MISSION STATEMENT
Northwest Academy is committed to inspiring students to discover their intellectual and artistic voices in a creative and supportive atmosphere fueled by curiosity and constructive challenge.

PHILOSOPHY
Northwest Academy believes that students enjoy complex, challenging work and content. Interesting and meaningful material encourages learning at high levels. The opportunity for free and open inquiry with a faculty passionate about their subject areas motivates student interest in learning. Not only are creative ventures an important aspect of a full life, but the blend of rigorous academic work and arts training enables Northwest Academy graduates to pursue a multitude of choices in terms of educational and career opportunities.

OUR STUDENTS
Whether they are researching their thesis essays or creating a multimedia visual project, Northwest Academy students approach complex concepts with intellectual curiosity. At every grade level, we respect our students’ abilities to comprehend challenging ideas and to demonstrate their understanding with insight and creativity. As a result of this trust, our students become self-motivated learners with a strong desire to explore new ideas.

CHARACTERISTICS
Northwest Academy is a non-profit, independent, coeducational, accredited, college-preparatory day school, with an emphasis on rigorous academics and arts programs. Northwest Academy’s community embodies a culture of acceptance and a commitment to diversity of thought and origin. Our student body comes from public and independent schools throughout Oregon and Southwest Washington and beyond. Approximately 20% of our students receive need-based financial aid each year. With a campus in Portland’s cultural corridor, we are uniquely situated to engage with neighbors like the Portland Art Museum, the Multnomah County Library, Northwest Film Center, Portland’s Centers for the Arts, and Portland State University. You’ll find Northwest Academy students in all those places and more as they explore the urban core during field trips, photography shoots, internships, classes, and performance runs.

The High School is characterized by authentic academic rigor that prepares students to achieve in college. Critical thinking, synthesis, evaluation, and application are valued over memorization and other lower-order thinking skills. A strong student-faculty community emanates from an educational partnership between the academics and the arts that cultivates creative thinking, individuality, and collegiality. Ways of thinking in academic and arts courses impact and influence the work students do in each field and area of study.

CURRICULUM
As a proficiency based program, students must demonstrate sufficient mastery of knowledge and skills benchmarks before advancing to subsequent levels. This includes mastery of work habits deemed essential for success in a challenging academic environment. Northwest Academy’s proficiency model helps to ensure that students are “college ready” upon graduation.
SENIOR THESES & CAPSTONES
During the fall semester of senior year, all Northwest Academy seniors write a thesis to demonstrate their ability to think and write critically within the humanities. Each student designs, researches, and crafts a thesis that is focused by a clear critical, analytical, or historical perspective in response to a significant topic.

In the spring semester, seniors may either write a second thesis or they may produce a capstone project. A capstone is a culminating project or performance that reflects and showcases the student’s work in the discipline of their choice. Students can take as their advisor a teacher who could best help them realize the performance they want to produce, or the album they wish to compose, or the portfolio of photos they want to print, or the chapters of the novel they want to write, or even the research they want to conduct in public health, psychology, or some other area of math or science.

This program enables seniors to pursue an artistic or academic passion that helps prepare them for taking ownership of both their creative and intellectual lives after they graduate.

HONORS COURSES & ADVANCED PLACEMENT
No courses are designated as honors and we do not offer any Advanced Placement courses. Classes at Northwest Academy are all conducted like honors classes; the combination of seminar-style courses and small class sizes means that all Northwest Academy students have access to in-depth, challenging work.

Northwest Academy places students in classes according to where they will be challenged and inspired. In-depth course work and opportunities for students to immerse themselves in the deeper meanings of content are favored over survey approaches to curriculum. The focus is on the process of learning and mastering new content and skills. In addition, Northwest Academy High School students enrolled in junior Social Studies, senior level English, Advanced Spanish and Calculus courses earn college credit at the 200 level through the Portland State University Challenge Program.

ASSESSMENT
Assessments at the school are proficiency-based, measuring the skill and knowledge of the individual student. The evaluation process is individualized for each student, taking into consideration not only summative and formative assessments, but also work habits and student engagement. Student work is assessed and evaluated on applied demonstration of knowledge, skill, and critical analysis of the subject. Grades are based on levels of proficiency. A grade of “C-" or above is considered a college recommending grade.

RANKING
Northwest Academy does not rank its students.

