

## Mississippi School of the Arts 2019-2020

CEEB Code: 250342

Main office: (601) 823-1300

Counseling office: (601) 823-1307

Website: [www.msa.k12.ms.us](http://www.msa.k12.ms.us)

Executive Director/Superintendent: Suzanne Hirsch

Principal: Debra Price

### About Mississippi School of the Arts

- Residential school located in Brookhaven, MS on the historic Whitworth College campus.
- Annually enrolls approximately 140 students in eleventh and twelfth grades.
  - Student Enrollment for 2018-2019:
    - 61 Seniors
    - 60 Juniors
- Culturally diverse student population: Hispanic – <1%, African American – 34%, White – 63%.
- Students receive high school academic classes required for graduation and arts classes in selected disciplines of study.
- Disciplines of study include: Dance, Literary Arts, Media Arts, Theatre, Visual Art, and Vocal Music.
- 96 % of MSA graduates continue their education with approximately 80% attending 4-year institutions.
- 12 faculty members; 100% hold advanced degrees.

### About Brookhaven

- Small city in Lincoln County, Mississippi, United States.
- Population 12,520 at the 2010 census.
- County seat of Lincoln County.
- Named after the Town of Brookhaven, New York, by founder Samuel Jayne, in 1818.

### Academics

- The State of Mississippi requires the following Carnegie Units in order to earn a diploma:
  - English – 4
  - Math – 4
  - Science – 4
  - Social Studies – 4
  - Health and Physical Education – 1
  - Business and Technology – 1
  - The Arts – 1
  - Electives – 1
- In order to graduate from MSA, students must successfully complete an arts discipline major consisting of eight (8) required Carnegie units.
- 5 X 5 block extended day schedule, 5 blocks: 94 minute classes.
- Schedules include classes, rehearsals, projects, research projects, assemblies, presentations, required field trips and other academic assignments and experiences throughout the day, into the evening, and on weekends.

- Minimum of 180 days of instruction.
- 18 weeks/semester; 9 week grading period.
- AP curriculum available at MSA and through partnership with Brookhaven School District (BSD).
- Option to earn college credit through Dual Credit (DC).

## **MSA Advanced Courses**

- English Literature and Composition: AP
- English Language and Composition: AP
- English Composition I: DC
- English Composition II: DC
- College Algebra: DC
- U.S. History: AP
- Additional dual enrollment courses are available online by student request

## **BSD Advanced Courses**

- Chemistry: AP
- Biology: AP

## **Grading & Ranking**

A – Excellent	90–100
B – Above average	80–89
C – Average	70–79
D – Below average	65–69
F – Failure	64 or below

- Student Quality Point Averages (QPA) at the end of the fall semester of the twelfth grade will determine student class rank (e.g., 3.25).
- Special honor graduates will include students with a QPA of 3.75 or higher.
- Honor graduates will include students with a QPA of 3.25—3.749.
- In addition to grades, students being considered for Special Honors or Honors must be in good standing in relation to discipline.

## **Grade Point Average/Quality Point Average**

- Quality point average (QPA) is determined for ninth and tenth grades when students are admitted to MSA.
- QPA is calculated at the end of the eleventh grade and at the end of the second semester (spring semester) of the twelfth grade to determine class rank and honor graduates.
- All courses for which Carnegie units have been awarded (including eighth grade) are used to determine grade point averages.
- Overall GPAs are composed on a 100-point scale adding weight to quality points for Honors, Accelerated, Advanced Placement, and Dual Credit. Honors and accelerated courses are weighted with an added .02 and Advanced Placement and Dual Credit .05.

- Numeric grades transferred from other schools are recorded as shown on the transcript. If the transferring school does not provide a numeric grade, the MSA grading scale is used for conversion to a numeric equivalent.
- MSA has 52 school districts included in its enrollment. Due to the varying nature of many school districts' grading scales, all courses are calculated based upon the following grading templates, regardless of the quality points from various schools:

General courses:

A – 4.0  
B – 3.0  
C – 2.0  
D – 1.0  
F – 0.0

Honors/Accelerated:

A – 4.02  
B – 3.02  
C – 2.02  
D – 1.02  
F – 0.0

AP/Dual Credit:

A – 4.05  
B – 3.05  
C – 2.05  
D – 1.05  
F – 0.0

**Colleges/Universities MSA students attend:**

*\*Students received scholarships to attend.*

- American Academy of Dramatic Arts, CA\*
- American Academy of Dramatic Arts, NY\*
- American Music and Dramatic Academy, CA\*
- Art Institute of Chicago\*
- Bard College, NY\*
- Bennington College, VT\*
- University of California, Berkley\*
- Columbia College, IL\*
- Delta State University \*
- Emerson College\*
- Jackson State University\*
- Howard University\*
- Maryland Institute College of Art\*
- Memphis College of Art\*
- Millsaps College\*
- Mississippi College\*
- Mississippi State University\*
- Howard University\*
- Mississippi University for Women\*
- New York University\*
- Rochester Institute of Technology\*
- Rocky Mountain School of Design\*
- Savannah College of Art and Design\*
- Sewanee: The University of the South\*
- The King's College, NY\*
- University of Alabama\*
- University of the Arts, PA\*
- University of Chicago\*
- University of Memphis\*
- University of Mississippi\*
- University of South Alabama\*
- University of Southern Mississippi\*
- Vassar College\*
- Virginia Intermont College\*
- Washington State University\*
- William Carey College\*