

 **California School of the Arts**

San Gabriel Valley



EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION
OF **CREATIVE THINKERS,**
LEADERS, AND **INNOVATORS.**

SCHOOL OVERVIEW

California School of the Arts – San Gabriel Valley (CSArts-SGV) is a public charter school that offers a dynamic school culture, enabling students to flourish as artists and scholars in a uniquely challenging and nurturing environment, celebrating creativity, individual growth, and opportunity. CSArts-SGV is the sister school to the award-winning Orange County School of the Arts (OCSA) in Santa Ana, California. The San Gabriel Valley campus opened in August 2017 with the goal of serving more students with a passion for the arts throughout Southern California. Recognized locally and nationally for exemplifying excellence in arts and academic education, CSArts-SGV provides bright and talented students with a rigorous college-preparatory curriculum and pre-professional arts conservatory training. Accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), CSArts-SGV is made possible through a unique public-private partnership with Duarte Unified School District (DUSD). The school's rigorous academic education coupled with advanced arts training prepares students to thrive in the 21st century, molding the next generation of creative thinkers, leaders, artists, innovators, and entrepreneurs.



STUDENTS AND FACULTY

CSArts-SGV serves a student body of nearly 1,200 students in grades 6-12. While 10% of CSArts-SGV students reside in Duarte, the school draws students from more than 100 cities within and outside of the San Gabriel Valley, creating a diverse culture of academically and artistically focused students. In an exciting community partnership, students in grades 6-8 receive their academic instruction through DUSD and their arts classes through CSArts-SGV's conservatory program. Beginning in grade 9, students attend classes full-time on the CSArts-SGV campus. CSArts-SGV's arts and academic faculty members are fully credentialed, and the majority hold advanced degrees. They are dedicated and supportive professionals who help students develop the skills necessary to succeed. Guest artists and industry leaders share their expertise and creativity with students through CSArts-SGV's Master Artist Series, exposing students to one-of-a-kind master classes, lectures, presentations, and hands-on training. CSArts-SGV also offers a comprehensive special services department that is designed to support students with unique learning needs in accessing the curriculum and instruction found within the school's academic and conservatory programs.

We provide an unparalleled arts and academic education in a creative, challenging, and nurturing environment to a diverse group of students who are passionate about the arts, preparing them to reach their highest potential.



LOCATION AND FACILITIES

CSArts-SGV is located in Duarte, California, a few blocks away from the Metro Gold Line. The campus, renovated in the summer of 2017, features more than 50,000 square-feet of instructional space. State-of-the-art classrooms and equipment support the specialized needs of arts and academic instruction. Performance spaces include a 500-seat theatre and a 60-seat recital hall. Rehearsal space includes eight large dance studios, multiple instrumental music and choir facilities, and six individual practice rooms. Additional resources for students include a scenic lab, a costume lab, a ceramics lab, a keyboard lab, two visual arts studios, three computer labs, a gym, and two science labs.

ADMISSIONS

CSArts-SGV is committed to serving all students who have demonstrated a passion and interest in the arts. After becoming familiar with the various conservatories and the skills characteristic of those conservatories through CSArts-SGV's Preview Day, prospective students are invited to fill out an application and participate in Conservatory Placement Activities to help them decide which conservatory is the best fit for them. CSArts-SGV admits all applicants on a space-available basis, except in the areas of dance and music. Should the number of applicants exceed space available, a public, random drawing ("lottery") is conducted by conservatory, grade level, and when applicable, concentration, to determine which students are offered admission.

DONATION-DEPENDENT

CSArts-SGV is a donation-dependent public charter school; no student is offered or denied admission based on family financial capacity.

FUNDING

The State of California provides approximately \$12 million each year to fund the academic instructional program, while the school must privately fundraise approximately \$3 million each year to fund the 11 arts conservatory programs. CSArts-SGV relies on the generosity of parents, individual donors, the business community, and foundations to continue offering a comprehensive arts program.

CSARTS-SGV FOUNDATION

Through a variety of fundraising, marketing, and community outreach initiatives, the CSArts-SGV Foundation is dedicated to providing financial support to the school. The CSArts-SGV Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, governed by a volunteer Board of Directors comprised of prominent business, educational, and cultural leaders.



