Arts academies offer a myriad of programs designed to expose students to the fine and performing arts. The arts are a cornerstone to a well-rounded education, and arts academies offer students the opportunity to recognize and embrace the connections between the creation of art and the preservation of history and tradition within society. Arts academy programs allow students to focus on a particular aspect of the arts as well as hone and refine individual skills and talents. Fine arts programs include visual arts (painting, drawing, photography) and communicative arts (telecommunications, commercial or graphic design, computer animation). Performing arts include band, orchestra, choir, guitar, mariachi, dance, and theatre. Arts academies offer the ultimate experience in hands-on learning activities including creation, rehearsal, performance, critique, collaboration, and analysis.

**Elementary Arts Academies** provide enriched experiences in music, movement, visual arts, drama, and communications to develop the whole child. The arts are integrated across all areas of the elementary curriculum to enhance students’ understanding of the world around them and broaden their experiences beyond those of a traditional classroom. The arts are infused into the core subjects, relating art to math, language, history, and science, giving students the creativity to express themselves, while challenging their intellect. In specialized arts classes, students have the opportunity to create, rehearse, and perform for an audience.

**Middle School Arts Academies** provide an integrated curriculum as well as the opportunity to focus on an area of concentration within the arts. Arts and technology are infused into the core subjects and students receive specialized instruction in their chosen area of study within the arts. Students’ talents and hard work are showcased through performances and demonstrations both on campus and throughout the community.

**High School Arts Academies** allow students the opportunity to refine and develop their skills in a chosen medium. Students choose a specialty area in either visual or performing arts and receive intense, often individualized instruction in their chosen specialty as well as regularly create and perform at a high level. Artist-in Residence and Internship programs provide opportunities to connect school and community or professional level arts experiences.