

HENDERSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

INSTRUMENTAL | VISUAL ART



DANCE | THEATER | VOICE

SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS

# Student Handbook

## 2017-2018

### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

The mission of the School of Fine Arts at Henderson County High School is to stimulate creative thinking and problem solving in young men and women artists by challenging them in an in-depth arts curriculum of their choice as they search to find their own voice within performance based activities.

### **VISION STATEMENT:**

The vision of the School of Fine Arts is to enrich the lives of our students by bringing together public/private entities to collaborate in creating and promoting exceptional learning experiences for our Henderson County students.

# Henderson County High School - School of Fine Arts

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to the 2017-2018 Henderson County School of Fine Arts! We are truly thrilled to be here and to be able to work in such a wonderful environment for the arts. This is an exciting year for our program and our school. Most importantly, we will continue to demonstrate a tradition of excellence. Our students will be distinguished ambassadors for our school, our county, and our state and will exhibit leadership throughout our community.

Please read over all of the information contained within this handbook very closely, and make sure that you file this document in a safe place for reference throughout the year. The purpose of this handbook is to serve as an operational guide for students, parents, and staff. For clarification please know that SoFA simply stands for “School of Fine Arts”. This handbook will outline a systematic approach to the philosophy and organization of the Henderson County SoFA Program.

Participation in the Henderson County SoFA Program will prepare you not only for a lifetime in the arts, but also for your professional and interpersonal relationships as you move into the world. The friendships and connections you make through your time in the Henderson County SoFA Program will last a lifetime. We can achieve great things together, but only if we expect great things from each other and from ourselves.

Whenever any questions may arise, please check this document first. Additionally, please explore our website, to find additional resources and information regarding all programs.

<http://hendersonsofa.org>

You will find my contact information at the bottom of this page. Feel free to contact me at any time with any concerns or questions.

Sincerely,

Charlie McManus  
Supreme Chancellor  
Henderson County High School - School of Fine Arts

Phone: (703) 850-7745

Email: [Charles.mcmanus@henderson.kyschools.us](mailto:Charles.mcmanus@henderson.kyschools.us)

# Henderson County High School - School of Fine Arts

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## Guiding Statements

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### VISION STATEMENT:

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## Breakdown of the School of Fine Arts

The Henderson County High School - School of Fine Arts is composed of five areas of the ARTS:

- Instrumental - Mr. Adam Thomas, Mr. Charlie McManus
- Vocal - Mr. Andrew Miller, Mr. Charlie McManus
- Visual Arts- Ms. Victoria Wylie, Mr. Brian J. Etensohn
- Theater - Mrs. Lyndsey Bassett
- Dance - Mrs. Tracy Rutledge

Students may apply to one or more areas but will only be accepted to one (if accepted at all) particular area in SoFA. Students will audition for each area that they applied for in SoFA. While students will often take classes that fall under the different areas, each student will be a member of only **ONE** arts area. While we encourage students to learn and take classes in all the arts, there is simply not enough time for a student to specialize in multiple areas of the arts.

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## Code of Conduct

As ambassadors for the SoFA, Henderson County High School, and the community, all SoFA students are expected to maintain a higher level of professionalism and conduct. As one of the most visible components of HCHS, it is very important that our students hold themselves accountable for their actions and the way they present themselves.

- Arrive on time and be prepared with all materials. Instructors will provide material(s) or clarify for student what material(s) they need to provide in a timely fashion so student has sufficient time to acquire proper items. Instructor(s) will provide logistical details of all events prior to the date of the event.
- Practice, rehearsal, and performance venues are to be neat and clean at all times. This is an expectation and directive from the director, department coordinator and the principal all of whom will be monitoring our spaces throughout the school year.
- Food and drink are not allowed in the SoFA facilities during classes or rehearsals (except water). Because of the amount of time we spend after school hours in rehearsal/performing/etc. food and drink will be permitted in the facilities after school-**if you are clean and responsible**. Use the trash cans and do not let them overflow! Excessive amounts of spills or trash left on the floor will result in a loss of this privilege at any of the directors' discretion.
- Students must follow all "Rehearsal Etiquette" rules and expectations and be respectful at all times.
- The SoFA facilities open at 7:20 AM each day for practice only, if you have signed up for one of the limited number of spots. You WILL be asked to leave if you are not practicing. Any student may drop off instruments/equipment after 7:45 each morning.
- On days when there are no after school rehearsals, the SoFA facilities will close twenty minutes after dismissal (3:45 PM). When there are rehearsals or trips after school, the SoFA facilities will close one half hour after rehearsal ends. **Please have your rides ready on time.**
- You must be under direct adult supervision if you are in or using any of the SoFA facilities. If you are not part of the organization rehearsing, you must find another place to be.
- The SoFA facilities are not your lockers. Please do not leave your things in any SoFA facility. The directors are not responsible for personal items that may be lost or stolen if left unattended.
- The offices of the directors are their personal spaces. Please respect this by not entering unless invited. You should NOT be in the director's office without the director being present, unless otherwise instructed. Thank you for understanding.
- Students must maintain a HIGH level of respect for themselves, their peers, their teachers, and the arts.

