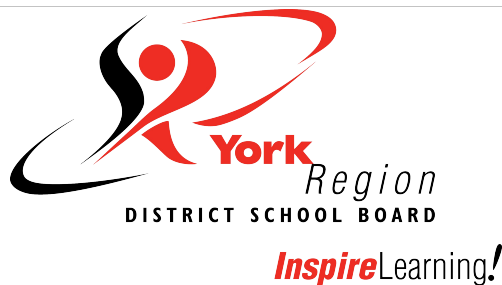


YRDSB Regional Secondary Arts Programs

Information Night 2024

for program starting September 2025



Agenda

On behalf of our administration and dedicated teaching staff at UHS, we would like to welcome you to our 2024 Arts Information Evening for entering the Arts Unionville Program in September, 2025 as a grade 9 student.

Tonight's presentation will elaborate on:

- York Region District School Board's Regional Secondary Specialized Arts Program at Unionville High School (AU or Arts Unionville)
- Brief Overview of the AU Program
- Dates and Details of the Application Process
- Questions and Answers From Our Unionville Staff and Students

The UHS Administration Team



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What is the YRDSB Regional Specialized Arts Program?

The Regional Secondary Specialized Arts Programs are an opportunity for Grades 9-12 students committed to exploring and deepening their understanding of/about/through the arts. Each of the **4 school locations** offer a package of arts credits (2 per year) that count towards the Ontario Secondary School Diploma. Students will receive the YRDSB Specialized Arts Certificate upon completion. The student **must reside** with a parent/guardian whose primary residence falls **within the specified Arts Unionville boundary** throughout the entirety of the 4-year program.

Here at UHS students may apply to the following arts program disciplines: dance, drama, music (instrumental, piano, strings, vocal) and visual arts. UHS is the only YRDSB school to offer piano. Each student can apply to a maximum of 2 disciplines (e.g. Visual Arts and Music)

There are four secondary schools offering the Regional Secondary Specialized Arts program in the York Region District School Board:

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

About the Program

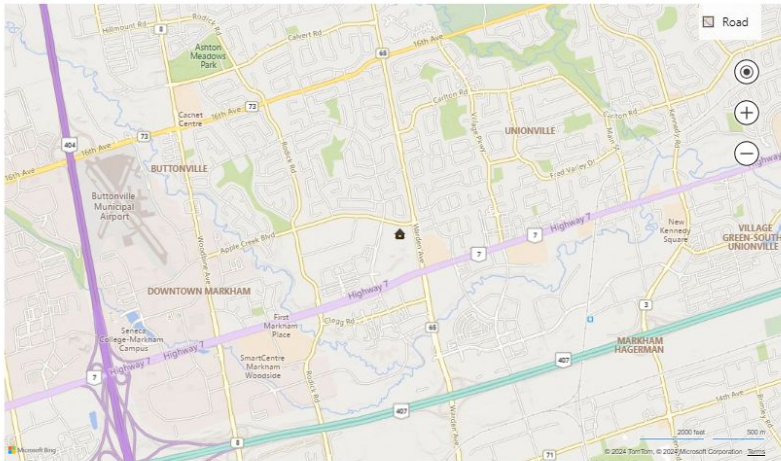


- Arts Unionville (AU) is a 4 year program for students who are passionate about, and learn through, the arts
- AU students develop strong academic, artistic and life skills
- While working towards their Ontario Secondary School diploma, students take 8 credits in their arts discipline to earn the Specialized Arts Certificate at graduation.
- Class time is spent in specialized studio spaces
- Students have the opportunity to work with Canadian and International professional artists while performing and/or exhibiting their work at diverse spaces/theaters in York Region

Boundaries



Families can confirm that Arts Unionville is their YRDSB Arts school by placing their address into the [YRDSB School Locator](#).



Street Number: 201
Street Name: Town Centre Boulevard
Markham

Submit Reset

☐ Elementary
☐ Secondary
☐ IB School
☐ French Immersion (Elementary)
☐ French Immersion (Secondary)
☒ Arts Program (Secondary)

2024-2025 School Year 2025-2026 School Year

▲ Unionville High School
Grades: 09-12(Art)
201 TOWN CENTRE BLVD, UNIONVILLE, ON

[Boundary Map](#)
Tel:(905) 479-2787
[Website link](#)

The [Arts](#) program has an application process. Please contact the school for details for admission into the program.

