
2013-2014 Application

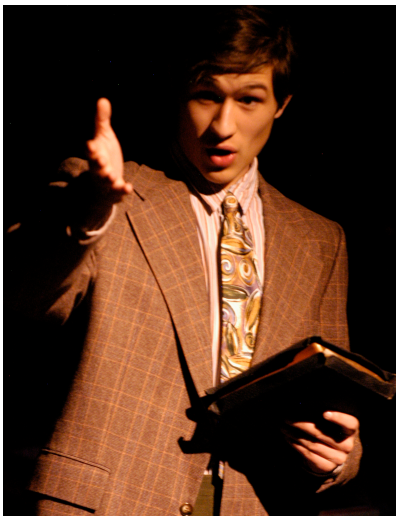
Artist

Scholar

Citizen



ACADEMY OF ARTS & ACADEMICS



This application is for BOTH

The Arts & Academics Campus

&

The Health & Science Campus

INTRODUCTION

Both campuses of the Academy of Arts and Academics are built around a particular vision: we believe that students make the most of their learning when they take ownership of their education – when students intentionally choose to take on the challenge, real learning entails. We further believe that this ownership most naturally develops within a learning community, encouraged by others who share that commitment. Creating such a learning community, however, isn't simplistic. While our common vision has evolved, a few foundational commitments continue to shape our school, whether it's Arts & Academics or Health & Sciences:

- **Integration:** While much of American schooling tends to compartmentalize and over-specialize, we are committed to integration: we want students to see their learning, their world, and their lives whole. Thus, we seek to help students make connections within academic disciplines, between the academics and the arts, between their lives now and their lives as they enter the larger global community in a very few years.
- **Excellence:** With this holistic vision firmly in mind, we also believe students deserve the opportunity to go deep – to develop and pursue a particular passion at increasingly greater depth, guided by mentors in our community who can encourage excellence. Because such connections take time – and because real community involves relationships – we commit ourselves to this particular group of students over the course of four years, and we ask that students make a similar commitment to this learning community.

TWO CAMPUSES, ONE SCHOOL

In the 2012/13 school year, A3 expanded, adding a new campus with a focus on Health & Sciences. The A3 Health & Science Campus is part of the A3 Charter School, but the program is intentionally separate from the Arts & Academics Campus. As each campus is autonomous, students commit to one and there is very little cross over between the two. Students may APPLY to both campuses, but, when accepted, must choose one or the other, depending on space availability.

THE BIG PICTURE

Freshmen enter A3 as full members of the community, either in the Arts & Academics Campus or the Health & Science Campus. They become part of the core, working alongside other A3 students. On both campuses, core academic classes, such as Health, Science, Language Arts, Social Studies, and Math are integrated together where integrating them makes sense and is valuable. Everyone takes two years of Spanish. Students at the Arts & Academics will build up a foundation of movement and design skills in art electives and, during the junior & senior years, will be expected to take advantage and seek out experiences to broaden and deepen their craft. In the Health & Science Campus, 9th and 10th grade students will study core science and math skills and apply them to a variety of projects for public demonstration. During the junior & senior years, students at the Health & Sciences Campus will spend a good deal of their days either at UO taking college-level math & science courses with support for their learning done at A3 as well as in deep intern/mentorships doing scientific research or working at a health care facility. The senior year at A3 - regardless of which campus - should end with a bang, not a whimper. As a culminating experience of their high school education, seniors will be expected to finish strong academically, of course, and pursue their arts or health/science focus at greater depth. Finally, seniors are encouraged to take on a Studio project. This senior project creates opportunities within a student's daily schedule to pursue a personal, well-defined goal. The Studio project, an individualized plan designed by each student with the help of appropriate faculty, and approved by a panel of staff and community members, may take the form of an internship, an exhibition, a research or community service project, or a production.

CLOSE-UP: the fine print

In addition to all Springfield Public Schools high school graduation requirements (24 credits), students graduating from the A3 will complete course work that will make them eligible to attend an Oregon 4 year college. Further, to maintain the integrity of A3's program and each student's educational experience, students are expected to attend full time; that is, they must enroll in a minimum number of courses each semester, and be part of our school from the point they enter till they graduate. As we've said before, the A3 isn't for everyone. Still, we sincerely believe that A3's unique learning community provides opportunities for students to take real ownership of their education.

