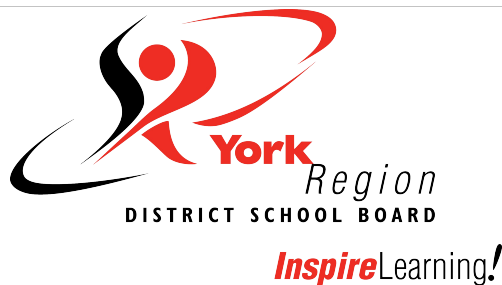


YRDSB Regional Secondary Arts Programs

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 Administration



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Mr. Shane Clodd

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Mr. Jeff Wrigglesworth

Music

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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](#)

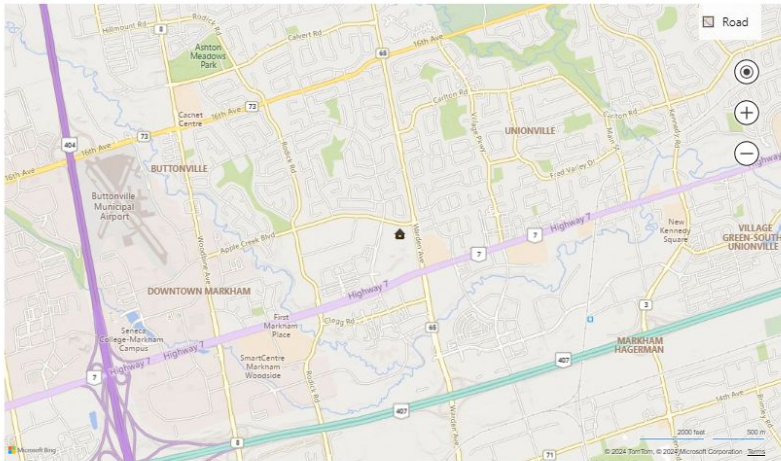
About the Program



- 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

☐ 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.

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.

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

AUDANCE
AUDANCE
AUDANCE
AUDANCE
AUDANCE
AUDANCE
AUDANCE
AUDANCE

*October 29th
7:00pm
Hato Markham Theatre*



*Information
Sessions*

Arts Unionville

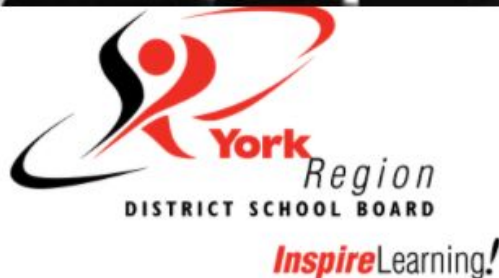
WELCOME TO
AU DANCE!

Dance Education at Unionville High School

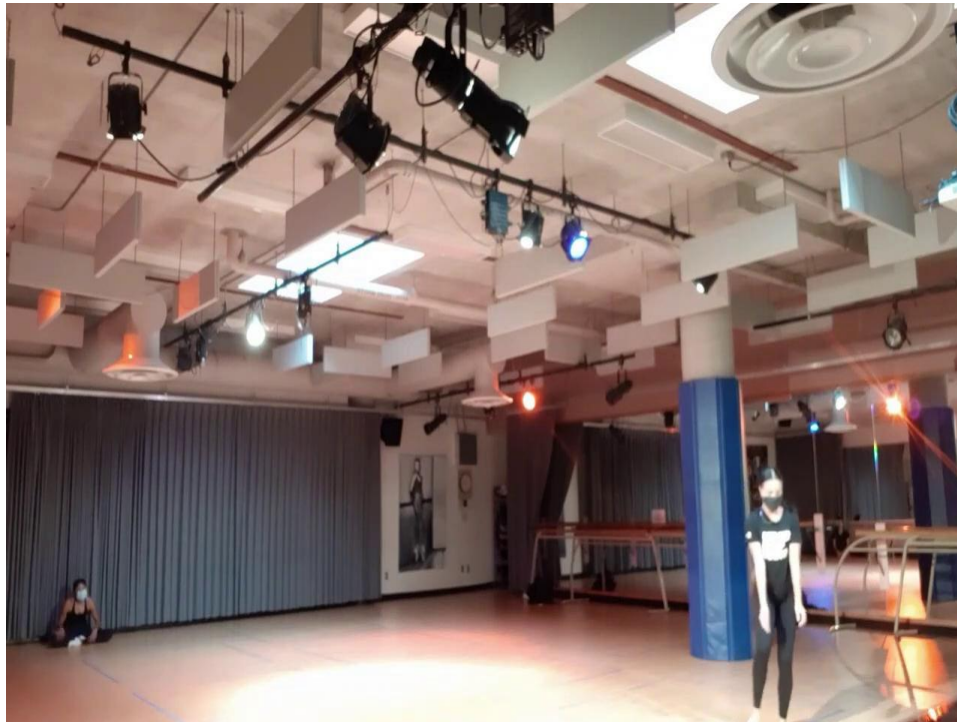
Arts Unionville Dance offers an enriched dance experience focusing on community and development of dance awareness from a global perspective.



