

OSA Arts Sub-Pathway Transfer Process (2019-20)

[Note: The term *arts sub-pathway* is the new term we are using for “arts department” or “arts emphasis”.]

Overview and Dates

This sheet will detail the next steps in the transfer audition process, now that you've submitted your transfer request form. Here are the basics:

Shadowing: February 3-7 during normal arts time.

Auditions: Wednesday, February 12 (Meet in Room 302 at 1:30pm).

[NOTE: Dance transfer audition is Tuesday, February 11th during periods 3, 4, 5]

Shadowing

If you indicated on your transfer form that you wanted to shadow your desired arts sub-pathway, you'll be able to do so during the week of February 3-7. Each day of that week, certain sub-pathways will be open to you for shadowing. They are ONLY open on that particular day. Here is the schedule:

Monday Feb 3

Fashion Design (Room 105 next to Black Box, middle and high school)

Literary Arts (middle school: Room 227 / high school: Room 339)

Dance (Room 231, middle school periods 3, 4, 5) – *bring dance clothes, wear hair up in a secure bun*

Tuesday Feb 4

Instrumental Music (middle school: meet at 19th Street security desk / high school: Newberry 408)

Audio Production & Engineering (AP&E) (Room 305)

Visual Art (Room 271, middle and high school)

Wednesday Feb 5

[NO SHADOWS]

Thursday Feb 6

Production Design (Black Box Theatre, middle and high school)

Friday Feb 7

Theatre (middle school: Room 269-B / high school: Room 306) – *bring athletic clothes, hair up/back*

Digital Media (Room 330, middle and high school)

Vocal Music (Room 302, middle and high school)

On the day of your shadowing, you may go DIRECTLY to that arts sub-pathway at the top of 4th period (if you're currently in middle school) or the top of 7th period (if you're currently in high school). You do NOT need to check in with your current arts class. Your attendance will be handled.

Conduct and Behavior: Shadowing and Auditions

The audition norms for existing students are a little bit different than for new students. Shadowing is not required. However, if you do shadow, your conduct and behavior during your shadowing visit are absolutely allowed to be taken into consideration when a sub-pathway considers whether to accept you. You're already a student at OSA, and you should know what the expectations are. The same thing goes for the audition itself. You'll be scored using the same rubric as new incoming students, but your behavior and conduct are absolutely fair game for factoring into a final decision.

Audition Requirements

If you're shadowing, you should make sure to touch base with the chair (the head) of the arts sub-pathway you're auditioning for. You can then check in with them to make sure you understand the audition requirements. If you aren't shadowing, please make sure you get your questions answered if you have them. "I didn't understand the audition requirements" is not a valid excuse for not completing them.

A note to students with IEP or 504 plans: Any accommodations that can assist you with successfully navigating the audition day will be honored. If your audition involves submitting a portfolio or completing a performance, and you need further time or assistance, please contact (or have your case worker contact) Mr. Travisano (mtravisano@oakarts.org / 510-873-8821) *before* the day of the audition. He will work with you and/or your case worker(s) to ensure compliance with the terms of your plan.

Acceptance and Your Spot at OSA

If you're accepted into a new arts sub-pathway, you'll begin there on the first day of the 2020-21 academic year. You'll end the current academic year in your current sub-pathway. If you're not accepted into another sub-pathway, you may simply stay where you are. You don't lose your spot at OSA. **However**, if you accept a spot in a new arts sub-pathway, you cannot return to your old one without another audition next year.

Enrollment Rules and Realities

Current OSA students are given the highest preference when it comes to enrollment. However, there are two reasons why you may be denied entry into your desired sub-pathway:

1. You did not satisfy the audition requirements, or you did not score high enough in the audition.
2. There is not enough space in that arts sub-pathway, even if we only accept internal transfers.

If we have more internal transfers than we have space, we will do a random drawing of students to determine who will get a slot. Transfer students who satisfied the audition requirements, but don't get a space, will be put at the top of that sub-pathway's wait list.

Be Advised: A Transfer is Not a Right

As harsh as this sounds, it's important to remember that no student is guaranteed a transfer to another arts sub-pathway. We've developed a process for a student to *request* a transfer (through an application and an audition). However, any transfer is always at the discretion of the Artistic Director. This means that a student whose behavior and conduct in their current arts sub-pathway is not in keeping with OSA Handbook and with that sub-pathway's norms, may be denied a transfer on that basis. Or a transfer can be revoked at any time before the beginning of the 2020-21 academic year.

Students: It's never too late to demonstrate your maturity and to handle your business. This means being on time, doing the work that is asked of you (and seeking assistance if you feel you cannot), and being a positive and productive citizen. You may be unhappy or dissatisfied where you currently are. You may feel stuck. And that's normal. However, don't make the mistake of thinking that you can act the fool (as the saying goes) and find greener pastures in another art. We aren't looking to keep you where you're unhappy. But you also have to play the game. And it's never too late to start.

Guardians/Parents: Thank you for supporting your student(s) through this process. Please know that the audition decision is final. And we will not allow any off-cycle auditions. If the Artistic Director has chosen to withhold a student's acceptance into another sub-pathway due specifically to their conduct or behavior (either during the shadowing/audition or during their time in their current sub-pathway) you will be notified and given an explanation with next steps.