

The Arts Academy  
At Benjamin Rush  
HIGH SCHOOL FAIR  
2020

# VISION / MISSION

Rush Arts is based on the belief that the arts provide an opportunity to develop intellectual growth and personal creativity as part of a rigorous academic curriculum. We emphasize the building of a reflective community of learners who are adaptive critical thinkers and creators while preparing our students for college and professional careers. Transdisciplinary teaching and learning are applied in every classroom. Rush Arts prepares students to become active members of a democratic society by fostering a culture of respect for the various views of our diverse student population and encouraging student voice in the pursuit of social justice.

# OUR ARTS PROGRAMS

- VISUAL ARTS
- VOCAL MUSIC/MODERN BAND
- INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
- THEATRE
- DANCE

# THE HIGH SCHOOL SELECTION PROCESS

- CHOOSE AN AREA OF ART
- APPLY ONLINE AT [www.philasd.org](http://www.philasd.org)
- FOLLOW THE PROMPTS
- APPLICANTS FROM OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT MUST ALSO SEND US RECORDS (FAX ) 215-400-3031 or mail
- APPLICANTS WHO FEEL THEY MEET ALL OF OUR REQUIREMENTS WILL SUBMIT AN AUDITION TAPE AT: <https://rush.philasd.org/auditions/>
- PLEASE VISIT RUSH.PHILASD.ORG FOR AUDITION REQUIREMENTS
- PLEASE APPLY THROUGH PHILASD.ORG

# REQUIREMENTS

- ALL As and Bs
- No more than one C
- 80th Percentile on 6th Grade PSSAs or Equivalent
- Good attendance and punctuality
- (pre-Covid)
  - No suspensions in 7th grade or higher
- Meet Audition Requirement: More information at <https://rush.philasd.org/auditions>

# OUR INDICATORS OF SUCCESS

- GRADUATION RATE
- PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS SCORING PROFICIENT OR ADVANCED ON KEYSTONES AS COMPARED TO THE DISTRICT
- GRADE DATA
- COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE RATE
- CLIMATE / SAFETY
- OVER 20 TEACHER / STUDENT LED CLUBS
- PARENT AND STUDENT SATISFACTION

# CORE VALUES

- IMAGINATION
- COMMUNICATION
- EMPATHY
- PERSPECTIVE
- ANALYSIS
- COMMITMENT

CORE VALUES ARE WOVEN INTO EVERY ASPECT OF OUR PROGRAM AND ENSURE EQUITY AND STUDENT VOICE

# STUDENTS FROM ALL OVER PHILADELPHIA CAN APPLY TO OUR PROGRAM







# Vocal Music & Modern Band

The Vocal Music Program gives the students an opportunity to not only develop their voices as singers but also to become complete musicians. Throughout the four years, students will be part of a tight knit community that performs and analyzes music of all different genres, cultures, and periods in history. Students will perform throughout the year in concerts, solo and group performance assessments throughout the four years.

Students will learn vocal technique, ensemble skills, recording and improvisation skills, songwriting, modern band and music theory. This is an academic, rigorous, comprehensive and college preparatory program.

Students are encouraged and expected to be well-rounded in all facets of music and singing. We use music as a tool to investigate social constructs and as a universal language to reach across cultural and social divides. We use music as an outlet for our own emotional needs and to help others! The Vocal Department at Rush focuses on collaboration, community, innovation, teamwork, total musicianship and creativity.

# Grade Overview



## **Vocal 1 (9th Grade):**

Focus on music theory (reading and writing music). Beginners are welcome! Learn to sing as a soloist and as an ensemble member. We study American Musical Theatre the second half of the school year, which includes learning about the history and also performance. Students perform in two concerts during the school year.

## **Vocal 2 (10th Grade):**

Continuation of Vocal 1- students continue to study music theory, musicianship and work on vocal technique. The focus of this year is musical independence, creativity and finding your own voice. The first half of the year students will learn more advanced music theory concepts, including learning keyboard/piano. The second half of the year is dedicated to a unit on Jazz, including an overview and exploration of its place as a uniquely American art form and reflection of American social and cultural struggles. They will perform in two concerts throughout the school year.

**Vocal and Choir 3/4 (11th & 12th Grade):** Students are split into two different classes with a mixture of Seniors and Juniors. Students will learn and perform advanced pieces and create projects using the Modern Band curriculum. Students will be learning basic guitar, keyboard, drums and bass. They will be challenged to create their own arrangements of songs as a group and will perform some of these projects, as well as group choral and pop pieces at our Winter and Spring Vocal Showcases. Entering the B101 Christmas Choir Competition is an annual tradition at our school. We have been in the semi-finals five times and won 2nd place overall in 2015!

# Vocal Major Testimonials!!!

Hear from some current Rush Arts Vocal majors and watch some of our classroom and concert performances!



## Other Music Opportunities:

- ❖ **Masterclass:** After school vocal workshops for all Vocal majors in all grades
- ❖ **Solo Acts:** Student led and created solo acts in the Winter and Spring concert
- ❖ **All-City Choir:** Coordinated by the School District Music Department
- ❖ **Modern Band:** Students learn vocals, guitar, keyboard, bass and drums and apply them to create their own Modern bands.
- ❖ **Chamber Singers:** Audition based A Cappella group
- ❖ **Two yearly concerts, annual Vocal Recital and other performance opportunities**
  - (Park Winter Festival, African-American History Assembly, Hispanic Heritage Assembly, Social Justice day)
- ❖ **Spring Musical!**



??Questions??