STAY CONNECTED

Visit: www.sgv.csarts.net

ACADEMICS

Based on the belief that creative artistry is fueled by intellectual curiosity and insight, CSArts-SGV provides a rigorous college-preparatory academic program aligned to the California Common Core State Standards that produces high-achieving, motivated scholars. The proven curriculum includes College Prep courses, Honors and Advanced Placement classes, a dual enrollment program through Citrus College, comprehensive college and academic advising, and a small student-to-teacher ratio (30:1).

Students in grades 9-12 attend approximately five hours of academic classes in addition to two hours of daily arts instruction. CSArts-SGV has been recognized for providing one of the most demanding and intensive academic programs in Southern California.

Through an innovative partnership with DUSD, students in grades 6-8 attend academic classes through one of two DUSD K-8 academies, Maxwell Academy – An International Baccalaureate World School or Royal Oaks STEAM Academy, and then receive conservatory arts instruction in the afternoon from CSArts-SGV's knowledgeable teaching staff.



CSArts-SGV is where students shine academically. Our academic program shapes well-rounded individuals who are prepared to excel in any post-secondary journey. Whether they pursue higher education, the arts, or forge their own unique paths, our students are ready to succeed.

— Patricia Cardenas,
CSArts-SGV Spanish Teacher
& Leadership Advisor

**RANKED #5 BEST HIGH SCHOOL
FOR THE ARTS IN AMERICA
NICHE, 2025**



PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE FUTURE

COLLEGE READINESS

Last year, 100% of the school's graduates were accepted into institutions of higher education, with more than \$11 million in scholarship funds offered to seniors. The CSArts-SGV Class of 2024 averaged a 3.89 GPA, and more than 50% of the class earned a 4.0 GPA or higher.

CSArts-SGV prepares its students to be recruited by the nation's top universities and conservatory programs or to enter the professional industry of their choice upon graduating. Students are encouraged to apply to and enroll in colleges and universities that reflect their individual interests and strengths.

CSArts-SGV prepares its students with opportunities both on and off campus to explore college and career pathways. One such opportunity is CSArts-SGV's two-day College Fair, which enables students in grades 9-12 to network with college representatives and decision-makers from across the country. Students and parents alike are encouraged to attend academic-related panel discussions, arts master classes, and information sessions on financial aid, personal statements, placement tests, and other important topics.



The CSArts-SGV school counselors strive to ensure that every student graduates college-ready and career-ready, feeling completely prepared to take the next step in their educational journey. Our school counseling program follows the American School Counseling Association National Model, providing individualized academic, college, career, and personal counseling to each student.

— Mindy Shiroma
CSArts-SGV School Counselor



CLASS OF 2024


251
GRADS

3.89

AVERAGE GPA


100%
**ACCEPTED INTO INSTITUTIONS
OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

MORE THAN
\$11.5
MILLION
OFFERED IN SCHOLARSHIPS

ARTS

CSArts-SGV is *the* place for aspiring young artists to refine their skills and flourish in one of 11 arts conservatories, housed within four schools of study: Dance, Fine & Media Arts, Music, and Theatre. The school's world-class arts programs provide an opportunity for students to participate in enriching classroom instruction, life-changing master classes and field trips, and unique performance opportunities. These once-in-a-lifetime learning experiences combined with high-caliber arts instruction ensure a successful future for talented artist-scholars.

PERFORMANCES

Each year, our driven and highly motivated students participate in more than 60 performances, presentations, and exhibitions at a variety of venues in the San Gabriel Valley community, including the Pasadena Conservatory of Music, Descanso Gardens, Haugh Performing Arts Center, Duarte Performing Arts Center, Sierra Madre Playhouse, the Los Angeles College of Music, City of Hope, and more. These performances, including the annual Tree Lighting, All-School Musical, Gala, and Season Finale, encompass all aspects of the arts and afford students the opportunity to experience the audition process, work with industry professionals, learn the various aspects of each performance, build their confidence and self-esteem, and improve their technique and stage presence.



“

There's some magic going on here. I've never seen this kind of passion in a high school. The kids are getting master classes from people that are renowned in their industry. [The school places] great emphasis on the whole student, rounding them out and bringing them to a place where they can have an impact.

