AUDITIONS NOW REQUIRED
2022-2023

Dance
Music: Band
Music: Vocal
Theatre
Admissions Requirements

There are three requirements to apply to our Performing Arts Academy:

- Be a Palm Beach County resident at the time of application

- Have a GPA of at least a 2.0. The GPA is calculated for 9th grade applicants using the last quarter of 7th grade and the first two quarters of 8th grade. The GPA calculations for 10th-12th grade applicants will be based on the student’s earned GPA at the time of eligibility determination. Students who do not meet the minimum grade point criteria will not be accepted regardless of a qualifying audition score. Private school students will be required to submit an updated transcript to determine eligibility.

- You must participate in an audition and earn a qualifying score (see table below). The audition process depends on the program you are interested in. The intention of this booklet is to describe in detail what those auditions will be like and what you must prepare for each program.

Qualifying Scores

Scores are averaged from three adjudicators and range from 1 to 5.

- 9th Grade 4.25 or higher
- 10th Grade 4.50 or higher
- 11th Grade 4.75 or higher
- 12th Grade 4.90 or higher

The names of all qualifying students will be submitted to the Department of Choice and Career Options for a random lottery selection process. If there are more qualified students than available spaces in a program, The School District of Palm Beach County will make the final selection using the random computer lottery system. Students not initially selected will be placed in a wait pool for all choice programs in which they applied and were deemed eligible for.

Scores may need to be adjusted by art area depending on the number of available seats and score distribution of art area applicants. If such an adjustment occurs, qualifying scores will not increase.

General Process for Admission to our Performing Arts Academy
Step 1: **Apply**

Complete and submit an application with The School District of Palm Beach County Department of choice and Career Options by the District’s Deadline: December 10, 2021.

Applications are available online at www.pbchoiceapp.com. Once you apply, a confirmation of receipt is sent via email. Please retain all login information for future use in the Application Management system. If a computer is unavailable at home, please visit the local library or the child’s school. Refer to the Choice Programs Booklet for further details. If the student has an IEP or 504 Plan, please mail or email it to West Boca High’s Academy Coordinator immediately following submission of the application. All 504s and IEPs must be received prior to January 8, 2021.

Step 2: **Assignment of Audition**

All approved applicants will be notified via email of the audition procedures and the time/date of the audition. Only students who have a verified application on file with the Department of Choice and Career Options will be assigned an audition. If an audition notification is not received by January 5, 2022, please contact West Boca High’s Academy Coordinator at 561-672-2932.

Applicants must audition on the date they are assigned. Student’s audition dates can only be rescheduled in the case of a documented family emergency or if the assigned date conflicts with a day of religious observance. West Boca High defines family emergency as the death of an immediate family member of the student.

If a student becomes ill on the date of their scheduled virtual audition, he/she must provide the school proof of illness on that date from a doctor within (before or after) three (3) business days of the date of the student’s scheduled audition. Once West Boca High has verified the proof of illness, the student will be rescheduled only if there are more audition dates available. Students who have not auditioned before the scheduled lottery will not be eligible for the initial lottery selection process.

Step 3: **Prepare**

Review the audition guidelines in this book.
Step 4: Audition

Upon arrival, all applicants and (1) chaperone will report directly to the designated holding area, which will be the Cafeteria. This area will have direct access to the outside. Masks must be worn while indoors in this area. Check in tables will be present in this area. When applicants are called to audition, chaperones must remain in holding area. No person is allowed to cross the student services sign unless they are auditioning. If anyone is caught passing the sign, their child will be automatically disqualified. Auditions will take place in the Performing Arts Area. Applicants will use the ESOL room and Guidance Conference Room as designated warm up spaces.

Step 5: Wait

The School District of Palm beach County Department of Choice and Career Options establishes a date of notification for the release of placement results for all the Magnet and Choice Programs. This year that date will be April 1st, 2022.

Accommodations are given to students with special needs documented in an active IEP or 504 plan. Students who have limited proficiency in the English language are encouraged to audition in their native language. Students identified as LY will be provided language facilitators for their auditions. A parent/guardian must notify West Boca High’s Academy Coordinator immediately following the submission of the application if the child has a special need that requires accommodations for their audition. A copy of the child’s current IEP or 504 plan (public school students) or medical evaluation (private school students) must be provided to the school immediately following the submission of the application in order to ensure audition accommodations.

Non-Discrimination Statement

The School District of Palm Beach County, Florida, prohibits discrimination in admission to or access to, or employment in its programs and activities, on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or sexual orientation, marital status, age, religion, disability, genetic information, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic prohibited by law. The School Board also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.
Dance Audition Guidelines

West Boca High offers two dance tracks: Track 1: Ballet & Jazz Track 2: Hip-Hop & Contemporary. Please see the guidelines below for the track you wish to audition for.

**Ballet**

**Attire:**

**Female Applicants:** Black leotard, pink convertible tights, pink ballet shoes with their hair neatly secured in a bun.

**Male Applicants:** Black Convertible tights, Solid white form fitting shirt, white socks and white ballet shoes.

Applicant will execute two combinations in concentrations of Ballet and Jazz techniques taught by Ballet/Jazz Coordinator. Students will be asked to execute their Ballet combination then their Jazz combination. Once a student has executed both combinations, the solo and interview process will take place.