Email Ms. Spencer at:

[sspencer2@philasd.org](mailto:sspencer2@philasd.org)

Check us out at:

**Vocal Department Website:** <http://rushartsvocal.weebly.com/>

**Vocal Department Insta:** @rushartsvocal, @rushchambers

**Youtube Channel:** Suzanne Spencer- Vocal Director AABR

**We want YOU to join our program!**





# Rush Arts Theatre Program

The goal of the theatre program is to develop our students into thoughtful producers and consumers of many forms of theatre. Students will read, analyze, act, write, design and attend plays to develop an increased appreciation and knowledge of theatre as a collaborative art and career path. Students will also use theatre to explore and expand their own communication skills and to gain perspective on history, culture, current events, and social justice.





Each year, the students in Theatre I, II, III participate in our Short and Sweet Festival, a celebration of ten minute student written, directed, performed and designed by students.





Each year, the students in Theatre IV produce our senior play, a fully realized production that is directed, performed, designed, and marketed by the class.

# Other highlights of the Theatre Program:

- All grades study published texts from playwrights with diverse backgrounds
- Stage Crew training- all students are eligible to learn how to work behind the scenes to support our 20+ shows per year

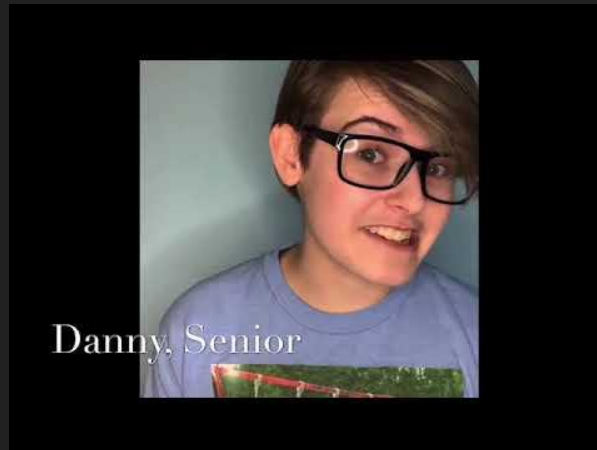


- Students participate each year in the Philadelphia Young Playwrights monologue competition and full-length play competition
- Philadelphia Young Playwrights residency program in Theatre III (developed specifically for Rush)
- Our annual spring musical is open to students of all majors!



# Get to know the Theatre Department!

- If you have questions about the Theatre Program, please don't hesitate to reach out to Ms. Wojcik at [swojcik@philasd.org](mailto:swojcik@philasd.org)
- Want to hear from our students? Watch this video to hear Theatre majors from 10th-12th grade reflect on their experience:



- Follow us on Social Media
  - Instagram: @rushtheatre
  - Like us on Facebook: Rush Arts Theatre

# Instrumental Music

Concert Band  
String Ensemble  
Orchestra  
Jazz Band

## Instrumental lessons available:

Upper Strings- Violin, Viola

Lower strings- Cello, Bass

Woodwinds- Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone

Double Reeds- Oboe, Bassoon, English Horn

Upper Brass- Trumpet, French Horn

Low Brass- Trombone, Tuba

### **Ensemble Focus:**

Each Ensemble teaches the musical skills and concepts necessary to become a competent, mature instrumental musician. Ensembles will cover many styles and genres of music from different time periods and parts of the world and discuss cultural relevance. Students will analyze and assess performances; self evaluation will be essential to growth and success.

