Duke Ellington School of the Arts
SY27-28 Audition Procedures – Visual Arts

GUIDELINES

All students must complete a portfolio. All portfolio materials must be submitted by the February 1st deadline. Following the portfolio review, selected students will be invited to audition.

All auditions are closed to parents/guardians, family members, or peers. If you leave for non-emergencies during your audition, you may be disqualified from completing the admissions process.

If you have any questions, conflicts and/or health concerns, please contact the Admissions Office at admissions@ellingtonarts.org for further assistance.

What We Are Looking For

Ellington is looking for students with potential who demonstrate their passion for the visual arts. Successful auditioners show strong observational skills, teachability, and hand-eye coordination.

How to Prepare

Applicants must bring their portfolio in-person and submit their portfolio electronically via the Microsoft form below:
https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/42HDwfKySR

- ***Images of your portfolio pieces must meet the following criteria:***
- A portfolio of at least five (5) or more works of art - on white drawing paper, 8-1/2 x 11inch paper or larger – with at least one each in the following categories:
  1. A self-portrait, realistic to the best of the auditioner's ability,
  2. A drawing of a bicycle,
  3. A drawing of an open closet in their home (use color: pencils, markers or watercolors),
  4. A drawing of a landmark in the city,
  5. Free choice of anything of your own creation.

Please be sure you keep these pieces of art and have them ready for your audition interview.
The five (5) portfolio items above are mandatory. If you have additional portfolio items and/or a sketch book, you are welcome to bring these in as well. Students are encouraged to bring their personal sketchbook or examples of personal work that best demonstrate their artistic interests and skill.

The Audition Process Itself

Students will be selected following the portfolio review. Those selected to move forward, will be required to produce a drawing from a still-life during the audition, write a short essay while in your audition session about the form and content of a work of art presented during the audition, and discuss their portfolio during their interview with a Visual Arts faculty member.

The Visual Arts Department will supply the materials needed for your audition. The audition process will take up to one (1) hour and forty-five minutes to complete.

Have a Successful Audition

- Take time and care with your required sketches.
- Be prepared to discuss your work.
- Present yourself well – arrive on time, speak clearly and confidently.

Please note 504 and IEP accommodation is available. Please contact admissions@ellingtonarts.org with any questions or concerns.