FACULTY INFORMATION
Northwest Academy boasts excellence in faculty members, including:
- Former college professors, holding Masters and/or Doctorates in their respective disciplines
- Practicing professionals: writers, filmmakers, artists, animators, dancers, musicians, actors and photographers
- Master teachers with extensive experience in their field

HIGH SCHOOL COURSES OFFERED in 2020 - 2021
- English Literature & Composition I – IV
- Social Science/History I – IV
- Senior Thesis Seminar
- Algebra I • Algebra II • Geometry • Statistics • Pre-Calculus • Calculus I, II
- Biology • Chemistry • Physics • Advanced Biology • Independent Scientific Studies & Research
- Introduction to Spanish – Fluent Spanish • Introduction to French – Fluent French • Chinese Language and Culture
- Actor's Workshop • Advanced Dance • Intermediate & Advanced Art Studio • Advanced Vocal Music Collective
- B&W Photography (Beginning – Advanced) • Creative Fiction/Non-Fiction Writing • Dance • Digital Art
- Digital Photography • Drawing • Filmmaking @ Northwest Film Center • Guitar • History of Music
- Journalism • Improv • Intermediate & Advanced Band • Masters of Cinema • Painting • Printmaking
- Personal, Social, and Global Health • Publications • Vocal Music • American History
Adelphi University
Agnes Scott College
American University
The American University of Paris
Arizona State University
Art Center College of Design Arts
The Arts University College at Bournemouth Wallisdown

Bard College
Barnard College
Belmont University
Beloit College
Bennington College
Berklee College of Music
Boise State University
Boston University
Branford College
Brymawr College
California College of the Arts
California Institute for the Arts
California Polytechnic State University
California State University
Cardiff University
Carroll College
Carleton College
Champlain College
Chapman University
Claremont McKenna College
Clark University
Coe College
Colby College
Colby-Sawyer College
College of Charleston
College of the Atlantic
The College of Wooster
Colorado College
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University
Columbia College Chicago
Connecticut College
Cornell College
Cornell University
CORNISH College of the Arts
CUNY Hunter College
Davidson College
DePaul University
Dickinson College
Drew University
Drexel University
Duke University
Earlham College
Eckerd College
Emerson College
Emily Carr University of Art + Design
Emory University
Eugene Lang The New School For Liberal Arts
The Evergreen State College
Georgetown University
The George Washington University
Georgia State University
Goldsmiths, University of London
Gonzaga University
Goucher College
Grinnell College
Guilford College
Hamilton College
Hamphire College
Hawaii Pacific University
Hobart and William Smith College
Indiana University at Bloomington
Ithaca College
Kalamazoo College
Kenyon College
King's College London
Knox College
Lafayette College
Lake Forest College
Lawrence University
Lehigh University
Lewis & Clark College
Linfield College
Long Island University
Loyola University Chicago
Loyola University New Orleans
LUCerne School of Art & Design
Macalester College
Marist College
Marlboro College
Marquette University
Maryland Institute College of Art
Marymount College
Marymount Manhattan College
Massachusetts College of Art and Design
McDaniel College
McGill University
Miami University, Oxford
Mills College
Montana State University, Bozeman
Mount Holyoke College
Muhlenberg College
New College of Florida

The New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music
New York University
New York University Shanghai
North Carolina State University
Northeastern University
Oberlin College of Arts and Sciences

Occidental College
Oregon State University
Otis College of Art & Design
Pacific Northwest College of Art
Pacific Lutheran University
Pacific University
Parsons The New School for Design
Pitzer College
Polimoda International Institute of Design & Marketing
Pomona College
Portland Community College
Portland State University
Pratt Institute
Purdue University
Queen's University Canada
Reed College
Regis University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhode Island School of Design
Rhodes College
Richard University
Richmond, The American International University in London
Saint Mary's College of California
San Francisco State University
San Diego State University
Sarah Lawrence College
Savannah College of Art and Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
School of Visual Arts
Scripps College
Seattle Pacific University
Seattle University
Sewanee: The University of the South
Simmons College
Simon Fraser University
Skidmore College
Smith College
Southern Oregon University
St. Andrews University, Scotland
St. Edward's University
St. John's College
St. Olaf College
Stanford University
SUNY New Paltz
SUNY Purchase College
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University

Temple University
Trinity University
Tulane University
Unity College
### Recent Scholarships & Awards

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<td>Bennington College Merit Scholarship</td>
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<td>University of Birmingham</td>
<td>California College of the Arts Artistic Achievement Award of Excellence</td>
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<td>University of British Columbia</td>
<td>Chapman University, Dean’s Scholarship</td>
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<td>University of Illinois</td>
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Diagram: Oxygen diffuses into the blood and moves back into the left atrium through the pulmonary veins. It then moves through the left ventricle through the systemic veins, and then into the lungs, where it is absorbed by the blood.