

BALTIMORE SCHOOL
for the ARTS

September 2017

Dear Parent and Student:

Baltimore School for the Arts will be holding auditions in Dance, Instrumental Music, Vocal, Theatre, Stage Design & Production, Film & Visual Storytelling, and Visual Arts for current 8th and 9th grade students during January 22-26, 2018, for admission in September 2018. A student may audition in one or two art areas.

Attached is information for each department concerning necessary preparation for the audition or the visual arts portfolio review and the application. **Students are selected based solely on the audition. Baltimore School for the Arts does not consider recommendations or student records, nor are student records or recommendations consulted.**

The only information required for an audition is a completed and signed application. **Completed applications must be returned to Baltimore School for the Arts by Wednesday, November 22, 2017. FAXED COPIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. We are not able to confirm receipt of your application by phone or email. A post card will be mailed the first week of December acknowledging receipt of your application. You may send applications by certified mail if you need an immediate receipt.**

All appointment letters will be mailed by the last week of December 2017. If your child has not received an appointment letter by January 3, 2018, please call 443.642.5167 between the hours of 8am and 2pm. Please do not leave messages on the school's answering system concerning auditions.

Non-Baltimore City residents who are accepted for admission must pay tuition. Tuition is set by the Baltimore City Board of Education. Tuition for the current 2017-18 school year is \$7,486.50 per year. Tuition is subject to change.

Your envelope **containing only the application** should be addressed as follows:

Baltimore School for the Arts
c/o Lisa Peels
712 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

Applications may also be emailed to highschoolauditions@bsfa.org.

All letters of acceptance or non-acceptance will be mailed by February 21, 2018.

VISUAL ARTS AUDITION INSTRUCTIONS

The Visual Arts program concentrates on fine arts, so if you want to learn to draw, paint, and sculpt, then our program may be right for you. Unfortunately we **do not** teach cartooning, animation, fashion, jewelry, illustration or airbrush. Students currently in the 9th grade must be able to place in the 2nd year art program in order to be considered.

WHAT YOU MUST DO AT HOME AND BRING TO THE AUDITION

1. **Bring as much old and current work as possible**

You should collect artwork you have done at home in school, or in private classes and bring it with you to the audition. We want to see all the things done in the past and work you are doing now. Do not eliminate work that is old or that you think is weak. Also, do not eliminate work done in materials or techniques we do not teach. The more you bring, the better idea we will have about your abilities and potential. During the review of your art work, you will be able to tell us what work is old or new, and what you think is weak or strong. **You will take this artwork home with you after the audition.**

2. **Bring three special drawings that you did at home**

You must make three drawings at home **from observation** for your audition. "From observation" means that you are looking at something real while you are drawing it. **Do not draw a photograph.** The drawings should be on **paper no larger than 18" x 24"**. Do not mount, mat, or frame these drawings. You must bring the drawings with you to the audition and **we will keep these three drawings. These 3 drawings will not be returned to you under any circumstances.** The three special drawings are:

- a. A drawing, from observation, of a shoe or boot (**no athletic shoes please**)
- b. A drawing, from observation, of a room, or part of a room in your house
- c. A drawing, from observation, of your hand holding something

3. **Bring a written statement**

Answer the following question in 150 words or less on a single sheet of paper. This must be in your own words preferably typed.

WHAT SPECIAL QUALITIES DO YOU POSSESS THAT MAKE YOU AN IDEAL CANDIDATE FOR OUR PROGRAM?

What you will do at the audition

When you arrive at The Baltimore School for the Arts, you will be registered. We will want information about you, your name, address and zip code. We will need a current phone number so we may contact you. **If you do not know all this information, please bring it in writing.** The Audition process consists of two parts:

1. **A drawing**

You will be asked to make a drawing of objects set up on a table in the middle of the room. This will help us see how well you can draw from observation. We will provide all materials and **we will keep this drawing.**

2. **A review of your art and statement**

You will sit with two or three faculty members and talk about the things you brought to the audition.

- a. Your old and current work
- b. Your three special drawings done at home
- c. Your written statement

You may be asked questions to help the panel know you better and you may be asked to explain when or how the work was made. You will also have a chance to ask questions.