



ARTS APPLICATION/AUDITION PACKET

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION: Friday February 16, 2018

PACKET RETURN to school: North Fort Myers Academy for the Arts

**AUDITIONS ARE: February 21, 2018 for TV Production, Dance, and Orchestra
February 27, 2018 for Band, Drama, Choral & Visual Art**

School Principal: Dr. Thomas Millins

School website: <http://nfa.leeschools.net/home>

School phone number: 239-997-2131

School fax number: 239-997-6762

School address: 1856 Arts Way

North Fort Myers, FL 33917

Arts Application/Audition Process

1. Secure an arts application/audition packet from the school website or the school's main office.
2. Visit the *Student Assignment* office at the Lee County Public Schools central office to secure your choice school application and attach the receipt to your completed arts application/audition packet.
3. The packet MUST be completed in its entirety in order to be considered for an audition:
 - Application
 - Two letters of recommendation, one from a current teacher and one from a person who can speak to the student's artistic ability. Letters may not be from a member of the applicant's family.
4. Complete ALL the paperwork in the application/audition packet and return the entire packet WITH the Student Assignment receipt to the school you are auditioning at on or before: **Friday February 16, 2018.**
5. Late applications will not be accepted. There are no exceptions.
6. Prepare for your audition following the guidelines labeled, "Arts Program Descriptions/Audition Requirements".
7. ALL auditions are closed to observers. This is for fairness and equity for all students auditioning,
8. Arrive at the main office of the school you will be auditioning at in plenty of time. Arriving earlier than later is always a good practice.
9. Within 10 days of the audition, an acceptance or denial letter will be mailed to the address listed on the application form.
10. If you receive an acceptance letter, you will get an intent form as well which needs to be filled out immediately and mailed back or brought back, in person, to the school at which you auditioned.
11. **Adhering to all deadlines is expected.** Failure to meet deadlines will result in forfeiting your seat at the school at which you auditioned.
12. Some students may be placed in an applicant wait pool when there are more eligible applicants than available seats. Students will be selected from the audition wait list in sequential order as openings occur.
13. Students accepted into the school at which they auditioned will be removed from any other assigned school thru Student Assignment. This will be taken care of by the school you are accepted into from the audition process.
14. Students are expected to make a one year commitment to the arts area in which he/she is accepted. It is possible to take classes in other arts concentrations as well.
15. Participation and attendance for performance related after school activities is required.
16. Parent/Guardian involvement is HIGHLY recommended and welcomed.

Arts Program Descriptions/Audition Requirements

The arts provide an exciting opportunity for artistically talented middle school students of Lee County. Once selected at an arts designated school, students become part of an artistic environment designed to develop their talents to the highest possible level while fostering an appreciation and love of the arts which will serve them well in the pursuit of the next step in their educational training and chosen careers.

Just a reminder...in addition to the arts application/audition packet, a zone school application **must** also be completed according to the published timeline. Should a student be accepted into the arts program following the audition, the student will be released from the school assigned by Student Assignment in order to attend the school at which the student auditioned. ALL auditions are closed to all observers with no exceptions. This is for the purpose of fairness and equality for all students auditioning.

Dance

Students concentrating in dance will complete an intensive course of study in ballet, jazz, modern, tap, choreography, and other dance techniques. Each semester concludes with a graded performance. During the first semester, the focus is on ballet in preparation for the Nutcracker in December. During the second semester, jazz, tap, modern, and choreography, are featured with a culminating showcase during "Arts Alive" in May. The goal of the dance department to provide all of its students with a strong foundation in dance performance and choreography; that will allow them to prepare for advanced study, professional growth, and personal fulfillment.

~Audition Requirements~

Each student will participate in a live group audition that will include the following:

- A dance class including ballet barre, center, across the floor and a jazz dance combination.
- A one-minute prepared solo of the student's own choosing. (Music should be provided by student on phone or iPod. Please make sure music is downloaded to phone –WIFI can cause delays)

Audition Dress Code

Females are to wear a leotard and tights. Hair is to be secured in a ponytail, bun, French braid, or off-the-neck hairstyle. Feet can be bare. Ballet shoes and jazz shoes are preferred for the appropriate sections of the class.

Males are to wear gym shorts and a plain T-shirt. Feet can be bare. Ballet shoes and jazz shoes are preferred for the appropriate sections of the class. Hair is to be secured away from the face.