Boundaries

MUSIC
(Brass Winds
Percussion)

Student must
reside within
Arts Unionville
HS boundary

MUSIC
Piano

Student may
reside anywhere
in York Region

MUSIC
Strings

Student must reside within the Arts Unionville HS boundary or Huron
Heights boundary (Excluding Guitar)

DRAMA

Student must reside within Arts
Unionville HS boundary

VISUAL ARTS

Student must reside within Arts
Unionville HS boundary

DANCE

Student must reside within Arts
Unionville HS boundary

Applying to a YRDSB Secondary Regional Arts Program

There are **3 steps**:

1

Registration Online: Edsby

Nov. 11th, 2024 (12:00PM) - Dec. 4th 2024, (12:00PM)
\$20.00 per application (Max. of 2 Applications)

2

Audition Workshops

Scheduled at UHS January 2025

3

Selection and Acceptance

Email Notification February, 2025

Please Visit Our [UHS AU Website](#) For More Information

Step 1: Registration Information



KEY DATES:

- Opens **November 11th, 2024 at 12:00PM**
- Closes **December 4th, 2024 at 12:00PM**
 - *Edsby Application Must Be Completed In 1 Sitting.*

Registration will be done through Edsby.

- The Edsby registration link will be posted to our [Arts Unionville website](#). Maximum of 2 applications per student.
- Families applying from outside of YRDSB will need to register for an Edsby Parent/Guardian account. Information on how to register is located on [our website](#).

What Do You Need For Registration?

- Your Student Number & OEN Number (*found on a student's report card*)
- Student's Name, Gender 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 must identify which discipline the student is applying for up to a maximum of 2 disciplines per student
- There is a cost of 20.00 per application (2 disciplines: 40.00 application fee)

Step 2: Audition Workshop



Arts Unionville Auditions Are In Person

All students who submit an Edsby application by December 4, 2024 at **12 p.m.** will be invited to an audition workshop held **at UHS in January, 2025.**

Applicants will be sent the date, time, and criteria for the audition via the e-mail provided on the Edsby Registration Form in December 2024.

Step 2: Criteria for Successful Selection



The success criteria for the audition workshops will be communicated with applicants in December 2024 and will be discipline specific.

Overall, we encourage students to:

- Make sure to read all of the instructions regarding the audition
- Ask questions to seek clarification
- Be confident in their creative choices
- Showcase their creativity and critical thinking

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



Step 3: Selection



All registrants who submit an application, and complete the audition workshop, will receive notification at the beginning of February.

AU Applicants will receive one of the following:

- 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 **within 24 hours**

At this point, schools will begin the registration process in February 2025.

Unfortunately we are unable to offer feedback regarding the audition.

Commonly Asked Questions



Q Are students eligible for bussing?

A No. The Regional Secondary Specialized Arts Program is an optional program. As per *Policy and Procedure 680 Student Transportation*, students attending optional programs do not receive transportation.

Q Is there a fee for the Arts Program?

A Yes. If successful in the selection process, there is a \$150 enhancement fee for each year the student is in the program.

Q If students apply for two disciplines, and are successful in the audition for both, can they accept two disciplines?

A No. Students can only accept the offer of 1 discipline. Although the student is a member of 1 discipline, AU offers many cross-curricular, extracurricular and core arts programming for students to engage beyond their AU discipline (e.g. Alchemy, musical theatre, etc).



Commonly Asked Questions



Q I live in Richmond Hill. Can I apply for both Piano and Drama at UHS?

A Yes for piano, no for drama. Piano is only offered at UHS so you can apply for piano. Dance, Drama, Music (Instrumental and Vocal) and Visual Arts disciplines are offered at all four arts high schools so check the [YRDSB School Locator](#) for your local arts high school.

Q I'm an international student attending YRDSB on a VISA. Can I apply to Arts Unionville or the Regional Arts Program?

A Maybe. Depending on the secondary school you are applying to, and if they are open to admitting students. (UHS is closed to admitting VISA students). Families should refer to the Conditions of Participation information found on the [public YRDSB website](#). In all cases, VISA students will only be offered a spot left unfilled by YRDSB students.