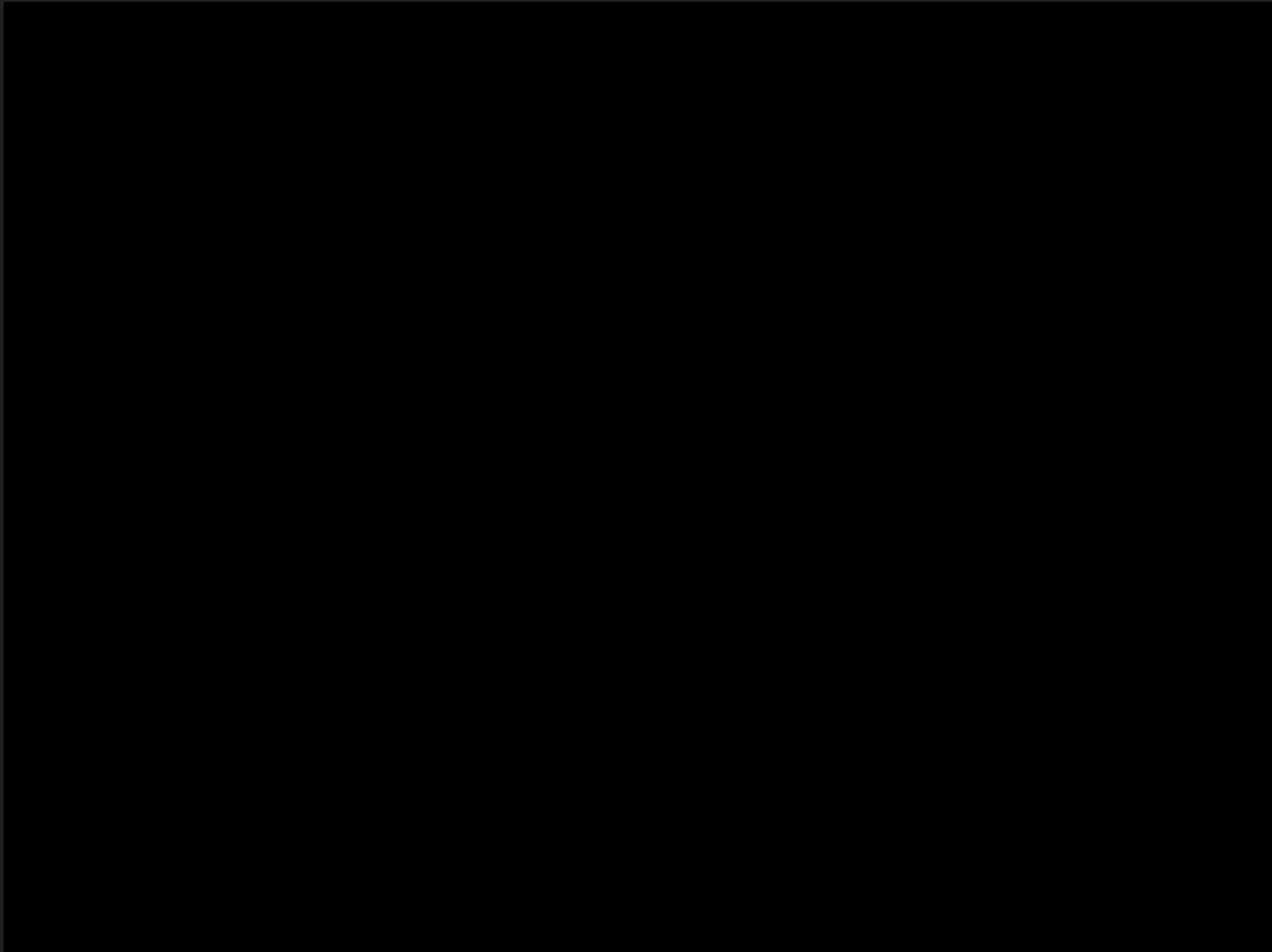
### **Key Concepts:**

- *Music in Rhythm:* Music takes time to happen! Students will analyze the rhythmic conventions used to make music and understand how to read and apply them.
- *Music in Pitch:* Students will study the melodic and harmonic structures of music to discover and understand how and why scales and chords are arranged to create a larger musical body.
- *Music in History:* Students will study the historical influence of history on music, and vice versa. Students will also be familiar with the lives of the people who write the music we make.
- *Music in Aesthetic:* Students will make personal judgments on the aesthetic qualities of the music they hear and the music they make themselves. Students will ask themselves *why* music has a certain affect and explore the human nature of the art form.

# Instrumental Music

# Jazz Band

Kimmel Center





# Rush Arts Dance Department

College Preparatory Program/

Four Areas of Study

- **Performance and Technique:** Ballet, Tap, Modern Jazz, Hip-Hop, West African, Contemporary
- Historical and Cultural Studies in Dance
- Creating and Choreographing Movement
- Analyzing and Critiquing Dance

# Academic Focus by Year

This is in addition to technical practice and performance.

## 9th

- Ballet History
- Anatomy and Injury  
Prevention for Dancers
- Elements of Dance  
Composition

## 10th

- Tap Dance History
- Emotional Context in Dance
- Anatomy and Injury  
Prevention Level 2

## 11th

- Story Choreography Project
- Modern Dance History
- Student Choreography

## 12th

- Story Choreography Project
- Jazz Dance History
- Student Choreography  
Showcase Direction

# Performance Opportunities

- **Fall Student Choreography Showcase**
  - Directed and run by the seniors
- 
- **Park Winter Festival**
  - Fundraiser for Jackie Park Scholarship Fund
  - Junior and Seniors Dancers, Musicians, Theatre
  - Select dances from fall showcase
  -
- **Spring Dance Concert**
  - Entire Department
  - Select small groups
  - Large group dances from all classes

***Students are highly encouraged to produce their own choreography and perform for all our cultural assemblies and celebrations as well. Many students are also given the opportunity to choreograph on small and large groups to enhance their leadership skills and provide them directing experience. They are also taught about all technical aspects of the theatre and learn about lighting systems and sound systems.***

# Rush Arts Dance Company

- Audition Only, every grade can audition
- Performs in all shows
- Performances outside of school

## PAST PERFORMANCES

- Philadelphia Youth Dance Festival organized by PA Ballet
- Villanova Black Law Students Association in celebration of Black History Month
- Northeast Arts Festival
- Mastery Charter Elementary School in celebration of Black History Month
- Benefit for Crohn's Disease



