

BALTIMORE SCHOOL
for the **ARTS** / **Twigs**
TO WORK IN GAINING SKILLS

Where the Arts Change Kids' Lives



FREE
ARTS
CLASSES

Applying for TWIGS auditions is required!

Applications for all programs will be open until
Wednesday, May 10th, 2023.

Go to www.bsfa.org/twigs to apply.

Auditions are May 30th-June 5th, 2023.

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The TWIGS program offers
FREE after-school and Saturday
classes in Music, Dance,
Visual Arts, Stage Design &
Production, Acting, and Film
& Visual Storytelling for 2nd-8th
graders* who are Baltimore City
residents and who qualify by
audition. Classes will be held at
the Baltimore School for the Arts,
712 Cathedral St from Fall 2023
through Spring 2024.

* See class descriptions for
grade level requirements

www.bsfa.org
443.642.5169

Mark K. Joseph Building
712 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



THEATRE

Stage Design & Production **GRADES 5-8**

Do you love the costumes, set and special effects that make a show exciting? SDP students explore creative ways of making art that tells stories. 8th grade students work to create a portfolio that can be used for auditions. Classes will be held once a week for one and a half hours.

Stage Design & Production Auditions **MAY 30TH-JUNE 5TH, 2023**

Students entering grades 5-8 in September 2023 are eligible to audition.

All applicants must have submitted the online application by Wednesday, May 10 in order to receive a Google Form with instructions for submitting 3-5 examples of work (drawings, paintings, collages, photographs, craft projects) for their audition with a brief caption to describe each piece and why they chose that particular piece of work to share. Google Form submissions are due by Sunday, May 14th.

Once work is submitted through the Google Form, rising 5th, 6th, and 7th Grade applicants will be invited to audition in person to engage in various exercises as a group. Rising 8th Grade applicants will be invited to audition in person for a brief individual conversation with faculty to discuss the work they submitted as well as why they want to join the Stage Design and Production Program.

Any experience working on performances (plays, concerts, dance shows) may be included in the discussion, but previous experience is not required.

THEATRE

Acting **GRADES 5-8**

Explore your imagination and work with an ensemble in creative ways. Classes include improvisation, theatre games, and scene study. The 8th grade classes also include monologue rehearsal to develop audition material. Classes will be held once a week for one and a half hours.

Acting Auditions **MAY 30th-JUNE 5TH, 2023**

Students entering grades 5-8 in September 2023 are eligible to audition.

Each applicant must prepare a memorized monologue (one character's speech from a play) no more than two minutes in length or a poem approximately one minute long.

Students must have submitted the online application for auditions by Wednesday, May 10th. Once applied, students will be notified of their in person audition appointment no later than one week prior to Audition Week.



DANCE

GRADES 2-8

Develop your talents in dance. Professional dance educators will train you in the basics of ballet. Classes will be held 1–4 times a week depending upon class level. In the spring, TWIGS dancers participate in an annual production.

Dance Auditions

MAY 30th - JUNE 5th, 2023

Students entering grades 2-8 in September 2023 are eligible to audition.

Dance auditions will be held Tuesday, May 30th - Monday, June 5th. Auditions are by appointment only. All applicants must have submitted an online application by Wednesday, May 10th in order to receive an appointment. Appointment times will be sent out via email no later than one week prior to Audition Week.

Applicants will participate in a brief dance movement class as part of the audition. For the audition, wear a leotard, convertible tights and ballet slippers. Spandex shorts/gym shorts with a close fitting t-shirt may be worn. No skirts, leg warmers, costumes, or jeans. Feet may be bare. Loose-fitting clothing or jewelry should not be worn. Hair should be pulled away from the face and neck and securely pinned back. The audition process typically lasts about two hours.



MUSIC

Vocal

GRADES 6-8

Learn to sing and care for your voice. You will participate in a choral music program to work on components of singing including breath support, posture, note reading, and sound production.

Vocal Music Auditions

MAY 30th-JUNE 5th, 2023

Students entering grades 6–8 in September 2023 are eligible to audition.

Applicants may sing a song of their choice that demonstrates the quality of the voice and the clear articulation of the song's words. Examples are patriotic songs, church hymns, or folk songs. Popular music that imitates the style of that particular singer is not helpful in determining the quality of a young voice and should be avoided. Applicants may choose to sing "The Water is Wide." This song is recommended for students who cannot decide what to sing for the voice audition. Students can search "The Water is Wide" on Youtube to hear the melody.

All applicants must have submitted an online application to audition by Wednesday, May 10th in order to receive an appointment. Appointment times will be sent out via email no later than one week prior to Audition Week.

MUSIC

Instrumental

GRADES 2-8*

Our program helps you improve on your instrument through ensembles (band, orchestra, jazz band, sectionals), musicianship classes, and private lessons with our esteemed faculty. Most classes are held on Saturdays but some private lessons may be scheduled on a weekday.

Instrumental Music Auditions

MAY 30th-JUNE 5th, 2023

For the TWIGS Music auditions, students will need their instrument and sheet music. Auditioning students should be prepared to play at least one solo piece AND one or two scales. Students should choose pieces that represent their current skill set on the instrument. We are looking for students who exhibit potential and a level of proficiency, both musically and technically, regardless of the amount of experience on their instrument.