Questions?

Please see our FAQ posted on our Arts Unionville Website.

Discipline Specific Questions:

Dance/Drama: lazaros.geronikolos@yrdsb.ca

Dance: melissa.bettio@yrdsb.ca

Music: jeff.wrigglesworth@yrdsb.ca

Visual Arts: shane.clodd@yrdsb.ca

Arts Unionville

Visual Arts Selection Process 2024



Art Unionville Visual Arts 2024 Selection Process

The Selection Process is in person

Applicants are requested to participate in one of the three day in person workshops and portfolio assessment. Dates will be communicated to participants after registration has been completed.

The Selection Process consists of two components:

Part A – **Workshop**

Part B – **Portfolio Evaluation**

Both part A and B occur simultaneously.

Art Unionville Visual Arts 2024 Selection Process

Workshop - Part A (overview)

A Visual Arts teacher will provide a short lesson and examples prior to each task.

1. Create a value scale in pencil
2. Create a still life drawing - each student will receive the same object to draw like a pair of pliers, light bulb or ribbon
3. Creativity challenge
4. Series of gesture drawings using a live model

Art Unionville Visual Arts 2024 Selection Process



Art Unionville Visual Arts 2024 Selection Process

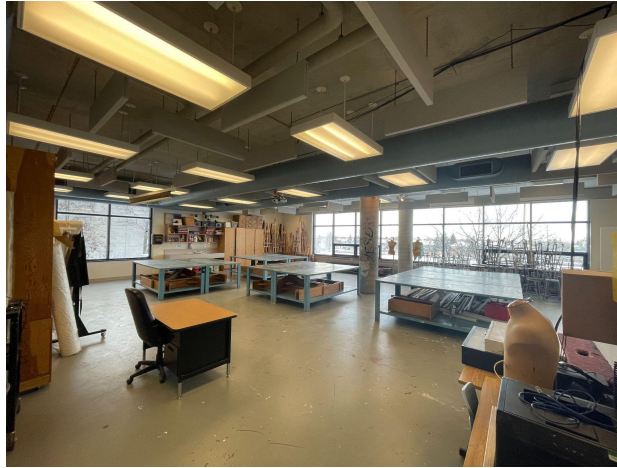
Portfolio Assessment - Part B (overview)

On the same day the candidate attends the workshop they will display following portfolio artifacts. *Each candidate will have access to a table that has an approximate 3.5' by 2' surface area to display their artworks.*

1. Self Portrait (any medium)
2. Sketchbook(s)
3. Still Life Drawing/Painting (any medium)
4. Sculptural - 3D work (any medium)
5. Submit three optional works in any medium: Photography, Computer Generated, Drawings, Pen and Ink, Collage, etc.
6. Max 250 word artists statement

Art Unionville Visual Arts 2024 Selection Process

Set up Portfolio in rooms: 211, 212 and 213



Arts Unionville

Portfolio Examples



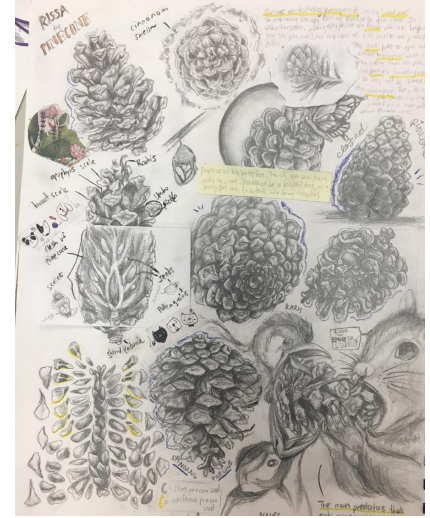
Portfolio Assessment – Sketchbook Examples