Visit us on Facebook to see more!! Rush Arts Dancers



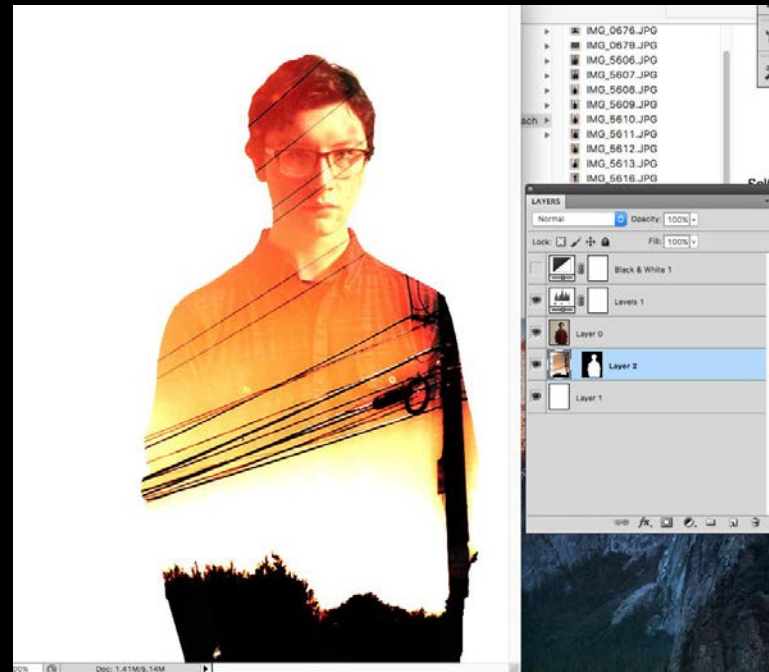
# Park Festival Company Performance



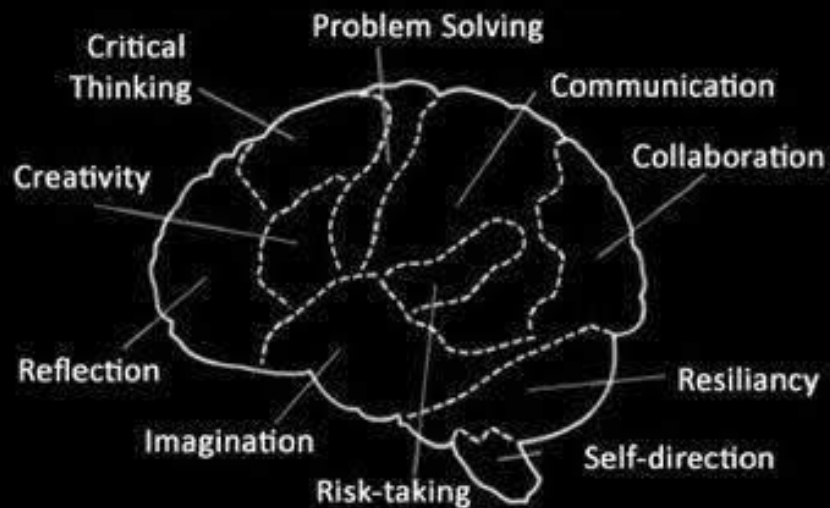




# Welcome to the Visual Art Studio and Media Arts Lab



# ***ART***



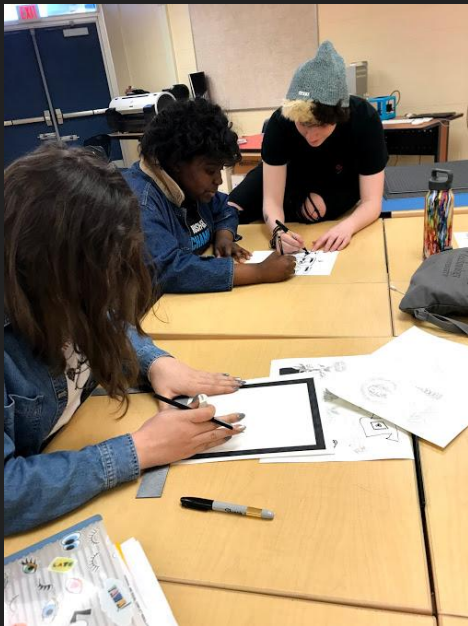
***...it's a whole-brainer.***



At the easel students draw a still life from observation using Vine and Willow.



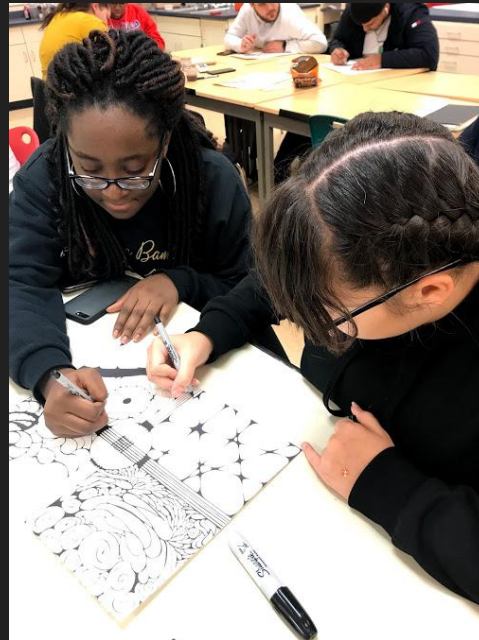
Supporting each other, collaborating, sharing ideas, critiquing and developing personal style are all part of the growth process to become a creative adult.

