

# 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



## Northwest Academy

### Application Process

#### Tours

**Information Sessions/Group Tours** include presentations by the Head of School and current NWA students or parents, along with a tour of classes in session. These programs are held on the **first Thursday of the month, October 2010 – May 2011 at 11:00 a.m.** Dates include: October 7, November 4, December 2, January 6, February 3, March 3, April 7 and May 5.

**Individual Tours** are available upon request. Please contact Lainie Ettinger, Director of Admissions, to schedule: [lettinger@nwacademy.org](mailto:lettinger@nwacademy.org) or 503.223.3367 x104.

#### Application Deadlines

- **Wednesday, December 1, 2010** – Early Decision application deadline
- **Tuesday, February 1, 2011** - Regular Decision application deadline
- **After February 1, 2011** - Applications accepted on a space-available basis

#### Student Visits

Students spend a full or half day at Northwest Academy to experience the academic and elective classes. Student visits, known as “Shadow Days,” are held Monday through Thursday, beginning on October 4, 2010. Please see the Shadow Day Form for more information. This visit can be scheduled with Lainie Ettinger, Director of Admissions: [lettinger@nwacademy.org](mailto:lettinger@nwacademy.org) or 503.223.3367 x104.

#### Application Checklist

- Complete the **Application Form**, including both the Student and Parent Statements
- Include **two writing samples**
- Mail with **\$100 application fee** to:  
Northwest Academy  
Attn: Director of Admissions  
1130 SW Main St.  
Portland, OR 97205
- Give the **Teacher Recommendation Forms**, along with a stamped envelope, to two academic teachers and one counselor, mentor teacher, or coach to complete and fax or mail directly to Northwest Academy, Attn: Director of Admissions
- Transcripts**: Please sign the accompanying Student Records Release Form and deliver it to the student's current school requesting that copies of current and past year grade reports/transcripts and behavioral records be sent to Northwest Academy, Attn: Director of Admissions
- Placement Testing**: Testing at Northwest Academy is required for class placement, please contact the Director of Admissions to schedule an appointment: [lettinger@nwacademy.org](mailto:lettinger@nwacademy.org) or 503.223.3367 x104

#### Interviews

Following completion of all of the above, the Admissions Director will call you to schedule an interview for the student with NWA's Admissions Committee. The student may bring work samples or a portfolio to this interview.

*Northwest Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, color, sex, creed, religion, sexual orientation, national origin or ethnic heritage in hiring, student admissions or volunteer activities.*



# Northwest Academy

## Application Form

Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_ School Year 20\_\_ - 20\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_

### Applicant Information

Name: Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Current School \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ School Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Student lives with \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Birth date \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade \_\_\_\_\_ School year 20\_\_-20\_\_ GPA \_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Counselor/Teacher/Mentor \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of days absent from school last year \_\_\_\_\_ Title/Subject \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent Information

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship to Student \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
Business/Firm \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: Work \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent Information

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship to Student \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
Business/Firm \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: Work \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

### Family Information

**If the parents are separated or divorced please advise us:**

Who has legal custody of this child? \_\_\_\_\_ Who is financially responsible for this child? \_\_\_\_\_  
To whom should correspondence be sent? \_\_\_\_\_

Siblings \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Siblings \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Siblings \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Do you plan to apply for Financial Aid? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_







Northwest Academy

**Tuition Schedule**

**The tuition and fees below are for the 2010-2011 school year. \***

**Application Fee** **\$100**

A non-refundable Application Fee is required of all first-year students.

**Middle School Tuition** for 2010-11 **\$16,000**

**High School Tuition** for 2010-11 **\$18,000**

**Placement Reservation Deposit** **\$ 1,500**

In order to reserve your student's space in the class, the reservation deposit is due within two weeks of your acceptance date.

This deposit is fully applied to tuition, however it is not refundable.

*\*Tuition for the 2011-2012 school year is expected to increase incrementally.*



Northwest Academy

## Financial Aid Program

### Financial Aid at Northwest Academy

At Northwest Academy, we believe that the primary responsibility for financing education rests with the family. We also recognize that a quality, independent school education is a significant monetary expense. To fulfill our goal of providing educational opportunities for qualified students regardless of their economic background, Northwest Academy offers need-based financial aid.

Northwest Academy seeks to put in place formal guidelines and policies to provide clarity, transparency and consistency. Our goal is to ensure that applications are processed in a consistent and timely manner.

**To request Financial Aid, please check the appropriate box on the Application Form.** More information will be mailed to you, or to find out more information online, please go to <http://sss.nais.org/parents/>

### Overview of the Application Process

Applying for financial aid does not affect a student's chances for admission. Once accepted, candidates for financial aid are referred to the Financial Aid Committee that awards aid to families who demonstrate need as determined by the guidelines of the School and Student Services for Financial Aid (SSS) and Northwest Academy's own policies. All applications are reviewed on an individual basis in the order that they are received. Please know that the information obtained for this purpose is kept strictly confidential.

