



Program Description  
and  
Requirements 2020-2021

Principal: Renee White

Academy Director: Dr. Greg Robin

Academy Administrator: Matthew Shumaker

# **The Performing Arts Academy at Ovey Comeaux High**

## **Mission**

To teach and lead a community of students that speak their passion through performance.

## **Description**

The Performing Arts Academy offers courses that prepare students to be educated performers, supporters, and consumers of the Performing Arts.

## **Partnering Professions**

Partnering Professions is a program that matches interested and qualified Performing Arts Academy students with local and state community partners to offer behind the scenes training in the Performing Arts.

## **Community Partners**

Currently, the Performing Arts Academy is developing partnerships with the Acadiana Center of the Arts, Acadiana Symphony, Heymann Center, Ragin Records, Upstage, and other local and state partners. These partnerships will give students access to behind the scenes knowledge of all aspects of performance.

## **Advisory Board Members 2020/21**

**Paige Krauss:** Outreach Director, Acadiana Center for the Arts

**Chris Munson:** Coordinator of Music Media and Music Business, University of Louisiana-Lafayette

**Angie Broussard:** Community member/parent

**Timothy Stark:** Production Coordinator, Heymann Performing Arts and Convention Center

Below you find the general curriculum outline for the Performing Arts Academy. Students are required to take their major area of concentration every. In addition to this, **PAA students must take 2 PAA Approved electives.** These electives cannot come from your performance-based major. This means that you will take **6 credits** of performing arts classes not just the 4 credits from your major area.

Some years, the academy allows entry in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. The only difference in curriculum is that the 10<sup>th</sup> grader would start under the 10<sup>th</sup> grade in the charts below. They must take the **two required PAA Electives.**

**General Curriculum Outline for the PAA Academy**

9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
English	English	English	English
Math	Math	Math	Math
Science	Science	Science	Science
Social Studies	Social Studies	Social Studies	Social Studies
Health/P.E.	Health P.E.	<b>PAA Required Elective</b>	<b>PAA Required Elective</b>
General Elective	Foreign Language	Foreign Language	General Elective
<b>PAA Major</b>	<b>PAA Major</b>	<b>PAA Major</b>	<b>PAA Major</b>

**Current Courses in the PAA: Please note that PAA levels are by ability not grade level. Courses are offered based on enrollment thus some courses may not be offered in a particular year.**

College Prep PAA ELECTIVES: CAN NOT BE REPEATED	
Music Theory AP	Music Media/ Intro to Computer Music LSU Dual Enrollment

MAJOR COURSES GROUPED BY DISCIPLINE						
(Non-Major area courses can count as a PAA elective) Roman Numerals refer to ability level not grade level.						
Choir	Dance	GUITAR	INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC	PIANO	STRINGS	THEATRE
Beginning Women's Choir	Dance I	Guitar I	Concert Band	Piano I	String I	PAA Theater I
Beginning Men's Choir	Dance II	Guitar II	Symphonic Band	Piano II	Strings II	PAA Theater II
Intermediate Women's Choir	Dance III	Guitar III	Wind Symphony	Piano III	Strings III	PAA Theater III
Advanced Women's Choir	Dance IV		Percussion Ensemble	Piano IV	Strings IV	PAA Theater IV
Advanced Mixed A Cappella Choir	Dance V <i>Choreographic Design</i>		Beginning Band I	Piano V <i>Piano Accompanying</i>	Strings IV Honors	PAA Theater V
			Orchestra (future course)	Piano VI	Orchestra	PAA Theater VI

## **LPSS Academy Expectations**

Students in all academies are expected to complete required academy coursework, participate in activities, and fulfill academy expectations to remain an academy student. Unless for extenuating circumstances, this includes appropriate attendance, discipline, and participation in the academy's curricular activities including field trips, contests, performances, and competitions. Students may be placed on probation for not meeting the academy's established expectations. Students / parents are to complete a Magnet Academies Commitment Form.

An academy may set higher standards for specific course work. Refer to the school's academy page and website for specific requirements.