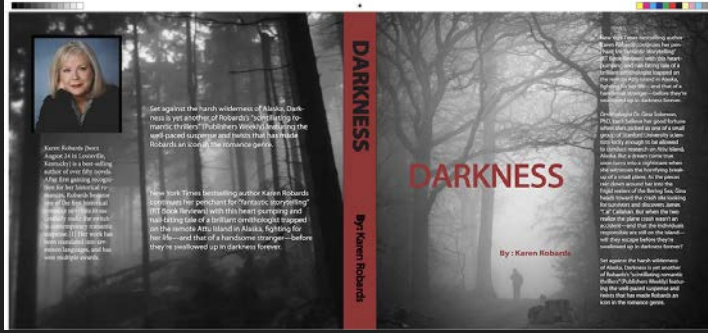
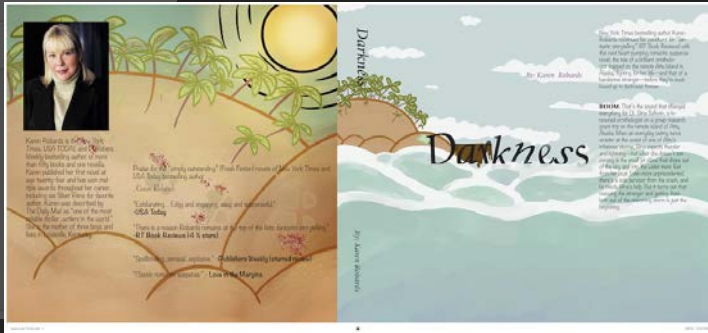
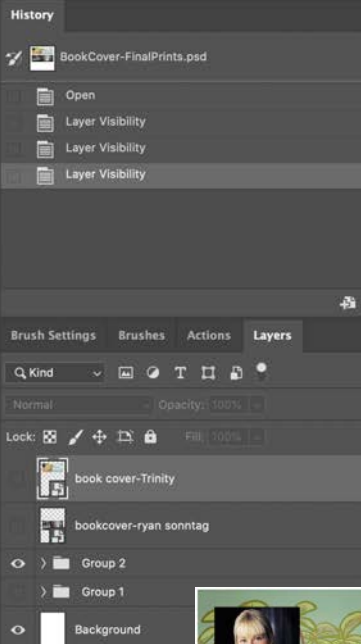
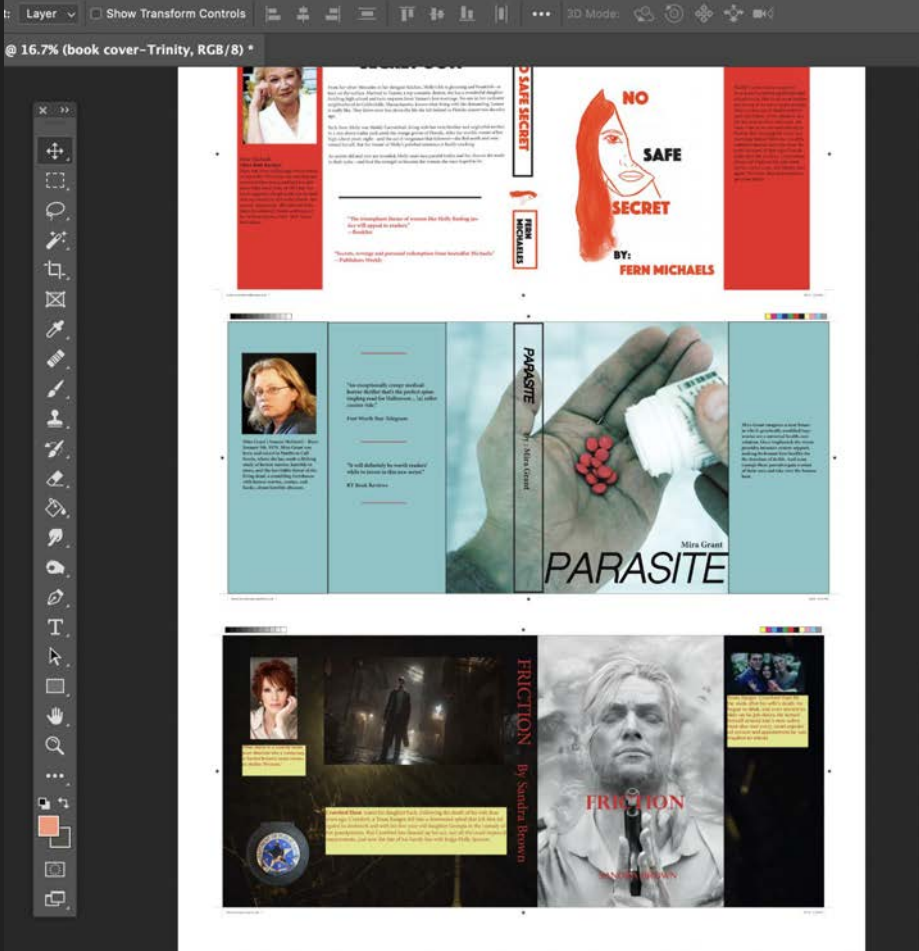






Students working collaboratively to develop line, shape, color and movement in their designs.





Students create book cover designs with Adobe Illustrator in Graphic Design 2.



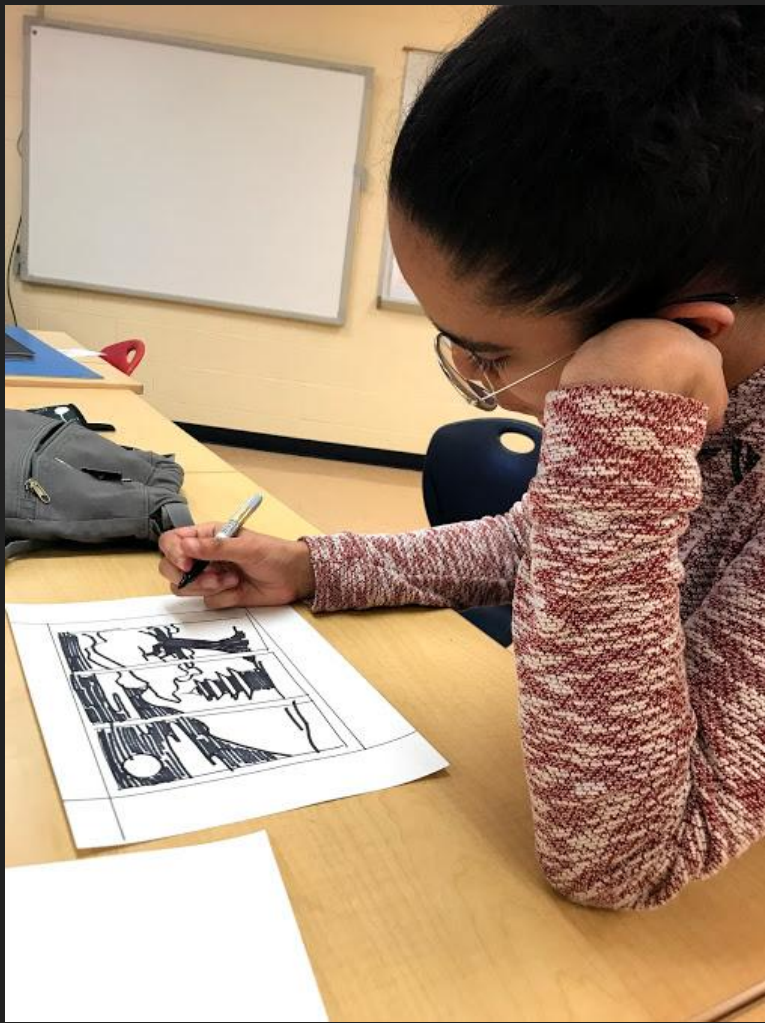
# Artists working “en Plein Air”





