

YRDSB Regional Specialized Arts Program

UHS Information Night

November 1st, 2023



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What is the YRDSB Regional Specialized Arts Program?

The Secondary Arts Program is a 4 year program for YRDSB students who are committed to achieving excellence in the arts. The program offers a package of specialized arts credits (2 per year) that count towards the Ontario Secondary School Diploma. Students will receive a certificate upon completion. Students are invited to apply to the school that corresponds with their [attendance boundary](#).

Students may apply to study one of the Arts program disciplines, including: dance, drama, visual arts and music (vocal and instrumental). Some schools offer piano, string and theatre technology. Multiple applications may be submitted by one student to one school.

What is the YRDSB Regional **Specialized Arts** Program?

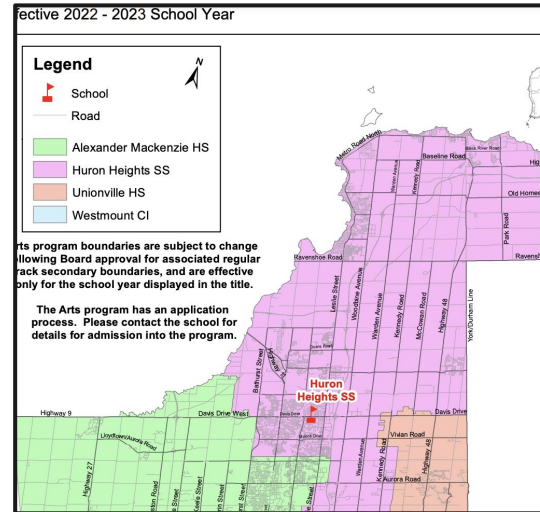
There are four secondary schools offering the Specialized Arts program in the York Region District School Board. These include:

- [Alexander Mackenzie High School](#)
- [Huron Heights Secondary School](#)
- [Unionville High School](#)
- [Westmount Collegiate Institute](#)

Boundaries

Families can locate the [school boundaries](#).

- Markham: North of Steeles, West of York Durham Line, East of Woodbine, south of Bloomington,
- Stouffville: South of Davis Drive



Tip: You can search an address & get a graphic of your school's Arts boundary. Consider inserting here. This is a sample from Huron.

Boundaries



- **Dance/ Drama/ Visual Arts:** Student must reside within Arts Unionville HS boundary
- **Music** - Winds/Percussion and Vocal: must reside within the Arts Unionville HS boundary
- **Music** - Strings: Student must reside within the Arts Unionville HS boundary or Huron Heights boundary
- **Music** - Piano: Student may reside anywhere in York Region

Why might I select the program?



There are many benefits and highly valued transferable skills learned from an Arts Education, including...

Creativity, confidence, problem solving, critical thinking, perseverance, communication, time management, collaboration, self expression, social emotional awareness, focus, dedication, accountability, and many more.

About the Program



- Students accepted into the program will take 8 credits within their chosen discipline (2 credits per year and 1 in each semester).
- They will spend their 4 years of high school with other students accepted into that program.
- Students will earn a certificate upon completion.

Core Programs

Our high school is proud to offer an excellent core Arts program for all of our students. Students do not need to be enrolled in a Regional Arts program to receive an Arts education.

- Students in the Regional Arts program may also select from these courses in addition to their 8 Arts credits.
- Our Core program provides a wide range of courses that engage and address a range of interests and abilities.
- Any student interested in expanding their learning in the Arts are encouraged to join SHSM in grade 11.

Applying to a YRDSB Secondary Regional Arts Program in 2023-2024?

There are **3 steps**:

1

Registration Online: Edsby

Nov. 10th - Dec. 1st 2023

Edsby Registration Fee: \$20.00 per discipline (Maximum of 2 Disciplines)

2

Application Online: ePortfolio

Opens Dec. 4th, 2023

Due Jan. 12th 2024

3

Selection and Acceptance: Email notification

Friday, February 2nd, 2024

Please visit the Regional Secondary Arts school website for more information

Registration Information

KEY DATES:

- Opens November 10th, 2023
- Closes December 1st, 2023

Registration will be done through **Edsby**.