ARTS UNIONVILLE
dance

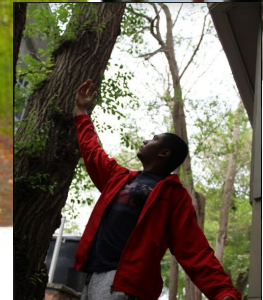
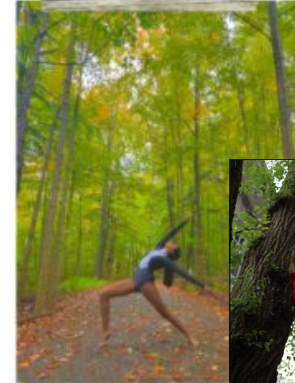
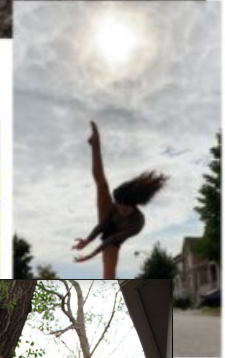


JOIN THE FUN!!!



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...

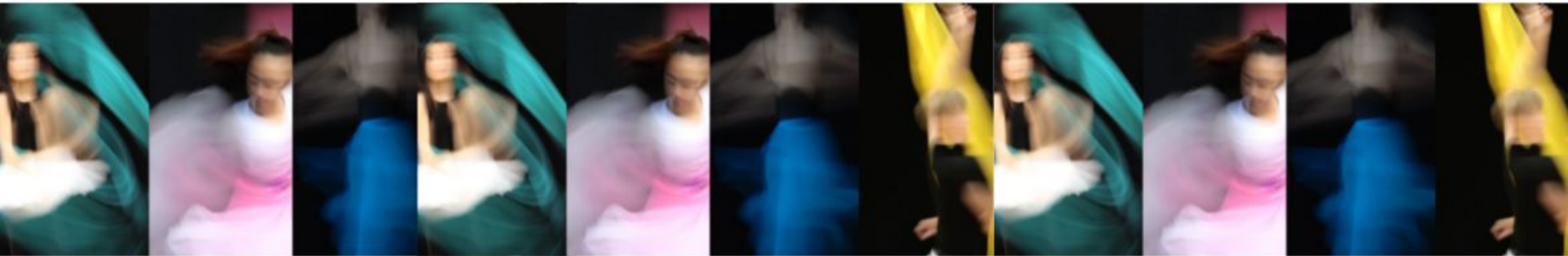
- Training in various dance genres and techniques
- Performance of danceworks and participation in the creation process with faculty, peers, and professional guest artists
- Develop a choreographic voice of your own as a dance artist
- Live accompaniment for training including a percussionist and pianist



- 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...

*Beyond
the Frame*

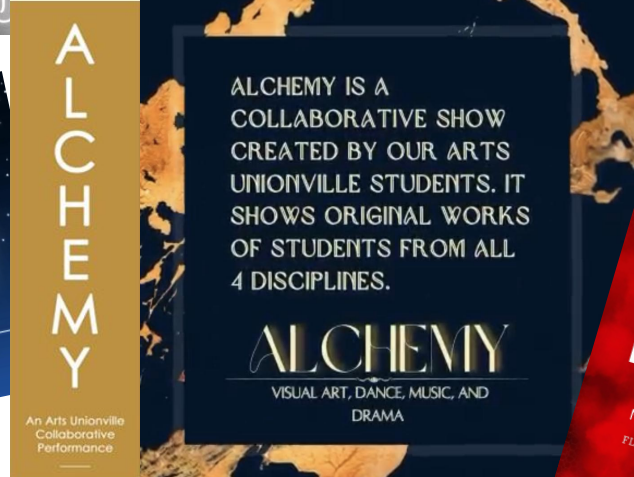
Tickets available on
school cash online

FLATO MARKHAM THEATRE



10AM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SHOW
12:40PM UHS FRIENDS + FAMILY SHOW

DECEMBER 11, 2024



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

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.

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.

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.)
 - Rhythm, dynamics, understanding of tempo and musicality

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.

The conversation is NOT evaluative; it is used to further understand the applicant's interests and passions for dance education.

Prompt for conversation:

Please 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 to express yourself?
- How does dance provide you with the opportunity to challenge yourself to 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?
- How will you contribute to the Arts community?

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*





JOIN THE
MOVEMENT.
AU DANCE

Thank You!

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

It opens **November 11th!**



Question Period

Graduate Pathways...



**AU DANCE
CLASS OF
2024**

Rebecca, University of Birmingham; Law
Karina, York University; Schulich School of Business
Bella, Joffrey Ballet School; Dance BFA
Sierra, Suny Purchase College; Dance BFA
Theresa, Wilfred Laurier University; Kinesiology
Ellie, University of Guelph; Psychology
Kaden, Suny Purchase College; Dance BFA
Sydney, Ailey School at Fordham; Dance BFA, Pre-Law BA
Maria, Marymount Manhattan College; Dance BFA
Alex, Wilfred Laurier University; Bachelor of Health Sciences
Sarah, Western University; Bachelor of Health Sciences
Connie, University of Toronto; Social Science
Sam R., Wilfred Laurier University; Film Studies
Ava, Toronto Metropolitan University; Performance Dance BFA
★ Jasmine, McGill University; Computer Science
Mella, University of Toronto; Architecture
Sophia, University of Guelph; Criminal Justice and Public Policy
JoJo, University of Toronto; Social Science - majoring in Ethics,
Society & Law
Sam W., Toronto Metropolitan University; Performance Dance BFA
Audrey, Suny Purchase College; Dance BFA
Taylor, University of Guelph; Psychology ★