**Academics:** Students are to remain in good academic standing as determined by their academy. Students not meeting the established criteria may be placed on probation.

**Discipline:** Students must adhere to district discipline policies found in LPSS Student / Parent Handbook, as well as academy specific policies or requirements. This may include lab protocols, internship behavior, and JROTC guidelines. Students who incur Level 3 discipline steps, recommended for an expulsion, or attend a disciplinary alternative school, may be placed on probation or removed from the academy. In elementary school, this includes Level 4 discipline steps.

**Attendance:** Students must adhere to LPSS district attendance policies. The Magnet Academies' office will work closely with the Child Welfare and Attendance department to determine necessary actions. Students with attendance issues may be removed from the academy.

**Participation:** Students are expected to participate in any academy activity, including rehearsals, after school functions, and field trips. Academy directors and/or principals reserve the right to approve or deny any requests by students to miss an academy-related activity. Students must also satisfy any dues or fees associated with the academy. Failure to fulfill this expectation is considered breaking the agreement made with the Magnet Academies Commitment Form.

### **Due Process/Probation**

After a first violation for any enrollment expectation, a meeting between the student and the academy director/principal will be documented with a written plan to resolve the deficiency. A letter documenting the violation will be placed in the student's academy file and mailed to the parent explaining the situation and the plan to resolve the deficiency.

If a second violation for any enrollment expectation occurs, a meeting between the student, parent, and the academy director/principal will be documented with a written plan to resolve the deficiency. A letter documenting the violation will be placed in the student's academy file.

Academy probation will result with the third violation for any enrollment expectation. A meeting between the student, parent, academy director/principal, and administrator/counselor will be documented with written plan established to resolve the deficiency. The student will be placed on academy probation. A letter documenting the violation will be placed in the student's academy file and mailed to the Magnet Academies office.

A recommendation for removal from the academy will occur with the 4th violation for any enrollment expectation. A meeting between the student, parent, and academy director/principal will be documented detailing the reasons for the student to be recommended for removal from the

academy. The academy director/principal will submit the request to the Magnet Academies department. The LPSS Magnet Academies committee will determine if the student will be removed from the academy. Parents can appeal the decision to the Magnet Academies department within five (5) business days of receiving removal notice.

### **Removal from an Academy**

Academy students should excel in academics, attendance, discipline, and participation. When deficiencies are discovered, school staff, the parent, and the student should take measures to strengthen the areas of deficiencies through due process.

There are times when deficiencies cannot be resolved and it may be necessary to remove a student from an academy. The recommendation for removal from the academy would come from the school committee. The form is sent to LPSS Magnet Academies' office for final approval. Removal from an academy would occur immediately and the student would return to their zoned school. A parent would have five (5) school days to appeal the decision to the LPSS Magnet Academies' office. During an appeal, the student remains at the academy.

In the event that a student is sent to a disciplinary alternative site, the student will be removed from the academy. The school's administration and academy director may appeal this decision to retain the student in the academy. If the student is removed from the academy, the student would return to their zoned school when leaving the disciplinary alternative site.

Students attending educational sites for reasons other than discipline may return to the academy if the academy course work is current.

Once a student is removed from an academy, the student cannot reapply to any academy during that year.

### **Voluntary Withdrawals from an Academy**

If a parent wishes to cancel the accepted assignment prior to the start of the new school year, the withdrawal form must be completed and submitted to the LPSS Magnet Academies' office. Once the form has been processed, the student will be reassigned to their zoned school and the seat will be opened to the next student on the waitlist.

Once the school year begins, any parent request to withdraw from the academy must occur at the school. The school staff should be a part of making an informed decision. If the school committee agrees that it would be in the best interest of the student to withdraw, a five (5) day wait period may be implemented for students who would be attending their zoned school in LPSS different than the academy site. This would provide the student and parent a reflection time.

The form is sent to the Magnet Academies' office for final approval. Students are allowed to withdraw for extenuating circumstances, as determined by the LPSS Magnet Academies Review Committee. Students, who voluntarily withdraw during the school year, will return to their zoned school. Once a student withdraws from an academy, the student cannot reapply to any academy during that school year, unless extenuating circumstances exist.

