



TWIGS Visual Arts Audition Instructions 2026

Thank you for your interest in the TWIGS Visual Arts Program!

*Baltimore City residents entering the 4th–8th grade in School Year 2026/2027 may audition for the TWIGS Visual Arts Program. **No former experience or training is required for the Visual Arts Audition!***

Visual Arts Program auditions will be held during Audition Week May 18, 2026 through May 23, 2026 at the Baltimore School for the Arts, 712 Cathedral Street, 21201.

Auditions will be held by appointment only. **All applicants must have submitted an online application by Friday, April 3rd in order to receive an appointment.** Each student's audition appointment day and time will be emailed to the parent/ guardian email who completed the audition application no later than Tuesday, April 14th.

Students entering 4th and 5th Grade (SY 2025/26) Visual Arts Audition Requirements:

For students entering the 4th and 5th Grades in the School year 2026/2027, no at home preparation is necessary to attend the Visual Arts audition.

During the audition, students will be guided as a group by TWIGS instructors through a series of drawing exercises and activities. *Previous visual arts training is not necessary to follow the instructor's directions during the audition.* **These students do not need to bring any work samples or a portfolio to the audition.**

Students entering 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade (SY 2026/27) Visual Arts Audition Requirements:

All students entering the 6th, 7th, and 8th Grades in the School Year 2026/2027 are required to prepare **both**: 1. a collection of artwork (portfolio) **AND** 2. a home test drawing to bring to their in-person audition.

These students will bring their required portfolio and home test drawing to

their in-person audition appointment. They must bring their **original artwork** to the audition (not copies). They will take their portfolio work home with them. The only exception is their home test drawing should be a **copy** as this may be kept by instructors for further evaluation.

During the audition, students entering grades 6th, 7th, and 8th should be prepared to discuss the contents of their portfolio and their home test drawing individually with faculty and reflect on their interest in art. They will also be guided through drawing exercises as a group.

Portfolio Instructions (Students entering 6th, 7th, 8th Grade Only) All portfolio work should have been created by the student personally and should represent their best efforts. Work from home, school, or other outside art classes is acceptable and can include drawings, paintings, ceramics, prints, weavings, metal, or woodworking. Portfolios will be judged on the quality of engagement, originality and creativity, level of difficulty, and overall skill.

Home Test Drawing Instructions (Students entering 6th, 7th, 8th Grade Only)

I. Set up a still life of 5-10 household objects that includes all of

the following: • 1 very shiny or slightly reflective object

- 1 completely white object
- 1 completely transparent object
- 1 square / rectangular object or (some type of box or large book)
- 1 piece of fabric or drapery about the size of a large shirt or pillow case

Arrange the objects in an interesting way so that they work together without being too crowded or hiding objects too much. You can add lighting from a window, desk lamp or shop light to make the objects and shadows look more interesting.

(You may want to Google “still life drawing” to get ideas on how to arrange your still life at home.)

II. Draw your still life on a plain white sheet of paper.

You may use any drawing material that you like. It can be in black and white or in color. Draw your still life as best you can from **direct observation**. Do not draw from photographs or use any kind of projection tools.

If you have any questions, email us at twigs@bsfa.org