Music

Students within the music department will have the opportunity to select a concentration in the area of instrumental or vocal music. Based upon the selection and the specific talent area of the student, a stimulating course of study will be designed to develop this talent to its highest possible level. In addition to classes in all fundamental musical areas, each student will participate in a wide array of ensemble and individual performance experiences.

~Audition Requirements~

Vocal

Each student will participate in a live audition to include the following:

- Respond to the pulse of music, echo a short melodic phrase and identify expressive qualities in a piece of music.
- All students auditioning for the Vocal Major will be asked to sing the first verse of "America (My Country 'Tis of Thee)". Sheet music and practice tracks can be found at <http://nfa.leeschools.net/home>

Woodwind, Brass, Strings

Each student will participate in a live audition to include the following:

For Students that already have been in band:

- Sight-reading of a short selection presented at the audition
- Bb Concert Scale with arpeggio, at a tempo, range and style representing the student's current level
- A prepared short etude(s) to include both a slow lyrical section and a fast technical section appropriate to the student's current ability level.

For students who have NEVER played a woodwind or a Brass instrument:

- Students with no prior experience will be asked to play test various instruments that they are interested in playing with the Ensembles. This will be more of an "interview" process rather than a playing audition

Strings

Each student will participate in a live audition to include the following:

- 2 octave G and D major scales /arpeggios
- A prepared short etude(s) to include both a slow lyrical section and a fast technical section appropriate to the student's current ability level.
- Sight-reading of a short selection presented at the audition

Percussion

Each student will participate in a live audition to include the following:

- Sight-reading of a short selection presented at the audition on Snare drum
- Bb Major scale on Bells
- Prepared selections to include one mallet (xylophone, marimba, or bells) exercise, one snare drum exercise. Students will provide sticks and mallets.

Media Arts

The media arts program is based upon developing each student's artistic creativity in electronic communications. Media students create productions using computers. Students become familiar with computer applications progressing into advanced 3-D graphics, animation, and multimedia production. Students learn in a state of the art multimedia facility containing computers, editors, software, and CD-ROM authoring equipment and software. Throughout the program, media students will have graphic samples of their work, as well as the training and experience necessary to enter an advanced media arts program or to embark upon a career in media arts.

~Audition Requirements~

Each applicant will participate in a two-hour studio and laboratory exercise. During this time, applicants will receive a computer graphics lesson and then create a graphic based upon the skills taught in the lesson. Each student should bring to the audition a CD digital portfolio of no more than 5 computer graphics. Electronic graphics must be saved in a JPEG format. Samples of work should be clearly labeled with the student's name and school, and might include samples of any of the following:

- Computer graphics used in a multimedia production or publication
- Preferred software programs to be used in creating your portfolio are: Adobe In Design, Adobe Photoshop, and/or Microsoft Publisher

Television News Production

The Television News Production course is a semester class which introduces middle school students to the essential skills needed to gather and present school news and information. Students will learn news sources, script writing, and interview techniques, basic and advanced video shots, studio and remote equipment operation, computer graphics, editing and news presentation. There are 40 middle school students are selected each year for the Television Production crew. Successful applicants must have skill in reading, writing and speaking, as well as technical ability, as each student will be both in front and behind the television camera. Basic PowerPoint skills will assist you in using computer graphics in the studio.

~Audition Requirements~

- Bring a letter of recommendation from a Language Arts or Fine Arts teacher.
- Each applicant will prepare an original story of not more than **1 minute** in length that will be read on camera from their prepared script.
- In addition, each applicant will be handed an additional script to read on camera from our teleprompter. The script may be read once and the applicant may ask questions to clarify words or meaning. Both scripts will then be recorded to complete the audition process.

Applicants will be evaluated by their written script and their presentation of both scripts to the audience.

Visual Arts

The visual arts program at the NFMAA will concentrate upon the optimum development of each student's artistic skills and techniques. Through immersion in a state of the art environment, contact with successful practicing artists, and training by a highly skilled staff, students will become strong visual communicators, creative thinkers, and resourceful problem solvers. The opportunity to exhibit as well as to participate in multidisciplinary arts projects will assist students in the development of a global perspective regarding the interrelationship of visual arts to other arts and to our society. Guidance in the compilation of personal portfolios and marketing skills will contribute to the prospects for successful pursuit of the next phase of each student's education and/or chosen career.

~Audition Requirements~

Each applicant will be required to participate in a one-hour studio class. During this class, each student will be observed creating a work of art.