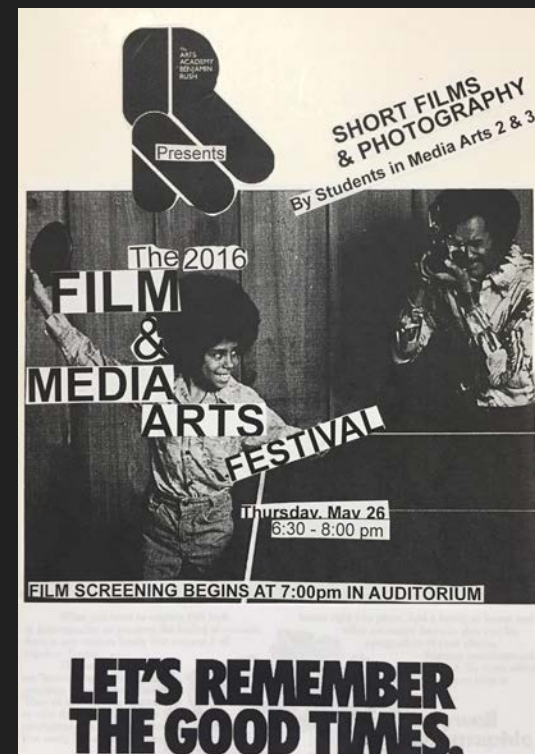
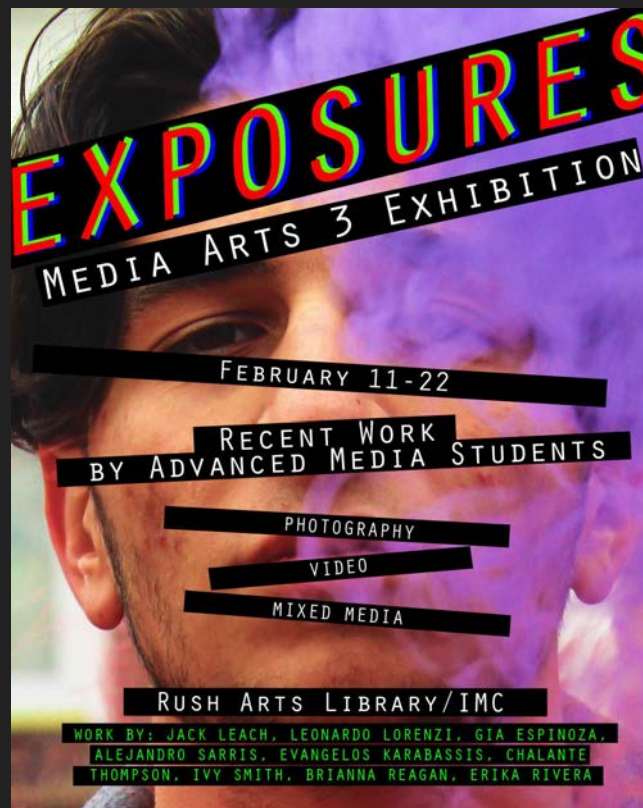
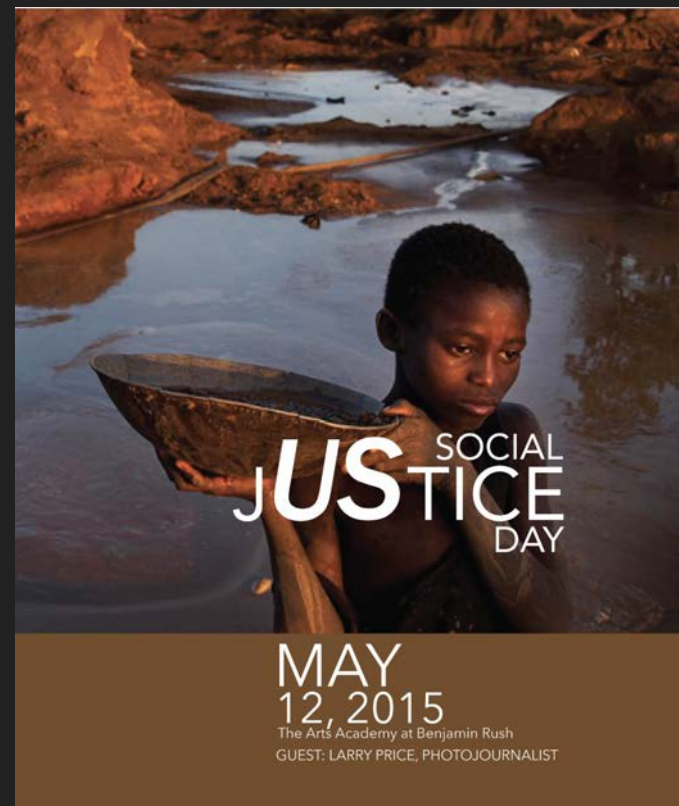
# Museum Education Visits whenever possible