- The link is posted on the website of each Regional Secondary Arts School.

Maximum of 2 applications per student.

- Cost of \$20/ application

The **application process** will follow the Registration.

- Communicated to registrants by email by **December 4th, 2023**


Step 1: What do you need for Registration?



- Your Student Number & OEN Number (*found on a student's report card*)
- Student's Name, and date of birth
- Student's home address and phone number
- Parent/Guardian Name and contact information
- Student's current school, grade and which YRDSB Secondary School the student would normally attend
- At registration, you may indicate a maximum of 2 disciplines the students wishes to apply for
 - Please note there is an additional cost for each application

AUDANCE
AUDANCE
AUDANCE
AUDANCE
AUDANCE
AUDANCE

*November 1
7PM
at Markham Theatre*



*Information
Sessions*

Arts Unionville

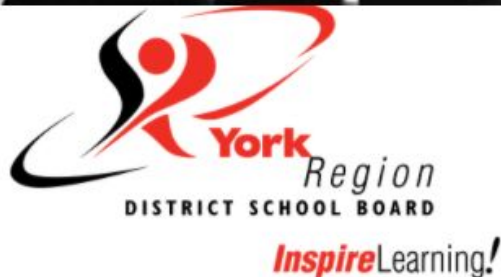
WELCOME TO
AU DANCE!

Dance Education at Unionville High School

Arts Unionville Dance offers an enriched dance experience focusing on community and development of dance awareness from a global perspective.

