

Northwest Academy

Profile

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MISSION STATEMENT

Northwest Academy is an independent school, grades 6 through 12, committed to education through academics and the arts.

NWA offers motivated and talented students programs that emphasize and value creative thinking, individual choice, academic rigor and self-discipline, taught by master teachers and professionals active in their fields.

PHILOSOPHY

Founded in 1996, Northwest Academy's program is based on the research of noted educators, especially Howard Gardner, whose work on multiple intelligences revealed the importance of arts-infused curriculum for the benefit of all students. The combination of rigorous academic work and exposure to the arts gives Northwest Academy graduates more options and choices for the challenges of the 21st century.

CHARACTERISTICS

Northwest Academy is an accredited, non-profit, coeducational, college-preparatory day school. NWA's average academic class size is 15 students; arts classes range from 6 to 25 students, depending on the subject matter. The school is located in downtown Portland near the Central

Library, Portland State University, The Portland Art Museum and Portland Center for the Performing Arts. This rich urban setting serves as an extended campus for NWA students.

FACULTY INFORMATION

Northwest Academy's exceptional faculty includes:

- Former college professors, holding advanced degrees in their respective disciplines
- Practicing professionals: writers, filmmakers, artists, animators, dancers, musicians, actors and photographers
- Master teachers with extensive experience in their fields

CURRICULUM

Northwest Academy utilizes a proficiency-based curricular structure where all courses are sequential and developmental. Knowledge, skill and academic maturity, rather than chronological age alone, determine the student's placement.

Middle School at NWA includes not only challenging courses in the Humanities, Arts, Math and Sciences, but also a "Learning Lab" program dedicated to helping students develop solid work habits and study skills.

The High School course requirements for graduation include four years of English/Humanities and Senior Thesis class. Other requirements are: three years of Science (including two lab sciences), three years of Mathematics, two years of a Foreign Language and six Electives. Students must also complete 30 hours of Community Service and satisfy both a Physical Education and a Computer Literacy requirement.

COLLEGE-PREPARATORY ACADEMICS

Classes at Northwest Academy are all conducted like honors classes; the combination of seminar-style courses and small class size means that all NWA students have access to in-depth, challenging work. All graduates receive college-preparatory training. In addition, NWA Juniors and Seniors receive college credit at the 200 level for English and Writing classes through the Portland State University Challenge Program.

RANKING

Northwest Academy does not rank its students. With only 10 - 19 candidates for graduation in most classes, ranking such a selective sample would prove statistically misleading.

SENIOR THESES

Each senior is responsible for writing two researched, polished theses. Our graduates have written on subjects ranging from Hip Hop music to Communism. They address issues of History, Psychology, Economics, Art, Politics and Popular Culture.

Some past titles include:

Attention Shoppers: The Ideology of American Consumerism • *Dragon and Tiger: A Comparison and Contrast of 16th-17th Century China and Japan* • *Drumming: The Seed Sound at the Heart of Creation* • *Education, Experience and the Natural World* • *Fool Me Once: Psychological Warfare and the Process of Lies* • *Gilbert's Words, Sullivan's Music, Carte's Money: A Collection of Classes* • *Impressionism: Reflections of Gender* • *Included and Excluded: The Third Character in Literature* • *John Coltrane: Spiritual Transcendence and Musical Abstraction* • *Music and Mood* • *The Beast Within: Lycanthropic Transformations and Bloodlust* • *The Mentality of Selflessness: Indoctrination of a Generation in Kamikaze Warfare* • *Women in the Mafia*

NORTHWEST ACADEMY GRADUATES HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED TO THE FOLLOWING COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES:

(2010 acceptances in bold)

American Academy of Dramatic Arts
American Musical and Dramatic Academy
American University
Antioch College
Arizona State University
Art Center
Art Institute of Portland
Bard College
Beloit College
Bennington College
Boston University
California College of the Arts
California Institute for the Arts
California State University, Chico
California State University, Long Beach
California State University, Northridge
Chapman University
Clark Honors College, University of Oregon
Colgate University
College of Santa Fe
College of Wooster
Colorado College
Columbia College Chicago
Cornell University
Cornish College of Art
Dominican University
Drew University
Drexel University
Earlham College
Eckerd College
Emerson College
Emily Carr Institute of Design
Eugene Lang The New School for Liberal Arts
Evergreen State College
Ex'pression, Center for New Media
Fairhaven College of Western Washington University
Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising
Florida State University
Fort Lewis College
George Washington University

