

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

Where the Arts Change Kids' Lives



Applying for TWIGS auditions is required!

Applications for all programs will be open until
Wednesday, May 8th, 2024.

Click [HERE](https://www.bsfa.org/twigs) to apply or visit www.bsfa.org/twigs

Auditions are May 28th - June 3rd, 2024.

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TWIGS@bsfa.org
667-401-9241/9242

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

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 2024 through Spring 2025.

* See class descriptions for grade level requirements



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.

Auditions

MAY 28th-JUNE 3rd, 2024

Students entering grades 5-8 in School Year 2024/2025 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. Previous acting training is not required to prepare a monologue to audition.

Students must have submitted the online application for auditions by Wednesday, May 8th. Once applied, students will be notified of their in person audition appointment no later than one week prior to Audition Week.

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.

Auditions

MAY 28th-JUNE 3rd, 2024

Students entering grades 5-8 in School Year 2024/2025 are eligible to audition.

All applicants must have submitted the online application by Wednesday, May 8th, 2024. Once applied, students will be notified of their in person audition appointment no later than one week prior to Audition Week.

All Stage Design & Production auditions will be in-person. All applicants are required to prepare 3-5 work samples (drawings, paintings, collages, photographs, craft projects) that show their creativity. All applicants will bring their original work samples into their audition appointment time. Students should be prepared to discuss their work samples with faculty and/or engage in a group activity led by faculty. Any experience working on performances (plays, concerts, dance shows) may be included in the discussion, but previous training is not required.



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.

Auditions

MAY 28th-JUNE 3rd, 2024

Students entering grades 6–8 in School Year 2024/2025 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 8th 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.

Auditions

MAY 28th-JUNE 3rd, 2024

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. With the exception of the Harp, to best prepare for the audition, some experience with the instrument is required. We are looking for students who exhibit potential and a level of proficiency, both musically and technically.

*Instrumental program instruments and grade level requirements:

Students entering grades 2-4 in School Year 2024/2025 are eligible to audition for the following instruments:
Piano, Harp, Violin, Viola, Cello.

Students entering grades 5-8 in School Year 2024/2025 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 8th in order to receive an appointment. Appointment times will be sent out via email 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.

Auditions

MAY 28th-JUNE 3rd, 2024

Students entering grades 2-8 in School Year 2024/2025 are eligible to audition.

Students will participate in a dance movement class which includes a variety of exercises, poses, and stretches for

their audition. Students should wear tight-fitting clothing such as spandex shorts, leggings, convertible tights, a leotard, and/or a fitted shirt. They should wear ballet slippers or socks. Their hair should be pulled away from their face and securely pinned back. Please do not wear jewelry, baggy clothes, leg-warmers, skirts, costumes, accessories, or jeans.

No previous dance training is required to be able to successfully participate in the audition.



VISUAL ARTS

GRADES 4-8

Students entering grades 4-8 in School Year 2024/2025 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 for two hours. 8th grade classes will meet twice a week after-school for two hours. 8th grade classes will meet twice 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.

Auditions

MAY 28th - JUNE 3rd, 2024

All applicants must have submitted an online application by Wednesday, May 8th in order to be eligible to audition.

Students entering 4th and 5th Grade in School Year 2024/2025

No specific at home preparation is necessary for the audition and students

do not need to bring anything to the audition. During the audition, students will be guided as a group through a series of drawing exercises and activities. Previous Visual Arts training is not necessary to follow the instructors directions during the audition.

Students entering 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade in School Year 2024/2025

Students are required to prepare both:

1. A collection of artwork (portfolio) and
2. A home test drawing to bring to their in-person audition. The home test drawing should be done on a plain white sheet of paper from direct observation of a still life you have set up that includes 5-10 household objects.

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 STORY TELLING

Adobe Suite for Filmmakers

GRADES 7 AND 8

Students entering grades 7 and 8 in School Year 2024/2025 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.

Auditions

MAY 28th-JUNE 3rd, 2024

All applicants must have submitted an online application by Wednesday, May 8th in order to be eligible to audition.

Students are required to prepare all of the following: 1. One “self-portrait” collage, and 2. 3-5 work samples to bring to their in-person audition.

Your collage should be created using materials you have access to at home and should represent “you” - your hobbies, interests, pets, favorite colors, etc. At the audition, students should be prepared to discuss their home assignments and their favorite film, book, graphic novel, fable, or fairy tale.

All 8th Grade students accepted and enrolled into the Adobe Suite program will have the opportunity to participate in the optional 10-week Audition Prep class to help prepare for their audition to the high school.





Rebecca Sherber,
Class of 2024
Stage Design & Production
TWIGS High School Helper

“TWIGS heavily fueled my interests, influenced who I have become, and gave me some of my closest friends to this day. It not only helped me build my practical artistic skills but also developed my soft skills, like collaboration and adaptability. Exploring art in this incredibly creative and endearing community will never get old, and returning to assist in programs I once participated in has been one of my favorite things as a high schooler. Sharing my fundamental love for creative expression, and then fostering and supporting that same love in the middle schoolers, makes my own appreciation for BSA and for art bloom even more.”
— Rebecca Sherber, '24

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 School Year 2024/2025 Apply to audition by Wednesday, May 8th, 2024 for all programs.

Classes are held at the Baltimore School for the Arts, 712 Cathedral Street (corner of Cathedral and Madison Streets).

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.

Click [HERE](#) to apply or visit www.bsfa.org/twigs

For additional information, email: TWIGS@bsfa.org

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

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