Abstracted room concept designs
for next drawing



Studies of horses



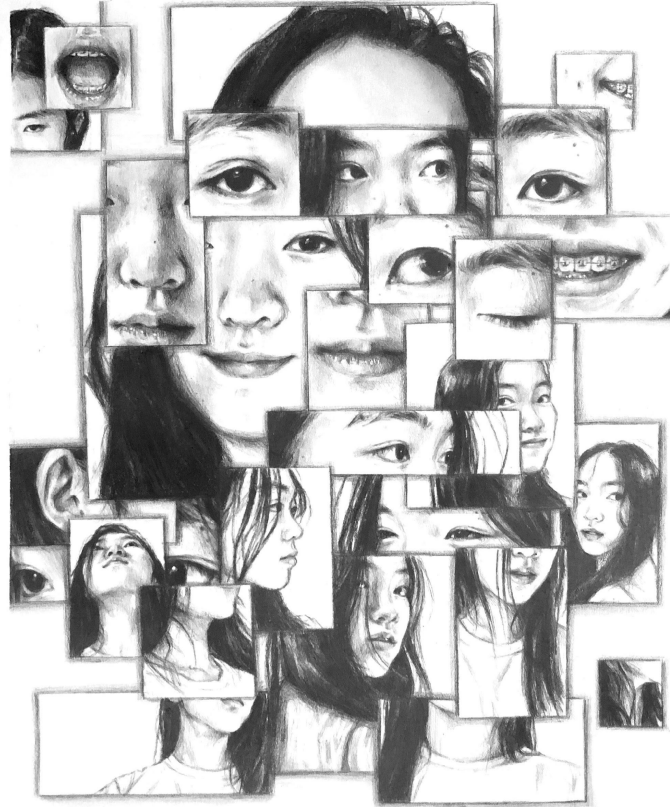
Studies of plant seeds

Title: Selected Sketchbook Images

Media: Mixed

Size: 8.5" by 11"

Portfolio Assessment – Self Portrait



Title: Me, Myself & I
Media: Pencil Drawing
Size: 18" by 24"

Portfolio Assessment – Still Life



Title: Wish
Media: Acrylic Paint on Canvas
Size: 12" by 12"



(Documenting the process is not a requirement, but can be included.)

Portfolio Assessment – Sculpture / 3D work



Title: Armor Costume (Cosplay)

Media: Sheet metal, rivets, nuts and bolts

Size: 5'8" tall

Portfolio Assessment – Optional Artwork #1



Title: Mid Day

Media: Watercolour and Ink

Size: 18" by 24"