— Cliff Armstrong
CSArts-SGV Alumni Parent

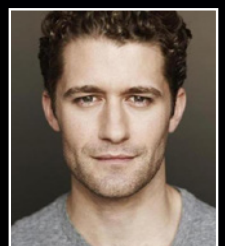
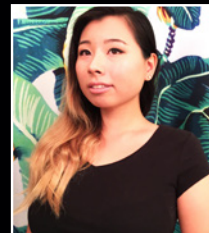
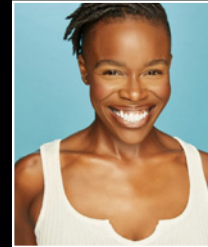
EXPOSING STUDENTS TO THE BEST

MASTER *Artist* SERIES

Students have the unique opportunity to study with nationally renowned guest artists in master classes, workshops, performance experiences, interactive career discussions, panels, and more. These leading industry professionals have a profound impact on our students' education and often serve as their mentors and inspiration as they advance to higher education and professional careers in the arts.

Master Artists have included:

Ahmed Best
Imani Bias
Terence Blanchard
Jim Blaylock
Angel Blue
Jon Bond
David Burnham
Elsa Chang
Matt Conover
Bernard Derriman
Gustavo Dudamel
Susan Egan
Susan Graham
John Michael Higgins
Ron Husband
Jane Kaczmarek
Matthew Lillard
Matthew Morrison
Dan Povenmire
Tim Powers
Gabrielle Ruiz
Eric Whitacre
Zendaya



AND MORE!

CONSERVATORY PROGRAMS

School of Dance

BALLET & CONTEMPORARY DANCE CONSERVATORY Grades 6-12

The Ballet & Contemporary Dance Conservatory offers intensive pre-professional training in a variety of dance styles, including ballet, modern, pointe, variations, composition, choreography, dance history, and movement. Ballet technique encompasses pointe, men's technique, pas de deux, and variations, while modern technique emphasizes improvisation, release technique, and choreography composition.

COMMERCIAL DANCE CONSERVATORY Grades 6-12

The Commercial Dance Conservatory offers pre-professional training in a wide variety of dance styles, including ballet, hip-hop, jazz, lyrical, modern, and tap. This conservatory is specially designed to develop well-rounded dancers with the technical skills, discipline, and commitment necessary for a professional career in the dance industry and admittance into prestigious university dance programs.

School of Fine & Media Arts

CREATIVE WRITING CONSERVATORY Grades 9-12

The Creative Writing Conservatory is an MFA-modeled course of study that offers a flexible concentration of classes and writing opportunities, including coursework in fiction, creative nonfiction, poetry, and dramatic writing. Multiple workshops, literature classes, and genre studies classes are offered each semester, allowing students to reflect on the qualities of excellent writing.

INTEGRATED ARTS CONSERVATORY Grades 9-12

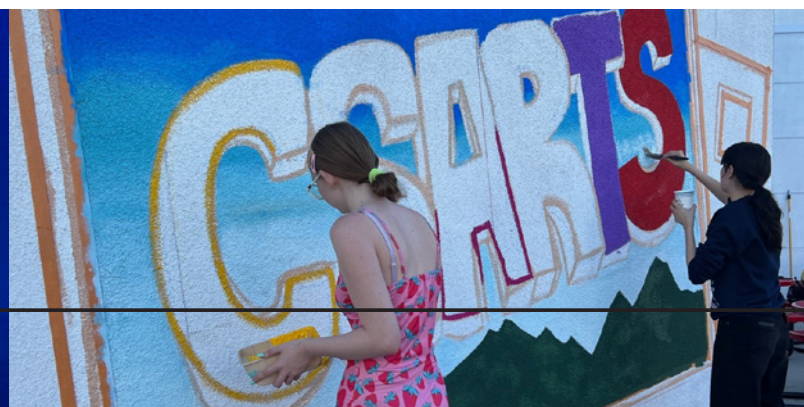
The Integrated Arts Conservatory offers a high-caliber program where students are exposed to a wide range of disciplines, including visual arts, voice, drama, creative writing, dance, production and design, and more. This program is designed to provide aspiring artists with an opportunity to explore and actively participate in a multitude of arts classes in a stimulating, creative, and nurturing environment.

VISUAL ARTS CONSERVATORY Grades 9-12

The Visual Arts Conservatory offers students the opportunity to learn fine art studio techniques and improve upon existing skills in a stimulating environment. Students explore both traditional and innovative art practices in a variety of mediums, including painting, drawing, ceramics, photography, and digital media. Through classes and showcases, students gain confidence, craftsmanship and a personal narrative body of work.