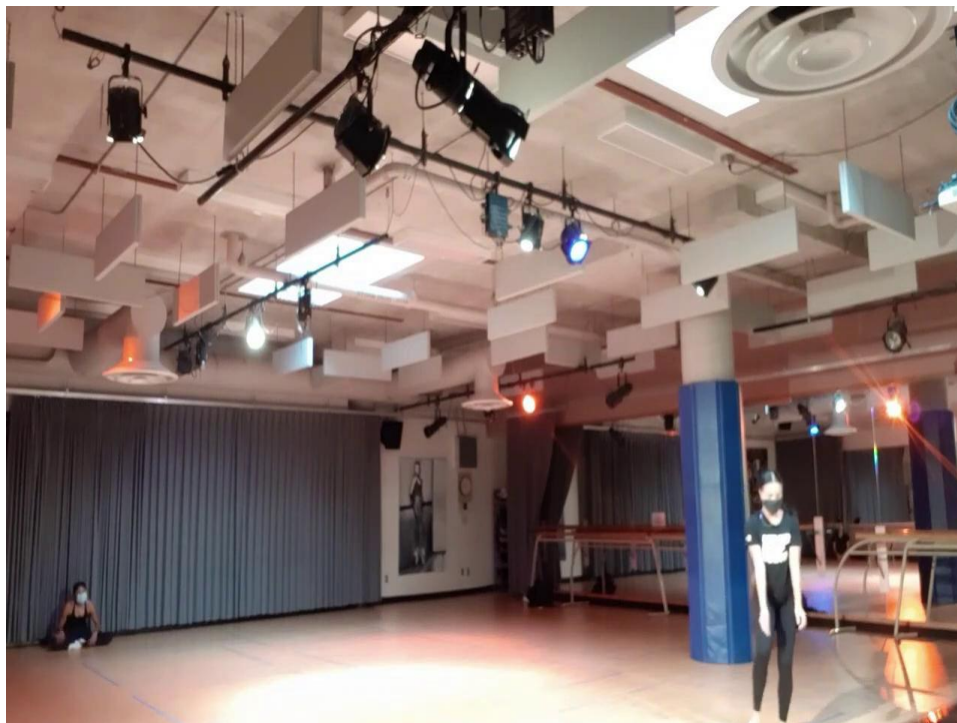


ARTS UNIONVILLE
dance



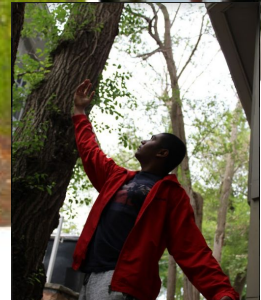
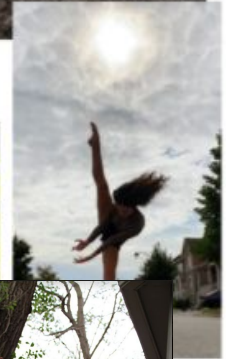
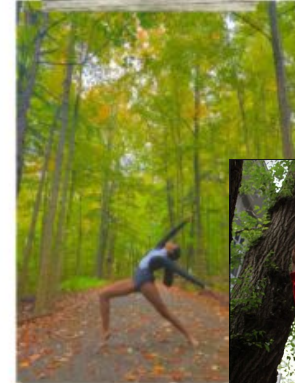
ARTS
UNION
VILLE

JOIN THE FUN!!!



The Benefits of a Dance Education

Dance education fosters creativity and contributes to a student's physical, emotional, and social well being by providing a method of physical fitness, an outlet for personal expression, and a means to develop empathy and social emotional skills.



Students in AU Dance develop a depth of knowledge within various aspects of dance education

Including...

- Training in various dance genres and techniques
- Performance of danceworks and participation in the creation process with faculty, peers, and professional guest artists
- Develop a choreographic voice of your own as a dance artist
- Live accompaniment for training including a percussionist and pianist



- Perform at Flato Markham Theatre professional performance space
- Develop an understanding of theatre production
- Develop experience in dance film and media arts
- Learn about the foundations of dance sciences in researching the biomechanics of movement, injury prevention, and application to safe practices



- Learn about the roots of dance from a societal and cultural perspective
- Connect with post-secondary career pathways related to the field of dance and beyond
- Attend live professional performances from world renowned companies and artists
- Learn the value and appreciation for dance and the Arts and the role they play within society
- Take part in daily dance classes within your school timetable and join a supportive community who share your passion for dance!



Upcoming Events & Performance Opportunities



ARTS UNIONVILLE DANCE PRESENTS

JAZZ
THROUGH
THE AGES

Flato Markham Theatre

December 13th, 2023
12:40 pm

Arts Unionville Dance

"I stay up all night telling the stars stories of us..."

LUNA

An Arts Unionville Dance performance encapsulating the cosmic conclusion of an evening.

December 6 2022
Markham Flato Theatre

your tickets now through
SchoolCashOnline.com

ARTS UNIONVILLE PRESENTS

DANCE HIGHLIGHTS RETURNS

Arts Unionville Dance 2023

Arts Unionville Dance Presents

Dance Highlights

May 9th - 7pm
May 10th
Periods 4 & 5

Flato Markham Theatre

Arts Unionville Dance Presents

Highlights

May 9th - 7pm
May 10th
Periods 4 & 5

Flato Markham Theatre

available on
SchoolCashOnline.com

Arts Unionville presents...

Alchemy

March 7, 2023
afternoon and evening show

ALCHEMY

An Arts Unionville Collaborative Performance

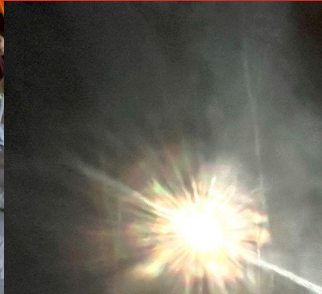
ALCHEMY IS A COLLABORATIVE SHOW CREATED BY OUR ARTS UNIONVILLE STUDENTS. IT SHOWS ORIGINAL WORKS OF STUDENTS FROM ALL 4 DISCIPLINES.

ALCHEMY
VISUAL ART, DANCE, MUSIC, AND
DRAMA



MEDEBA!!!