Finally, this application process is not about "selecting" students, but rather to help the student make an informed choice about selecting A3. ***If there's room, every student who completes the application process will be admitted to A3.***

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APPLICATION CHECKLIST

PART ONE: Please submit this part either in person, email, or on-line by February 28, 2013 to ensure consideration for the first round

- ☐ student information (page 4)
- ☐ letter of intent:
 - ☐ personal essays (page 5)
 - ☐ intent check-sheet (page 6)
- ☐ letter of recommendation:
 - ☐ recommendation check-sheet (page 7)
 - ☐ recommendation short response (page 8)

You can FAX PART ONE to:
541.744.6713
Or email to:
lea-ann.grant@springfield.k12.or.us

PART TWO: Once we've received Part One, we'll schedule you to come either March 2 -OR- March 9, 2013 to do the interview & Group Project. Please bring the following with you on that day.

- ☐ Portfolio (see the description on page 9)
- ☐ community agreements (page 10)
- ☐ your first semester report card from this year or a complete transcript.

CONFUSED?
CONFOUNDED?
CURIOUS?

Call 541.744.6728

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STUDENT INFORMATION

I'm applying for (check one) ☐ Arts & Academics Campus ☐ Health & Science Campus ☐ Both

**You can APPLY for both, but you can only ATTEND one. You'll need to decide once you've been accepted.*

last name

first name

address

city

state

zip

home phone

cell phone

email

gender

☐ male

☐ female

date of birth

race and ethnicity (optional - check all that apply)

☐ white

☐ asian

☐ hispanic (latino)

☐ black/African American

☐ native american (american indian)

☐ other

current school:

Grade in school, 2013/14:

☐ 9th

☐ 10th

☐ 11th

☐ 12th

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LETTER OF INTENT: ESSAY

This letter of intent must be completed by the student applying to the Academy of Arts & Academics. Please type or print clearly.

TO THE APPLICANT:

I, _____ am applying for admission to the Academy of Arts & Academics. As a part of the application process, the review committee considers several areas. We appreciate your thoughtful responses to the following questions.

1. What school subjects interest you, and how have you developed and pursued that interest?
2. Self-motivation and independent thinking are hallmark traits in the arts and academics. Describe how these traits apply to you.
3. Give an example of how you work well with teachers and other students.

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LETTER OF INTENT CHECK SHEET:

Please rate yourself in the following areas

	Excellent	Above Average	Average	Below Average
Academic achievement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interpersonal skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to cooperate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Punctuality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organizational/Planning skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Independent thinking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Honest/Trustworthy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Self-discipline	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flexibility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reliability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creativity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Follow-through	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I pledge that this application is true and accurate, and that it represents all my own work.

Student Signature: _____

Please note that by accepting admission to the Academy of Arts & Academics that you verify that the above is, indeed, your signature.

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This request for recommendation must come from an adult who is not a relative of the student. Please print clearly or you may fill it out electronically, print, sign, and return to the student. We encourage the recommender to fill this out with the student and to have an honest conversation about the topics. This form may be duplicated.

TO THE RECOMMENDER: _____ is applying for admission to the Academy of Arts & Academics. As part of the application process, the review committee considers several areas. We appreciate your thoughtful responses to the following questions.

	Excellent	Above Average	Average	Below Average
Academic achievement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interpersonal skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to cooperate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Punctuality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organizational/Planning skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Independent thinking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Honest/Trustworthy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Self-discipline	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flexibility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reliability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creativity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Follow-through	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments?

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION, *continued*

The vision of A³ is: “The Academy of Arts & Academics combines high academic standards with professional-level arts, science, & health experiences to propel learning, engage passion, and empower transformation.” Please, in a few sentences, describe how this vision matches with the applicant’s goals, as you understand them.

What are the applicant’s strengths/weaknesses as you see them?

Please choose one:

- ☐ I strongly recommend the applicant for admission to A3.
- ☐ I recommend the applicant for admission to A3.
- ☐ I recommend the applicant for admission to A3 with some reservations.
- ☐ I do not recommend the applicant for admission.

your name _____ signature _____

Please print (if done electronically), sign, and return to the applicant. Thanks!

Relationship to the applicant: ☐ teacher ☐ friend ☐ other (please describe)

telephone

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

email

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PORTFOLIO

The portfolio, for both the Arts & Academics Campus and the Health & Science Campus, is a collection of eight (8) to ten (10) items or activities that you feel represent your best work. Please use a regular 9 x 12 folder (the kind with pockets inside). YOU decide what goes in your portfolio; if it was important or worthwhile for you - be it an artistic, sports, activity, or educational experience, whatever - include it. We're interested in what experiences impress you and what you've sought out for your own growth. Your portfolio should be an example of what you're capable of, not how you fit in. Though we give some examples of possible artifacts to include in your portfolio, really it's up to you. Give us your best and tell us briefly about why you're proud of it. The utmost care and consideration will be taken with submitted work. However, please understand that the staff of the Academy of Arts and Academics is not responsible for the loss or damage of the portfolios (you'll be able to pick them up in May).