SCHOOL OF FINE & MEDIA ARTS (MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM) Grades 6-8

The School of Fine & Media Arts program offers middle school students a broad introduction to the principles of fine and media arts, including creative writing, integrated arts, and visual arts. The breadth of classes offered ensures that students receive an understanding of all elements pertaining to their discipline and are better equipped to make an informed decision for their high school focus.



ARTS MUSIC THEATRE & MEDIA ARTS DANCE

School of Music

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC CONSERVATORY Grades 6-12

Serving talented student musicians, the Instrumental Music Conservatory houses four specialized programs: the Guitar Program, the Pianist Program, the Strings & Orchestra Program, and the Wind & Jazz Studies Program. These well-rounded programs train students to have a breadth of experience in repertoire from various eras and genres, while fostering technical and creative development.

POPULAR MUSIC CONSERVATORY Grades 9-12

The Popular Music Conservatory is a contemporary music program that provides talented and passionate instrumentalists, vocalists, and songwriters with a nurturing and empowering environment, promoting creativity, collaboration, and innovation within the popular music industry. Students learn the art of music performance, production, arranging, and songwriting, as well as receive training on their primary instrument.

VOCAL ARTS CONSERVATORY Grades 6-12

The Vocal Arts Conservatory offers a comprehensive course of study focused on the training of expressive vocal artists across multiple music genres. Students in this conservatory are immersed in the fundamental elements of music as the basis for artistic expression, empowering them with the musical training and tools to “sing outside of the box” and preparing them for a career in the vocal arts.

School of Theatre

ACTING CONSERVATORY Grades 9-12

The Acting Conservatory offers comprehensive acting and movement training to students who aspire to achieve a career onstage or in film and television. Tailored for young actors interested in advancing their skills, the conservatory encourages its students to develop healthy technique, experience a variety of styles, learn about the history of the craft, and prepare for the future.

MUSICAL THEATRE CONSERVATORY Grades 9-12

The Musical Theatre Conservatory offers a rigorous, nurturing, and comprehensive course of study for students who aspire to achieve a career on or off the stage. Students receive an innovative education similar to that of a collegiate arts program that balances performance, content creation, and technique.

PRODUCTION & DESIGN CONSERVATORY Grades 9-12

For every performer onstage, there are several artists working behind the scenes. Under the direction of industry professionals, students in the Production & Design Conservatory are transformed into these behind-the-scenes artists, taking courses in scenery, costumes, makeup, lighting, audio, props, stage management, theatre history, theatre technologies, acting, and more.

SCHOOL OF THEATRE (MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM) Grades 6-8

The School of Theatre program offers middle school students a broad introduction to the principles of theatre, including acting, musical theatre, and production and design. The breadth of classes offered ensures that students receive an understanding of all elements pertaining to their discipline and are better equipped to make an informed decision for their high school focus.



A NURTURING ENVIRONMENT

UNIQUE SCHOOL CULTURE

CSArts-SGV offers a unique school culture that enables students to flourish as artists and scholars in a creative and nurturing environment. The school fosters a spirit of leadership, entrepreneurialism, and community service by encouraging students to make a positive difference in their school and community. Students receive opportunities to participate in a variety of traditional school-sponsored activities, special events, clubs, and organizations that enhance leadership skills, develop confidence, and form meaningful memories.



ACTIVITIES DANCES CLUBS LEADERSHIP
WELCOME WEEK STUDENT MEDIA INCLUSIVITY





HOME AWAY FROM HOME



We all love the arts so much, so we all have something in common. Because we chose to be here, none of us take it for granted. We come to school every day because we want to.

— Nicole Slessor
Commercial Dance Conservatory
Class of 2019

AWARDS & PARTNERSHIPS

AWARDS

CSArts-SGV has been acknowledged nationally, regionally, and locally for exemplifying excellence in arts and academic education. CSArts-SGV has received the following recognitions:

Exemplary School

Arts Schools Network (ASN)
(2024–2029)

WASC Accreditation

Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)
(2023–2029)

Best High Schools

Niche
(2020–2025)

Readers Choice Award for “Best Charter School”

San Gabriel Valley’s Best sponsored by the *Pasadena Star-News*, *San Gabriel Valley Tribune*, and *Whittier Daily News*
(2018–2019, 2024–2025)

AP® Computer Science Female Diversity Award

College Board
(2021–2025)

Best High Schools

U.S. News & World Report
(2022–2024)

Exceptional Charter School in Special Education

National Association of Special Education Teachers (NASSET)
(2020–2024)