Georgetown University
Gonzaga University
Goucher College
Green Mountain College
Grinnell College
Hampshire College
Humbolt State University
Kalamazoo College
Kenyon College
Lake Forest College
Lawrence University
Lehigh University
Lewis and Clark College
Lucerne School of Art & Design
Macalester College
Marlboro College
Maryland Institute College of Art
Marymount College
Marymount Manhattan College
Minneapolis College of Art
Mt. Holyoke College
The New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music
New York University
Northeastern University
Northland College
Oberlin College
Occidental College
Oregon State University
Otis College of Art & Design
Pacific Northwest College of Art
Pacific University
Parsons The New School for Design
Paul Mitchell The School
Pitzer College
Point Park University
Portland Community College
Portland State University
Pratt Institute
Principia College
Reed College

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhode Island College
Rhode Island School of Design
Rochester Institute of Technology
San Francisco State University
Santa Clara University
Sarah Lawrence College
Savannah College of Art & Design
School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
School Of Visual Arts
Scripps College
Seattle University
Simon Fraser University
Southern Oregon University
St. Andrews, Scotland
St. Edwards University
St. John's College
St. Olaf College
Swarthmore College
Trinity University
Unity College
University of British Columbia
University of Edinburgh, Scotland
University of Oregon
University of Portland
University of Puget Sound
University of Redlands, The Johnston Center
University of Rhode Island
University of Rochester
University of Southern California
University of the Pacific
Warren Wilson College
Washington State University
Western State College of Colorado
Western Washington University
Whitman College
Willamette University
Williams College
Worcester Institute of Technology

NORTHWEST ACADEMY GRADUATES HAVE BEEN OFFERED THE FOLLOWING SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS:

American Academy of Dramatic Arts Merit Scholarship • American Musical and Dramatic Academy National Grant • Bennington College Brockway Scholarship • Bennington College Merit Scholarship • California College of the Arts Artistic Achievement Award of Excellence • California Institute for the Arts Merit Scholarship • Chapman University Grant • Chapman University, Dean's Scholar Award • College of Wooster Grant • College of Wooster, Academic Achievement Award • College of Wooster, Music Performance Award • Eckerd College Academic Achievement Grant • Eckerd College Honors Scholarship • Elks Most Valuable Student Scholarship • Emerson College, Presidential Scholarship • Eugene Lang The New School of Liberal Arts Scholarship • Evergreen State College, Scholastic Achievement Award • Fort Lewis College, Dean's Scholarship • Georgetown University Scholarship • Green Mountain College, Full Four-Year Scholarship in Environmental Sciences and Outdoor Recreation • Hampshire College, Schaumburg Scholarship Hampshire College National Merit Scholarship • Kenyon College Distinguished Academic Scholarship • Lawrence University Grant • Lewis & Clark Grant • Macalester College Grant Maryland Institute Grant • National Hispanic Recognition Program, Scholar Finalist • National Merit Scholar, Semi-Finalist • National Merit Scholarship Program, Commended Student • New York University, Gallatin Scholarship • New York University, Tisch School of the Arts Competitive Scholarship • Occidental College Merit Scholarship • Oregon Community Foundation Award • Pacific Community Grant • Pacific Northwest College of Art Scholarship • Pacific University Pacesetter Award • Pacific University Trustee Merit Award • Parsons The New School for Design BFA Scholarship • Parsons The New School for Design Undergraduate Dean's Scholarship • Pratt Institute Presidential Merit Based Scholarship • Maryland Institute College of Art, Presidential Scholarship Principia College Scholarship • Rensselaer Alumni Scholarship • Rensselaer Leadership Award • Rensselaer Medal Scholarship • Rhode Island School of Design Grant • Savannah College of Art & Design Merit Scholarship • Swarthmore College Scholarship • Trinity University Merit Scholarship • University of Oregon, Dean's Scholarship • University of Oregon, Clark Honors College Scholarship • University of Portland Presidential Scholarship • University of Puget Sound President Scholarship • University of Redlands Achievement Award • University of Redlands Presidential Scholarship • Washington State University College of Liberal Arts, Dean of Excellence Scholarship • Washington State University Multi-Cultural Award • Washington State University Music Program, New Talent Award • Whitman College, Walter Brattain Achievement Scholarship • Worcester Institute of Technology Presidential Merit Scholarship