Applicants are asked to bring their personal samples of artworks with them to the class. Each item is to be labeled on the back, and is to include the following:

- Five (5) to ten (10) selections showing a variety of subjects, media, and techniques of the student's most current and best work
- A working journal or sketchbook which is currently being used by the student

Artworks will be taken home by the student following the class.

Theatre Arts

Students selecting a concentration in the theatre arts will have the opportunity to obtain intensive training in acting, directing, design, and technical theatre. The course of study will include opportunities in acting, voice and diction, mime and movement, improvisation, directing and playwriting, stage make-up, theatre technology, theatre history, vocal techniques, dance, musical theatre and other classes. Students' talents will be polished and displayed in live play and musical theatre productions, some of which will be interdisciplinary efforts with other departments. During the first semester of the advanced Musical Theatre class, theatre students will focus on Junior Thespian competition where they will showcase their talents through individual musical or dramatic pieces (i.e. monologues, songs) or group numbers (i.e. one act, large group musicals, pantomime, improvisation). During the second semester their focus will switch to the Spring Musical and "Arts Alive Week". The quality and visibility of the talent and artistry produced by students in this program will serve them well in the pursuit of the next phase of their formal education or professional training.

~Audition Requirements~

Each student will participate in a live audition to include the following:

- Prepare one (1) monologue. Monologues must be memorized. Choices might include a comic, dramatic, classical or contemporary piece. Monologues must be chosen from published plays. Scripts from movies are unacceptable. Monologue time is a total of two-five minutes for the piece. Check your material carefully to ensure that you meet this time limit as you will be timed. Their monologue should also be age appropriate.
- Students who wish to demonstrate their vocal ability may sing a solo selection of up to 16 measures from a published musical for the theatre in addition to the (1) required monologue. Vocal selections must be included in the two-five minute time limit. Accompaniment may be live, CD, or I-pod. Recorded accompaniment is only acceptable as long as it contains no vocalist singing the applicant's part. A cappella performances are unacceptable at this audition.
- Students will be asked to participate in a cold reading exercise.
- Students may be asked to answer a few questions about themselves, e.g. hobbies, activities.

Applicants are expected to arrive at the beginning of the audition time block to sign in and complete paperwork. All students will be taken into the audition room as a group. Parents and guardians will NOT be allowed in the audition room. Applicants will participate in a group warm-up. Applicants will then audition individually, after which the students will be asked to participate in small group cold reading. Once the applicant has completed all of these elements they are free to leave.

Audition Attire

Students are to dress as they would for a professional audition but be able to move freely. Flat, closed-toe shoes that cover the entire foot are suggested. Students wearing sandals, flip-flops or other inappropriate footwear will NOT be permitted to audition. Hair is to be secured away from the face. Ladies are asked to please NOT wear skirts or dresses.

***Applicants could bring a current headshot and resume (if applicable/available) to their audition. This is by no means a requirement but simply a helpful tool.

* Additionally, you MUST have a current address in the west zone to audition at North Fort Myers Academy for the Arts.



North Fort Myers Academy for the Arts

Application: Teacher Recommendation 1

*Recommendations must be in a sealed envelope with the teacher's signature across the sealed back.
Recommendations must be included in the application packet and returned by February 16, 2018.
Please print clearly.*

Student Last Name Student First Name Student ID

Name of person making the recommendation Phone Number

E-mail address

Please rate this student:

	<i>No Basis</i>	<i>Below Average</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Excellent (top 10%)</i>
Creativity						
Self- Motivation						
Self-Discipline						
Work Habits						
Academic achievement						
Interpersonal Skills						
Interest in the Arts						
Written expression of ideas						
Potential for growth						
Ability to follow directions						



North Fort Myers Academy for the Arts

Application: Recommendation 2

*Recommendations must be in a sealed envelope with the teacher's signature across the sealed back.
Recommendations must be included in the application packet and returned by February 16, 2018.
Please print clearly.*

Student Last Name Student First Name Student ID

Name of person making the recommendation Phone Number

E-mail address

Please rate this student:

	<i>No Basis</i>	<i>Below Average</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Excellent (top 10%)</i>
Creativity						
Self- Motivation						
Self-Discipline						
Work Habits						
Academic achievement						
Interpersonal Skills						
Interest in the Arts						
Written expression of ideas						
Potential for growth						
Ability to follow directions						

Essay

(Turn in with the application packet)

Student Name: _____

Answer the following questions below in a paragraph with complete sentences.

Why are you auditioning to attend North Fort Myers Academy for the Arts?

Describe a challenge you had to overcome on the way to achieving a goal and the resources you utilized in the process.