Portfolio Assessment – Optional Artwork #2

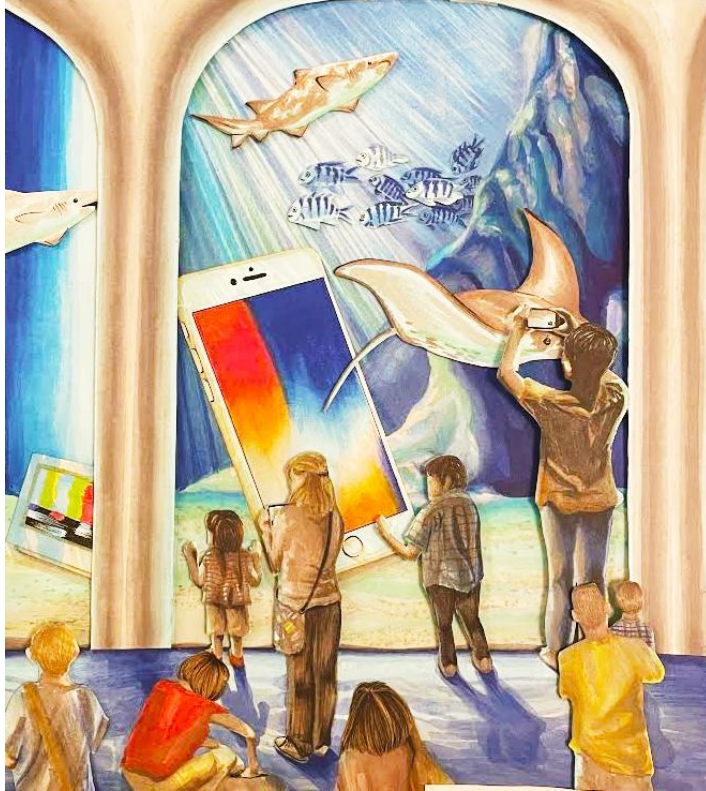


Title: KaPow

Media: Encaustics - Wax on Wooden Board

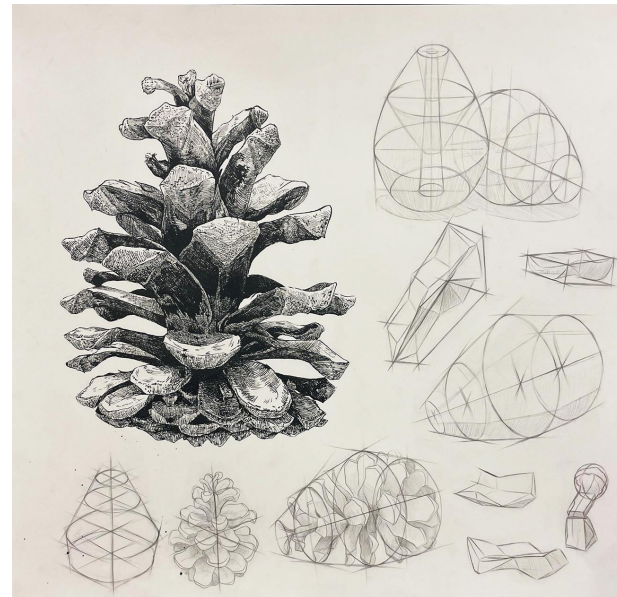
Size: 18" by 24"

Portfolio Assessment – Optional Artwork #3



Title: Fresh Attraction
Media: Mixed Media
Size: 18" by 24"

Examples of Grade 9 AU Artworks



Community Projects - Hwy 7 Mural



Community Projects - Traffic Box Wraps



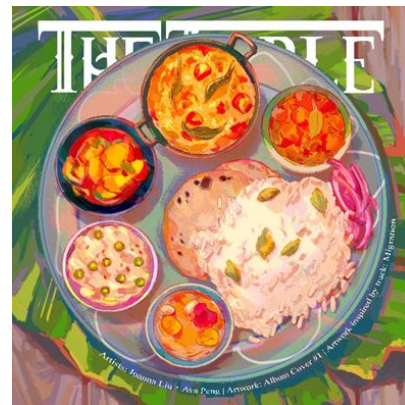
Community Projects - Aaniin Community Centre



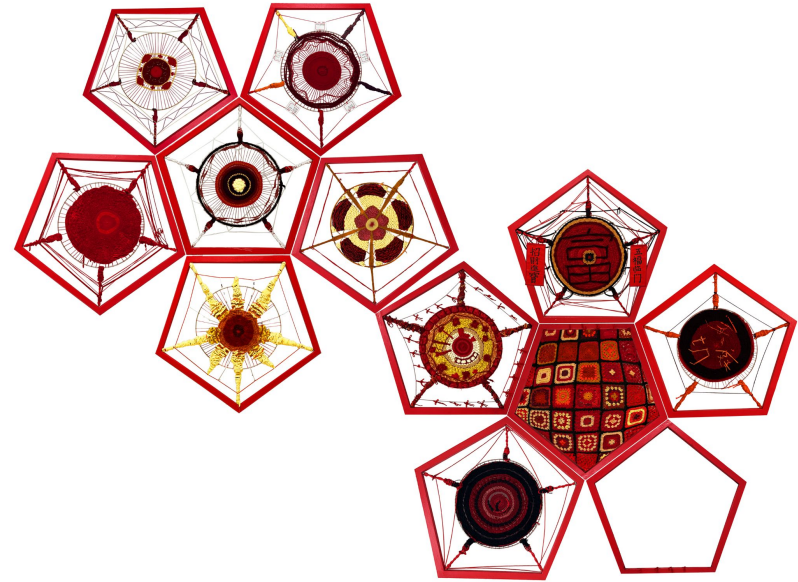
Community Projects - Pan Am Centre



Science Centre - A Seat at the Table



Aga Khan Museum - Chamber of the Red Thread



Thank you for your interest in the Arts Unionville
Visual Arts program



Thank You!

Visit our website on November 11, 2024 to apply for the Arts Unionville Program.

Edsby Registration:

November 11th - Dec 4th, 2024

*Please join us at UHS on
Thursday, November 7th, 2024
from 6:30 - 8:30 for our Grade 8
Open House*