Readers Choice Award for “Favorite Charter School” and “Favorite Music School”

San Gabriel Valley’s Best sponsored by the *Pasadena Star-News*, *San Gabriel Valley Tribune*, and *Whittier Daily News*
(2023)

California Exemplary Arts Education Award

California Department of Education
(2021)

Arts Schools Network New and Emerging School Award

Arts Schools Network (ASN)
(2018)

PARTNERSHIPS

CSArts-SGV has formed partnerships with institutions of higher education and professional arts organizations, including:

AMDA College of the Performing Arts
ArtCenter College of Design
ArtNight Pasadena
Azusa Pacific University School of Music
Church of the Good Shepherd United Methodist
Citrus College
City of Duarte
City of Hope
Descanso Gardens
Duarte Chamber of Commerce
Duarte Rotary Club
Duarte Teen Center
Duarte Unified School District
Enchanted Dancewear
Grand Park
The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens
Laguna College of Art and Design
Los Angeles College of Music
Los Angeles Opera
Monrovia Association of Fine Arts
MUSE/IQUE
Otis College of Art and Design
Pasadena Conservatory of Music
Sierra Madre Playhouse
Whittier College



CSARTS-SGV IN THE COMMUNITY

CSARTS ACADEMY

CSArts Academy provides extracurricular introductory and pre-professional arts training to children throughout the community. Programs take place during the summer on the CSArts-SGV campus. Under the guidance of CSArts-SGV's renowned educators and master guest artists, there are both morning and afternoon class opportunities for students of all levels, ages 8-15.

BRING CSARTS-SGV TO YOU

CSArts-SGV proudly offers a wide range of professional-level performance groups, comprised of talented student artists from all of the school's arts conservatories. Bring CSArts-SGV to You allows members of the community to feature a select group of bright and talented CSArts-SGV students at their private, corporate, and charity functions. CSArts-SGV's many performance groups provide an extensive and customizable repertoire to select from, sure to meet the needs of any event or budget!

GLUCK COMMUNITY SERVICE ARTS FELLOWSHIP

This program provides free artistic performances and activities for underserved and underrepresented individuals in various local community venues, such as youth centers, schools, nursing and retirement facilities, health centers, parks, and family festivals. Soloists, ensembles, and performance groups present concerts and performances that often include interaction with the audience and discussion about technique, musical motifs, or other educational lessons. CSArts-SGV is grateful for the generous support of the Max H. Gluck Foundation.

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY ARTS ENRICHMENT

CSArts-SGV partners with DUSD and many organizations from the community to bring unique arts programming to children across the San Gabriel Valley. CSArts-SGV partners with The Dragon Kim Foundation and DUSD to provide an annual, free, after-school music class for 50 students in grades K-4. Additionally, CSArts-SGV partners with DUSD to provide a dance education program for all students in grades K-8.



PARENT & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Foundation Board of Directors provides leadership and oversight to the Foundation to help advance the mission of CSArts-SGV. The Board is comprised of individuals who are passionate about arts education and have a strong commitment to the continued growth of the school. Members of this governing body serve as community ambassadors, identify and provide connections to donor prospects, cultivate and steward donors, monitor school finances, and personally support CSArts-SGV fundraising events and campaigns while also providing expertise to school leadership in various fields.

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

President's Circle is an advisory membership group that plays an integral role in shaping CSArts-SGV's future, providing guidance and resources for strategic planning, key priorities, and important schoolwide initiatives.

ENCORE

Encore is a fun, social membership group that provides opportunities throughout the year to meet and socialize with other CSArts-SGV families. Members participate in exclusive pre-performance receptions and unique events, select Master Artist Series programs, and adult arts classes. Various membership levels provide families with an opportunity to join with the benefits that best fit their individual needs.



FAMILY ACTION NETWORK (FAN)

FAN is a no-cost parent support group that encourages CSArts-SGV parents to get involved through volunteer efforts, while raising funds in support of classroom needs. The mission of FAN is to create an all-inclusive, diverse, and collaborative parent community; provide a time and process for meaningful volunteer opportunities; help provide resources to the school in order to further enhance students' academic, artistic, physical, and emotional growth; and help CSArts-SGV parents stay involved and organized for the good of the school and its students.

PARENTS ARTS COUNCIL (PAC)

PAC creates volunteer opportunities for parents within their child's arts conservatory. Each conservatory has its own PAC, managed by the director of the conservatory.



