy Way, at the very site where Homer Plessy was arrested in 1892 for boarding a whites-only train car. This led to the Supreme Court's historic *Plessy v. Ferguson* ruling in 1896 which legalized "separate but equal." The same working railroad still runs directly through campus.

NOCCA is embarking on a school-wide equity audit, and is committed to reexamining all policies, procedures, practices, and curricula through an equity lens. All faculty, staff and students are participating in mandatory antiracist trainings throughout the year.

NOCCA has systems in place to reflect and support students' gender identities, and to encourage students to be on a continual path of growth and self-expression.



- 100% engaged in rigorous arts training
- 93% go on to college and conservatory programs across the country
- 90% receive gift aid to pursue higher education
- \$38M in scholarships/grants
- 47 students attending colleges, universities, conservatories, or post-secondary programs in Louisiana
- 64 students attending colleges, universities, conservatories, or post-secondary programs out-of-state
- 8 students pursuing an arts, STEM, or professional career directly following high school
- Students matriculated at 60+ colleges, universities, and conservatories, including: Berklee College of Music, Boston University, Carnegie Mellon University, Columbia College Chicago, Fashion Institute of Technology, Howard University, Illinois Wesleyan University, Louisiana State University, Loyola University New Orleans, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, New York University, Rhode Island School of Design, Savannah College of Art and Design, Tulane University, University of New Orleans, Yale University, and more.

2023-24 Senior Class Profile

59 Academic Studio (full-day) seniors

64 Partner-School (half-day) seniors

	Academic Studio		
	Seniors	All Seniors	All School
Female	68%	72%	69%
Male	32%	28%	31%
American Indian or Alaska Native	8%	7%	3%
Asian	0%	2%	6%
Black or African American	44%	40%	41%
Hispanic (single race)	15%	9%	9%
White	32%	41%	41%
Hispanic or Latino	15%	15%	15%
Not Hispanic or Latino	85%	85%	85%
Free/Reduced Lunch Status	44%	Do not collect	Do not collect

Arts Certificate Designations:

- **Certificate of Artistry:** Successful completion of all curriculum requirements (minimum 9 arts credits.)
- **Certificate of Performance:** Completion of essential elements of curriculum including an advanced-level performance in Dance, Music or Theatre Arts
- **Certificate of Achievement:** Completion of essential elements of curriculum including a successful presentation of work in Creative Writing, Culinary Arts, Media Arts or Visual Arts
- **Certificate of Recognition:** Completion of at least one year of training

NOCCA's Academic Studio (AS) Full-Day School

- Launched in 2011
- Designated Grade "A" school in Louisiana
- 50% AS faculty hold a PhD
- Integrated courses are team taught by faculty
- All students take the same academic courses
- For some classes, students may elect to take on extra challenges to receive honors credit
- Dual Enrollment classes are offered in partnership with University of New Orleans and taught by NOCCA faculty
- Articulation Agreements: University of New Orleans, Nicholls University, Northwestern State University

Academic Calendar: Semester schedule

Grade Scale: 4.0

Rank: NOCCA does not rank

ACT: Offered to Academic Studio juniors in the Spring

AP classes are not offered

NOCCA Course

Integrated English I
Integrated English II
Integrated English III
Integrated English IV
Integrated Math I
Integrated Math II
Integrated Math III
Integrated Math IV

Integrated Science I
Integrated Science II
Integrated Science III
Integrated Science IV
Integrated World History I
Integrated World History II
Integrated World History III
Integrated World History IV

State Equivalent

English I
English II
English III
English IV
Algebra I
Geometry
Algebra II
Advanced Math
Functions & Statistics
Physical Science
Biology
Environmental Science
Chemistry
World Geography
World History
Civics
U.S. History

- Integrated Humanities (English and History):** Across the chronology from Big Bang to present, students explore literature, arts, history, and socio-political theory, and critically engage with what it has meant to be human across time and space.

- Integrated Sciences (Math and Science):** Instruction emphasizes the importance of creativity in logical thinking, as students collect, analyze, and communicate real-world data using technology as professional tools.



Arts Majors for Full and 1/2 Day Students

Classical Instrumental: students focus on exploration of the standard repertoire, chamber music, theory, musicianship/ear training, as well as scales, etudes, and accompaniment. Students develop their ability to play in both technical and lyrical styles.

Classical Vocal: students learn through applied music classes (vocal technique and repertoire). Focus includes music theory, ear training, sight singing, opera workshop, choral ensembles, language diction, acting for singers, and vocal literature.

Creative Writing: students study fiction, poetry, drama, and nonfiction. They discuss and analyze texts, then apply that knowledge to their own writing. Students develop both imaginative and technically skilled work, and they give and receive feedback toward revision.

Culinary Arts: students concentrate on hands-on training and technique, and work side by side with leading master chefs. Students are held to high expectations in basic cooking techniques, uniform standards, sanitation, and growth of skill set.

Dance: students receive training in ballet, modern, jazz, tap, dance history, music theory, theatre improvisation, nutrition, and injury prevention. Students develop mental ability; flexibility and articulation; musicality and phrasing; quick recall; presence; and ability to perform with confidence.

Drama: students explore their creative potential, investigate the social and historical context of art, and expand critical acumen. The primary focus areas of training are the voice, the body, the literary background, and the creative imagination.

Entertainment Production Design: students explore the design aspect of the entertainment industry (theatre, theme parks, concert venues, traveling shows, museum design). Students receive hands-on instruction in lighting, sound design, costuming, make-up, set construction and stage management.

Jazz: students become not only a proficient jazz performer, but a well-educated and literate musician. Students are taught scales, chord vocabulary, and stylistic elements of various periods of jazz. Students also learn about the masterworks of classical music and study comparisons in the various styles.

Media Arts: students receive training in digital video and audio production. Students develop skills in audio recording, animation, cinematography, directing, editing, lighting, motion graphics and script writing, and gain an understanding of the history, theory, and aesthetics of communication arts.

Musical Theatre: students develop their skills using words and movement, song and dance, music and silence, individual voices, and ensemble in chorus. Students study techniques for dancing, acting, and music. The curriculum is process- rather than product-driven.

Visual Arts: students concentrate on technical proficiency, creative problem solving, analysis, and self-discovery. In two- and three-dimensional studio classes, students receive instruction in photography, painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, digital media, and fabrication.