*Instrumental program instruments and grade level requirements:

Students entering grades 2-4 in September 2023 are eligible to audition for the following instruments:
Piano, Harp, Violin, Viola, Cello.

MUSIC CONTINUED

Students entering grades 5-8 in September 2023 are eligible to audition for the following instruments: Piano, Harp, Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Classical Guitar, Percussion, Trumpet, Horn, Trombone, Tuba, Euphonium/Baritone, Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet, Saxophone.

All applicants must have submitted an online application by Wednesday, May 10th in order to receive an appointment. Appointment times will be sent out via email no later than one week prior to Audition Week.



VISUAL ARTS

GRADES 4-8

Students entering grades 4-8 in September 2023 are eligible to audition.

If you like to draw, paint, or work with your hands, we offer lessons with professional artists to develop skills in drawing, painting, and sculpture. 4th-7th grade classes will be held once a week on Saturdays for two hours. 8th grade classes will meet two days a week after-school for two hours.

*The Visual Arts program is a one-year program for students in grades 4 and 5. Interested current students may re-audition to continue to pursue visual arts at these grade levels.

Visual Arts Auditions

SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2023

All applicants must have submitted an online application by Wednesday, May 10th in order to be eligible to audition. As part of the audition, all applicants are required to prepare both: 1. a collection of artwork (portfolio) and 2. a home test drawing.

Rising 4th and 5th Grade applicants will submit their materials online via a Google Form provided to them after they apply. Google Form submissions must be submitted by Sunday, May 14th.

Rising 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade applicants will submit their materials during their in-person audition held on Saturday, June 3rd. Appointment times will be sent out via email no later than one week prior to the audition date. During the audition, students will be guided through drawing exercises as a group. Students should be prepared to discuss the contents of their portfolio individually with faculty.

FILM & VISUAL STORYTELLING

Adobe Suite for Filmmakers **GRADES 7 AND 8**

Students entering grades 7 and 8 in September 2023 are eligible to audition.

This 20-week course is structured around three important Adobe Creative Suite software programs for filmmakers: Photoshop, Premiere Pro, and After Effects. Students will learn the skills necessary to create film posters and short videos with basic visual effects and title sequences.

Shots and basic camera work will be explored. Classes will meet once a week for two hours after-school.

Adobe Suite for Filmmakers and Film and Visual Storytelling Audition Prep Auditions

MAY 30th-JUNE 5th, 2023

Students will be asked to submit requested material via a Google Form and participate in a Google Meet conversation. Further information and instructions will be available to students after submitting the application.

All applicants must have submitted an online application by Wednesday, May 10th in order to receive the Google Form with instructions for submission of materials. Submissions are due Sunday, May 14th. Google Meet appointment times will be sent out via email no later than one week prior to Audition Week.



Film and Visual Storytelling Audition Prep

GRADE 8

Students entering grade 8 in September 2023 are eligible to audition.

(8th graders can apply to both classes and participate in both if accepted.)

This 8-week course is designed to prepare students for the Film and Visual Storytelling high school audition. We will explore the principles of storytelling, storyboards, and still image compositions. Writing exercises are essential to this class. Classes will meet once a week from October to December. We are seeking students with passion for film and the collaborative art of movie-making. At the core of the program are the principles of visual storytelling and an emphasis on writing.

All applicants must submitted an online application by Wednesday, May 10th in order to receive the Google Form with instructions for submission of materials. Submissions are due Sunday, May 14th. Google Meet appointment times will be sent out via email no later than one week prior to Audition Week.

"I can confidently say that TWIGS has given me the wings I need to fly. It has provided me with the tools, resources, and support necessary to pursue my dreams and achieve my goals. I am incredibly grateful for the program and the impact it has had on my life, and I would encourage any young artist in Baltimore to consider taking advantage of this incredible opportunity."

—Jamir Lawson



Jamir Lawson, Class of 2024
Saxophone
Music Department Representative - SGA
Member of the BSU Leadership
Prom Committee Leadership

AUDITION

INSTRUCTIONS: Submitting an application is required.

Auditions are required for acceptance into the TWIGS program. Any interested student who meets the grade-level requirement* in September 2023 and who lives in Baltimore City may audition. Classes are held at the Baltimore School for the Arts, 712 Cathedral Street (corner of Cathedral and Madison Streets).

Apply to audition by Wednesday, May 10th for all programs.

Students may audition for up to two departments BUT, if accepted, MAY ONLY PARTICIPATE IN ONE. Families will be notified of the results of the audition by email approximately four to six weeks after the audition.

TO APPLY:

Go to www.bsfa.org/twigs

For additional information, email: TWIGS@bsfa.org

visit www.bsfa.org

*** See class descriptions for age requirements for each department.**

SUPPORT FOR 2023/24 TWIGS is provided by: Baltimore City Public Schools, The Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts, Clayton Baker Trust, The Aaron and Lillie Straus Foundation, The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, Joseph and Harvey Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds, The Goldsmith Family Foundation, The Herbert Bearman Foundation, and the Lockhart Vaughan Foundation.