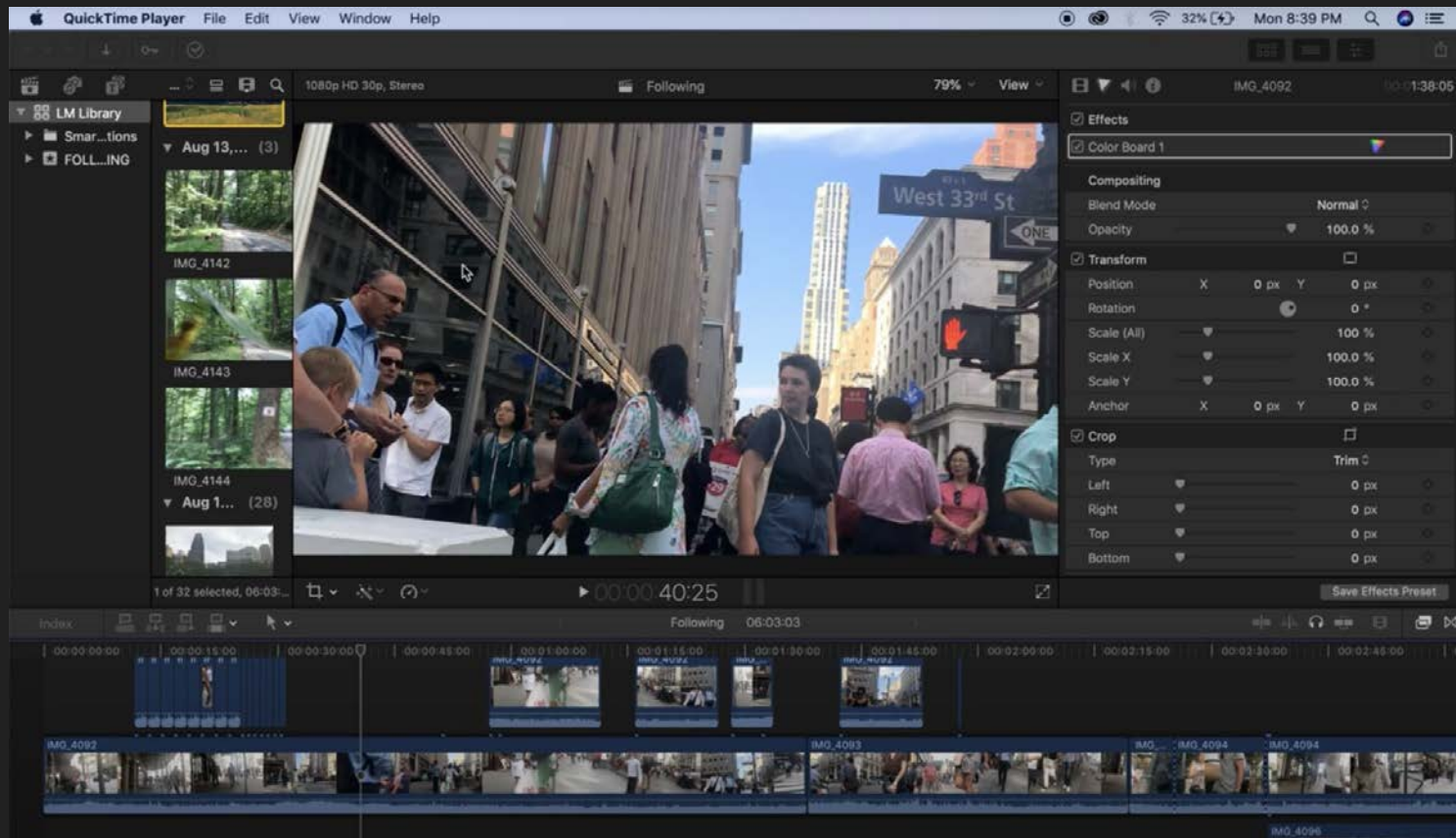


Thoughtful development and planning is necessary for success in Art.

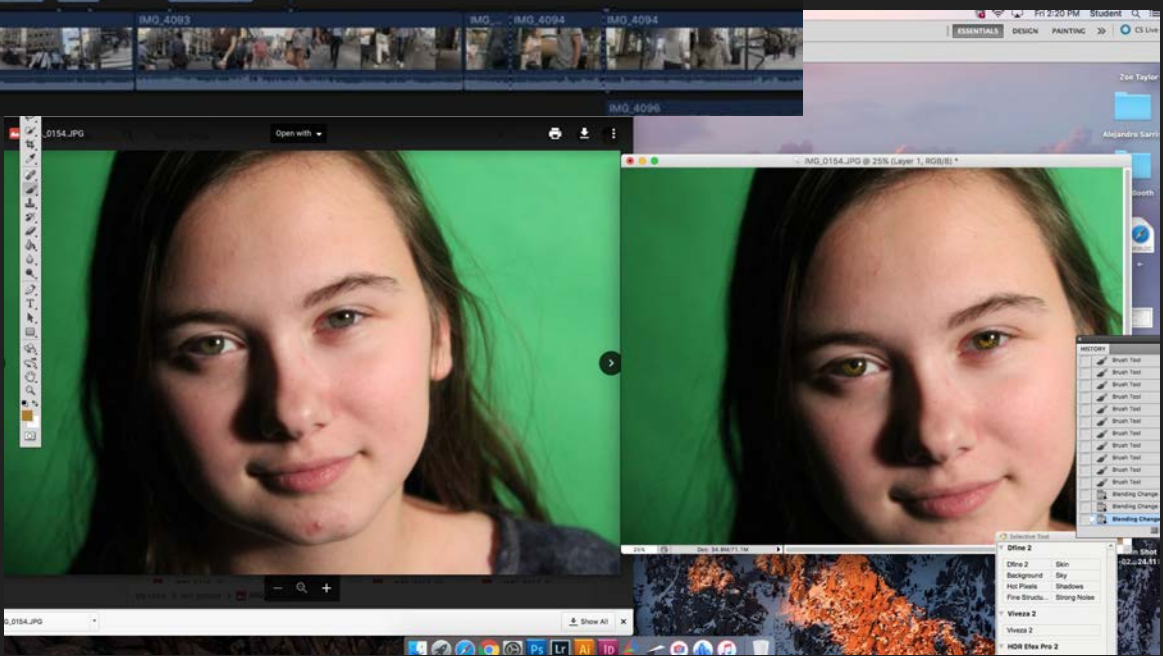




Student-designed posters for Media Arts Shows and Social Justice Day at Rush.