Financial aid awards are determined by taking into account the suggested parent contribution as determined by SSS. Such documented need is the primary basis for financial assistance, however we also consider a student's academic record and overall potential to contribute to the school community.

Despite our strong commitment to our financial aid program and enrolling economically diverse students, the number of accepted applicants who qualify for financial aid is greater than Northwest Academy is able to support.

- Only those who have submitted a signed commitment letter, paid the enrollment deposit and have provided all required forms and information will be considered for financial aid.
- Priorities are given to returning students.
- Students must be in good standing both academically and behaviorally in order for the school to consider reinvesting in their education.
- **Awards are for one year only.** Parents must repeat the process each year realizing that there are no guaranteed awards to returning students.
- The decision to award financial aid to an applicant and the amount of such aid determined is the sole judgment of the Financial Aid Committee.

We look forward to establishing a partnership that will enable your child to attend Northwest Academy. Please feel free to call the Director of Admissions (x104) or Financial Officer (x105) at any time with questions or concerns.



## Northwest Academy

### Shadow Day

Students may spend a day at Northwest Academy visiting academic and elective classes as part of the application process. Please call Lainie Ettinger, Director of Admissions, at 503.223.3367 x 104 to schedule a Shadow Day. This permission slip must be received by the Admissions office prior to your student's visit.

#### **Student Information:**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Current School \_\_\_\_\_ Current year in school \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Parent/Guardian Information:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

#### **How did you hear about Northwest Academy?**

I hereby grant permission for my child to participate in the classroom activities and field trips of Northwest Academy. I also grant Northwest Academy, its staff members and any parent or other volunteers participating in an activity to obtain emergency medical treatment for my child, as they deem necessary or appropriate, and agree that Northwest Academy, its officers, directors, staff members, and volunteers shall not have any liability for taking such action.

Your signature below is an acknowledgement that you recognize that risks are inherent in some activities and that, on behalf of your child, you agree to assume and accept all of the risks associated with your child's participation in the activity and any related transportation.

**For High School visitors: I give my permission for my student to go off-campus for lunch.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent/Guardian Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*



Northwest Academy

Teacher Evaluation

TO THE APPLICANT:

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Applying to Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions: Please give two evaluation forms to academic teachers, and one may be given to a teacher, counselor or mentor. Provide the teacher with the addressed envelope, included in your application packet. As a courtesy, please provide the postage. Evaluation forms may also be faxed directly to the Director of Admissions, Lainie Ettinger, at 503-402-1043.

TO THE TEACHER:

Person Completing Form: \_\_\_\_\_ Subject: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_
School: \_\_\_\_\_ Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions:

We appreciate the time taken to complete our form evaluating this applicant to Northwest Academy. Please note that the information you submit will be considered confidential.

How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?

\_\_\_\_\_

What are the first few words that come to mind to describe the applicant?

\_\_\_\_\_

ACADEMIC QUALITIES

Compared to other students you have taught at this grade level, how would you rate this student in terms of:

Table with 7 columns: No Basis, Out-standing, Above Average, Average, Below Average, Comments. Rows include Study Habits, Academic Skills, Motivation, Intellectual Curiosity, Ability to Work Independently, Creative Problem Solving, Critical and Abstract Thinking Skills, Ability to Work Cooperatively, Ability to Organize & Communicate Ideas.

## PERSONAL QUALITIES

Compared to other students you have taught at this grade level, how would you rate this student in terms of:

No Basis		Out-standing	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Comments
	Leadership					
	Peer Relationships					
	Sense of Humor					
	Creativity					
	Reaction to Criticism					
	Concern for Others					
	Self Confidence					
	Integrity					
	Taking Responsibility for Own Actions					
	Involvement in Activities Beyond Classroom					
	Parental Involvement and Cooperation					

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please comment on the applicant's academic and personal strengths.

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Please comment on the applicant's academic and personal weaknesses.

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Please comment on your observations relative to this applicant's learning style.

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Please mention any additional information that you think might help our school make an informed decision.

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If the school needs clarification, may we contact you by phone? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS**



Northwest Academy

Record Release

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**Parents**

Please fill out this form and deliver it to the Registrar at your child's current school.

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

This student has applied for admission to Northwest Academy for the 20\_\_ - 20\_\_ school year. For admission and placement purposes, I request that a copy of grade reports/transcripts and behavioral records from the past and current school year be sent to Northwest Academy.

Thank you for your assistance.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Registrar**

Please complete this form and send it with the requested copies of school records to the Director of Admissions at Northwest Academy, 1130 SW Main St. Portland, OR 97205 or by fax: 503.402.1043.

Student's Current School Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_