**Failure to comply with this code may result in removal from the School of Fine Arts.**

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## Rehearsal Etiquette

Students must adhere to these rules and expectations when involved and participating in any SoFA organization. Students involved with SoFA should be role models to their classmates and uphold the utmost respect for themselves, their peers, their teachers, and their art.

- Students must arrive for any SoFA event on time and be prepared to begin at the start time.
- Students must come prepared for all SoFA events. Each fine art area or department will provide their own list of materials that a student will need as well as have informed the student of what to expect with every event.
- Students must maintain a high level of respect for themselves, peers, teachers, and the arts. Disrespect will not be tolerated at any level. The Fine Arts is an incredible medium for self-expression and compassion. In order for all to experience the arts to its fullest it is imperative that everyone, especially the students in SoFA, hold themselves to a high standard of maturity as well as, maintain a respectful demeanor to all.

*“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellent, then, is not an act, but a habit” -Aristotle*

## Academic Expectations

All SoFA students are expected to maintain a “B” Average in all courses in SoFA. Additionally, students will not be able to participate in SoFA extracurricular events if they are currently failing any class. The SoFA holds every student accountable for their academic success and emphasizes a commitment to all academic endeavors, not just in the Fine Arts.

While all students are expected to be at all performances, SoFA students **MAY BE REMOVED** from the School of Fine Arts for **ANY UNEXCUSED** absence. Performances are the culmination of every organization’s work and an unexcused absence shows a lack of professionalism and respect that we maintain for our students.

If a student has an unexcused absence from a performance he/she must initiate communication with the instructor to set up a meeting between the student, parent/guardian and instructor. This meeting is to take place within five school days from the date of the unexcused absence. During this meeting the student and parent/guardian will inform the instructor of the situation that caused the student to miss the performance.

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The teacher will take the information for further review. The student and parents/guardian will receive written notification on the final decision within ten school days from the day the group meeting took place.

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## Dismissal from the School of Fine Arts

Directors maintain the right to dismiss any student from Henderson County High School - SoFA. While there are many cases in which a student will be removed from SoFA, it is also up to the discretion of any director to consider dismissal for any reason.

A verbal issue will be given to the student after an infraction. A phone call home will be the next disciplinary act if a student persists to underperform our behavior or academic expectations. If the issue continues then a parent-teacher conference will be scheduled with any or all of the directors to discuss the behavior of the student. After the conference, if the issue persists, any director has the option to submit a formal referral for dismissal from the School of Fine Arts.

Once a student has been formally referred for dismissal a meeting will be called with the principal, counselors, directors, parents, and the student. At this meeting we will discuss the actions leading to the referral as well as a plan of action for the student.

Parents and students also reserve the right to request dismissal from the School of Fine Arts. If requested, a teacher-parent conference with any or all directors will be scheduled. At this conference we will discuss the student's situation and our recommendation. If needed, a formal meeting with the principal, counselors, directors, parents, and the student will be scheduled following the teacher-conference. At this meeting we will discuss the student's situation and create a plan of action.

Our hope and desire is that ALL students in SoFA will perform and be successful in our programs. We also know that there will be struggles. We are here to help and guide our students along so they are successful. Please contact us at any time if you have questions or concerns.

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## School of Fine Arts Agreement

By signing this page, I verify that I have read and understand the material contained within these pages. I agree to all of the obligations and responsibilities that rest on my shoulders as a member of the Henderson County School of Fine Arts.

Student Name (Print):

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Home Address:

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Home Phone:

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Parent/Guardian Name (Print):

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Work Phone / Cell Phone:

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E-mail Address:

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# Henderson County High School - School of Fine Arts

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (parent/guardian), and my child have read, understand, and agree to abide by the guidelines outlined in the 2017-2018 HCHS School of Fine Arts Handbook. If I have any questions, I know that I may contact the director at any time.

P./G. Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date:  
\_\_\_\_\_

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