Students learn to use professional video and photo editing software.





# Advanced Placement Art Courses



11th and 12 grade students successfully participate in Advance Placement Art Courses.

AP Studio Art - Drawing  
AP Studio Art - 2  
Dimensional Design



Graphic Design 1 students develop work by hand and by use of digital equipment making the most of available materials and software.

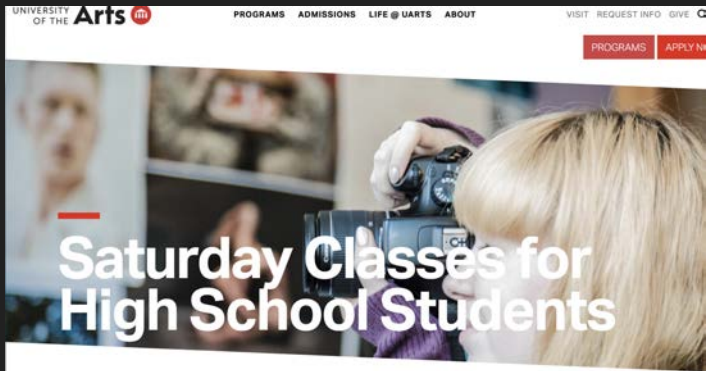
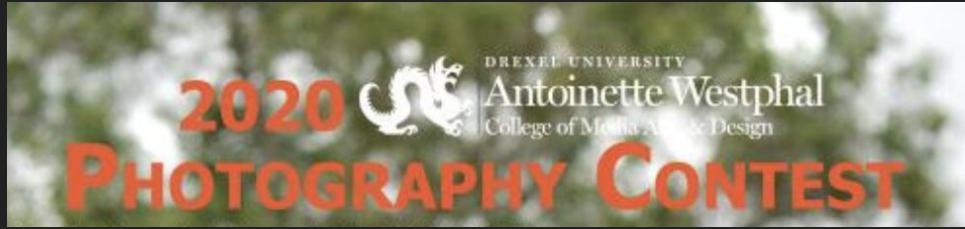




The Winter Art Exhibition at the Glen Foerd Estate on the Delaware River is a memory making art experience for our students and their families.



Opportunities for students to participate in extra-curricular programs at Universities and Galleries that lead to recognition beyond high school.



- Philadelphia Photo Arts Center Teen Program
- Drexel University Free Saturday Photography Class
- University of the Arts Saturday Arts Classes
- Temple University Pre-College Saturday Arts Class



The PHILA  
DELPHIA  
SKETCH  
CLUB

Exhibitions



It is an honor to have your work chosen for the High School Show at the Philadelphia Sketch Club.

The PHILA  
DELPHIA  
SKETCH  
CLUB



The painting above was voted “Best in Show” and will be used in all advertising for the 2020-2021 High School Show.





Congressional Art Award for first place and 6 Honorable Mentions.



In collaboration with the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the Delphi Project, students worked with guest artists and Museum Educators in the classroom to create original abstract landscapes.



Guest artist giving critiques and support to the Visual Art students during painting exercises.



# Dad Vail Regatta Cover Design Competition



Each year, an elite group of talented students across Philadelphia create illustrations for this important event. Rush is always part of the program.





Harcum College Scholarship  
Award for Photography



One of many winners in the  
Philadelphia Flower Show



Mural Arts Club worked through the summer to complete this large mural in our school.



# VIRTUAL TOUR



# Sample 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Roster

- English 1
- World History
- Biology
- Spanish 1
- Art Major Year 1
- Algebra 1 (Geometry if Algebra 1 Keystone is proficient )
- Lunch
- Advisory

# SCHOOL DAY

- 7:50AM TO 2:54PM
- DOORS OPEN AT 6:45AM
- CLASSES ARE 53 MINUTES
- ADVISORY IS 25 MINUTES
- AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES END AT 4:30PM  
UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED
- ALL STUDENTS GET FREE LUNCH AND  
BREAKFAST
- STUDENTS WHO LIVE 1.5 MILES AWAY OR  
MORE GET A FREE TRANSPASS

# Math Department

- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- Algebra 2
- Pre-Calculus
- Ap Calculus
- Statistics

# Science Department

- 9<sup>TH</sup> Biology
- 10<sup>TH</sup> Chemistry
- 11<sup>TH</sup> Physics
- 12<sup>TH</sup> Biology 2, AP Physics, Forensic Science

# Spanish

- 9<sup>th</sup> - Spanish 1
- 10<sup>th</sup> - Spanish 2
- 11th or 12th - Spanish 3 /4

# Social Studies

- 9<sup>TH</sup> World History
- 10<sup>TH</sup> African American History
- 11<sup>TH</sup> US History
- 12<sup>TH</sup> Social Science / AP US Government



# Special Education

- Students with IEPs are fully included / No Self-Contained Classes.
- Support is provided and accommodations are made as prescribed in the IEP.
- Study Skills and intervention classes are available for students whose IEP indicates a need.

# English Department

- English 1: Critical Reading and Writing
- English 2: World Literature and Literary Argument
- English 3: American Novel and Critical Theory
- English 4: College Preparation and Reflective Thematic Writing about Literature.
- AP English 4: Literature and Composition

# Physical Education

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR: TODD CORABI

- Fall: Girls Soccer, Girls Volleyball and Boys JV Soccer
- Fall sports sign-ups begin in May, online.
- Try-out practice begins 2nd week of August
- Winter: Boys and Girls Basketball, Boys and Girls Bowling
- Spring: Baseball and Softball

Visit our Website for More  
Information About Our School

[RUSH.PHILASD.ORG](http://RUSH.PHILASD.ORG)