For each item in your portfolio, please write a one paragraph (about three to five sentences) description about why this item/activity is important to you. For items that are too big to fit in the folder, include a picture. For experiences, like a sports activity, family/church group outing, or a performance, please write up a less than one (1) page description - include a picture if you can - and, again, be sure to include a paragraph about why it was important to you.

Arts & Academics Campus Portfolio Guidelines:

Please design a portfolio that best represents your area(s) of interest in the arts. As well, since A3 is about integration, we would like to see at least three examples of where you used your art in your academic learning. Examples could include, but are not limited to:

- Photographs, Programs from performances, recitals
- Assignments/projects (or a description of them) in science, math, or any other class
- A video tape or DVD showing no more than two minutes of a collection of work or a video project.
- Copies of original writings, stories, poems, or scripts.
- Original drawings, Artistic Photography, A two minute music demo tape or CD, etc...

Health & Science Campus Portfolio Guidelines:

Please design a portfolio that represents what you're most proud of in any work, especially any activity you do OUTSIDE of school. We would like to see at least three examples of work that would be associated with Math, Science, or Health studies, either in school or in some other activity you do outside of school (like, for example, if you're interested in model rocketry or if you've invented a new recipe or are really proud of something you make or prepare). Other examples could include, but are not limited to:

- Photographs or awards from science fairs
- Descriptions of a science or health based project from school
- Drawings or designs of an invention you have in mind or a product you've designed
- Participation in a sport or club activity
- Participation or leadership in a youth or church group, etc...

**NEED HELP? SIGN UP FOR THE PORTFOLIO HELP SESSION ON
February 23, 2013 • Sign up to come between 10 AM - 2 PM
Call 541.744.6728 to reserve your time.**

ALL YOUR PORTFOLIO MATERIALS MUST FIT INTO A REGULAR 9X12 FOLDER.

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COMMUNITY AGREEMENTS

A goal of The Academy of Arts & Academics is to establish community and business partnerships throughout the Springfield downtown core and all over Lane county to offer academic, creative, and hands-on learning.

The Academy of Arts & Academics will:

- Stimulate higher level thinking and problem solving skills
- Provide specialize and advanced experiences in the arts and sciences
- Prepare students for a full-range of post-secondary options
- Incorporate experiential and innovative approaches to learning
- Use both public and private facilities
- Connect students to the larger community of Springfield and the world.
- Build this creative learning community in Springfield's urban core

In light of The Academy of Arts & Academics mission statement, vision, and principles:

We have carefully read this document. We understand and accept these conditions and consequences as members of the A3 Community.

A3 staff, students, and parents will:

- Act as agents of change in our urban community setting
- Encourage positive personal connections among ALL members of the A3 community
- Collaborate in creating an integrated curriculum
- Share responsibility for a safe, ethical and focused place to learn
- Respect and protect school and community property and equipment

A3 students agree to:

- Commit to be a part of our school for four years
- Behave and dress appropriately at all A3 activities
- Respect requests and directions given by adults
- Respect others regardless of class, disabilities, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, and any other differences that may exist
- Participate fully in mentor groups and all school functions
- Attend, engage, and perform in all academic courses and artistic endeavors
- Respect and protect school and community property, equipment, and resources in our school

A3 staff agrees to support students by addressing any breach of contract with the following interventions:

- Communicate with other staff
- Conference between mentor and student to clarify and discuss incidents
- Assist students to creatively solve the problem
- Assign alternative resources to get back on track academically
- Involve families in problem solving

Consequences for serious or repeated infractions may include:

- Formal conference between family, staff, mentor, and student
- Required study skills or peer tutoring program if the student fails to make adequate academic progress
- Academic probation status (Required Study Skills class, loss of privileges such as participation in production companies, activities, etc.)
- Administrative interventions including suspension or expulsion
- Formal counseling toward a more appropriate site placement for the student

student signature: _____ date: _____

parent/guardian name: _____

parent/guardian signature: _____ date: _____

Please print (if filled out electronically) and sign. This form MUST be signed by both parent and student