A Dance Department annual community retreat in Haliburton, designed to develop relationships with one another through adventure activities, and of course DANCE!!!



Why Dance?

Celebrating every dancer who took the lessons they learned in class and is making the world a better place - as dancers, yes, but also as teachers, doctors, designers, social workers, service workers, coaches, as fathers and mothers - whatever it is you found that brings you the joy you found in dance class! Dance develops great human beings, and dance prepares you for life.

~Francesco Gella.

Why DANCE?

Contemplating dance for your child? What if I shared that dance is a transformative experience. Children unplug from electronics, engage socially, and embrace an art form that nourishes their souls. They discover the true meaning of commitment, discipline, and the rewards of unwavering dedication. They form friendships with like-minded peers who share their passion.

Rhee Gold

Step 2: Application Process

The selection process will be in person, with the option for an e-Portfolio if unable to attend.

- We invite interested students to submit their registration via Edsby. Once submitted, we will be contacting registrants and outlining the process to prepare for the selection process.
- The criteria, by discipline, will be shared with registrants & posted to each school's Arts page.

Step 2: Criteria for Successful Selection



- The audition process gives applicants the opportunity to demonstrate their interest, passion and experience in the arts

Arts Unionville Dance applicants will take part in two processes through a live workshop experience at UHS:

Task A - Attend a workshop at Unionville High School lead by AU Dance faculty

Task B - A conversation to share applicant's interest in dance and the arts

Note: Should you have a conflict with attending the in person workshop, an e-Portfolio option will be offered as an alternative.

Step 2: Application Process TASK A



Task A: DANCE WORKSHOP

Attend an in-person one hour workshop held at Unionville High School instructed by AU Dance faculty with the purpose of leading students through a warm up, movement sequences, and allow for explorative collaboration and creation.

(approximately 16 students scheduled per session)

Success Criteria Task A:

Students can

- Demonstrate an understanding of the dance techniques and movement vocabularies in a variety of dance forms
- Accurately reproduce dance sequences from the cues provided
- Perform phrases that explore two or more elements of dance
- **Use your body in a variety of ways to show**
 - Shape (angular, stretched, twisted, symmetry versus asymmetry, geometric versus organic, curved versus angular)
 - Isolation
 - weight transfer
 - levels, direction, energy, inaction vs action
 - non-locomotor (twist, rock, etc.) and locomotor (leap, dart, etc.)

Step 2: Application Process TASK B



TASK B: CONVERSATIONS

10 minute conversations scheduled in intervals after in-person workshop:

This prompt can be shared in advance so applicants can reflect and prepare prior to the scheduled conversation. Applicants may bring notes in with them to help them feel more confident and comfortable sharing.

Not evaluative; used to further understand the applicants interests and passions for dance education.

Prompt for conversation:

Share your interests in dance and why you feel a dance education would be something that would benefit you.

TIPS:

- How do you use dance as an artist to express yourself?
- How does dance provide you with the opportunity to challenge and grow as an artist and person alike?
- What do you hope Arts Unionville Dance will provide you with as you embark on your journey throughout high school?

Step 3: Selection

All registrants who submit an application will receive notification at the end of January to early February.

Registrants will receive:

- An offer of acceptance
- A notification that they are on a waitlist
- A notification that they were not successful

Students must accept or decline an offer.

At this point, schools will begin the Grade 9 registration process.

Commonly Asked Questions



Q Are students eligible for bussing?

A The Arts Specialized program is an optional program. As per Policy and Procedure 680 Student Transportation, students attending optional programs do not receive transportation.

Q Can students apply to more than 1 discipline?

A Yes. You may apply to 2 disciplines. You may only accept an offer to 1 discipline.

Q Can I apply to a school that is outside of my boundary?

A No. Unless the program (ex. Piano, Strings) is only offered at a specific school.



Question Period





JOIN THE
MOVEMENT.
AU DANCE

Thank You!

Visit our Arts page to access the digital registration via Edsby.

It opens **November 10th!**