Students moving from the Lafayette Parish School System may withdraw at any time.

### **Transportation**

Transportation, utilizing designated satellite stops, is available for all students who choose to attend the LPSS Magnet Academies. Parents must submit transportation requests at the academy school site when enrolling the academy student(s). Prior to the first day of school, parents are encouraged to check with the academy school to ensure their student(s) are appropriately tagged as bus riders.

### **Athletics and Extracurricular Activities**

Magnet Academies' students, who wish to participate in athletic programs, may do so in compliance with all eligibility rules for their level of competition. For high school students, this includes compliance with the guidelines of the Louisiana High School Athletic Association.

Magnet Academies' students, who wish to participate in extracurricular activities, may do so unless the guideline of a state or national organization, which sanctions the activity, prohibits immediate participation.

### **PAA Academy Expectations**

In addition to the above expectations, Performing Arts Academy Students will have site-based expectations from the administration and individual PAA instructors.

**Please note:** Students must take 2 PAA Approved electives that are **NOT** their performance based Major.

### **Field Trips**

Field trips that are not directly tied to a student performing in an academy required performance can only be attended if they are not failing any classes.

### **Continuing Criteria of Eligibility**

Below you will find the student agreement and the Performing Arts Academy Graduation Rope form. Students and parents will sign these each year. The forms will be filed in the student's folder in the Director's office. Please read over the requirements and expectations very carefully. In addition to the PAA requirements, your student may also have a discipline specific handbook with additional requirements.

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Discipline: \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT AGREEMENT**

- Meet compulsory attendance requirements
- Academy program commitment for one full year
- Behave in an appropriate manner, according to district and program standards
- Utilize the instructional opportunities unique to the Magnet Academies to the fullest potential
- Matriculate to the next grade level
- May not have a final grade below a C in any PAA Coursework including PAA Electives
- Must not have a final grade of F in any Tops University course
- Failure to maintain grade requirements will lead to probation or removal from the academy
- Attend and participate in all in school and after school rehearsals and performances
- All rehearsals and performances are graded events
- All students must follow discipline specific dress requirements for performances or their grade will be adjusted following discipline specific grading rubric
- Complete all other discipline specific academy program requirements
- Respect the culture and diversity of others
- Must take at least **2 PAA approved electives** and make a C or higher to stay in the program
- Must meet all requirements of the PAA Academy to receive a PAA graduation rope.

**PARENT/GUARDIAN AGREEMENT**

- Ensure my student completes all curriculum requirements
- Support my student in his/her efforts to prepare and pass all academic requirements
- Respond appropriately to communications from the Schools of Choice department, academy program academic individuals, and site administrators
- Ensure that my student attends school according to compulsory attendance requirements
- Support my student's academic performance plans
- Respect the school's culture and diversity

**ACADEMY AGREEMENT**

- Provide unique, appropriate, and challenging instruction relevant to academy programs
- Integrate technology effectively and responsibly in all academic and elective areas
- Use appropriate assessment instruments/strategies as diagnostic tools to improve instruction
- Keep parents informed of academic and behavior growth
- Respect student's culture and diversity

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Academy Director \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Performing Arts Academy Graduation Rope Requirements

Receiving a graduation rope is a privilege afforded to Performing Arts Academy students that have fulfilled all of their curriculum requirements up through their final day of classes.

When your final grades are completed senior year, I will verify that you have made a C or higher in your PAA Major Area and in a PAA electives. You must also complete and pass with a C or higher two PAA electives to receive a graduation rope. You must not make an F in any Tops Curriculum course.

Historically speaking, graduation ropes are passed out at graduation practice. Pay attention to the announcements as the year draws to an end for further information.

I have read and understand that receiving a graduation rope is contingent upon completing all the requirements of the program. I understand that if for any reason I do not complete these requirements I am not eligible to receive a graduation rope.

**Student** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Academy Director** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_