**Evaluation of the dance combination execution will be based on:**

- **Technical Execution:** Body alignment, Clarity of Movement, Strength, Stamina, Endurance and Flexibility
- **Coordination / Movement:** Moving two or more body parts simultaneously in a cohesive manner
- **Artistic Ability:** Performance quality, facial expression, dynamics, effective movement quality and projection
- **Retention Skills:** Ability to learn combinations quickly and execute them accurately

Applicant will need to perform a prepared ballet, modern or jazz solo no longer than one and a half (1.5) minutes in length. Female ballet solos may be on pointe but it is not required. Applicant will send his/her music to dance director at Alonzo.williams@palmbeachschools.org. No costumes, accessories or props are permitted.

**Evaluation will be based on:**

- **Overall technique:** Clarity of movement, proficient technical execution and musicality
- **Overall artistic ability:** Performance quality, dynamics and projection

Applicant will be interviewed by the dance department faculty prior to their solo. Interview questions will be limited to 1 - 3 questions per dancer.

**Evaluation will be based on:**

- current involvement in dance
- ability to communicate ideas and goals
- potential for professional success
**Hip Hop**

**Attire:**

**Female Applicants:** Black loose fitting shirt, black sneakers and grey sweats  
**Male Applicants:** White loose fitting shirt, white sneakers and black sweats

Applicant will execute two combinations in concentrations of Hip-Hop and Contemporary techniques taught by the Dance Director. Students will be asked to execute their Hip-Hop combination then their Contemporary combination. Once a student has executed both combinations, the solo and interview process will take place.

*Evaluation of the dance combination execution will be based on:*

- Technical Execution: Body alignment, Clarity of Movement, Strength, Stamina, Endurance and Flexibility
- Coordination / Movement: Moving two or more body parts simultaneously in a cohesive manner
- Artistic Ability: Performance quality, facial expression, dynamics, effective movement quality and projection
- Retention Skills: Ability to learn combinations quickly and execute them accurately

Applicant will need to perform a Hip-Hop or Contemporary solo no longer than one and a half (1.5) minutes in length. Applicant will send his/her music to the dance director at Alonzo.Williams@palmbeachschools.org. No costumes, accessories or props are permitted.

*Evaluation will be based on:*

- Overall technique: Clarity of movement, proficient technical execution and musicality
- Overall artistic ability: Performance quality, dynamics and projection

Applicant will be interviewed by the dance department faculty prior to their solo. Interview questions will be limited to 1 - 3 questions per dancer.

*Evaluation will be based on:*

- current involvement in dance
- ability to communicate ideas and goals
- potential for professional success
Music-Band Audition Guidelines

Attire: Applicants should dress comfortably and tastefully in clothing that does not inhibit or restrict free movement. Clothing should completely cover the thighs, mid-section, back and chest when moving. Shoes should allow for safe, grounded and comfortable movement. No hanging jewelry. Do not wear a costume!

Note: West Boca does NOT offer a guitar program nor do we offer a drum set program. However, students who play legitimate percussion are encouraged to apply. Percussionists are expected to perform and sight-read on SNARE DRUM or MALLETS. No timpani is required.

After fulfilling the requirements for the Percussion audition, students may elect to demonstrate Drum Set skills.

Drum Set:
Prepare the following styles in 32 bar form
Straight Ahead Swing at quarter note= 100-160 bpm
Latin Style (samba, bossa, etc.) at quarter note= 100-140 bpm
Funk/Rock at quarter note =100 bpm

Applicant will perform a prepared solo chosen from the state music list of standard music literature. Go to www.flmusiced.org/fba/dnn/Music-List/Solo-Ensemble for a listing. The chosen solo piece should showcase the student’s technical ability at the highest level with which the applicant is comfortable. We recommend a level four solo or higher.

Evaluation will be based on:
• pitch accuracy (discrimination and partials)
• rhythmic accuracy (timing, tempos, actual written rhythm)
• tone quality (characteristic for instrument)
• technique (breath control, fluency, fingering, entrances, releases, tempos, articulation)
• expressiveness (dynamics, phrasing, tempo, shaping)
• musical effect (artistry, stage presence, appearance, emotion)

Applicant will prepare six (6) major scales in the keys of: C, F, B♭, E♭, A♭, and D♭. The judges will ask the student to perform 3 of the 6, selected at random.

PLEASE NOTE: TRANSPOSITION IS NOT NECESSARY!
Evaluation will be based on:

- accurate performance of each scale asked to perform

Applicant will sight-read several measures after 30 seconds of visual study.

Evaluation will be based on:
- accurate performance of each measure

Applicant will sing a familiar song (e.g. “Happy Birthday.”)

Evaluation will be based on:
- Accuracy (pitch, rhythm and timing)

Applicant will sing a series of notes played on the piano in real time.

Evaluation will be based on:
- Aural memory and intonation

Applicant will participate in an interview.

Evaluation will be based on:
- Demonstrated motivation through description of practice habits, lessons, festival participation, awards, eagerness to learn and try new concepts.
Music-Vocal Audition Guidelines

*NOTE REGARDING SOLO SELECTION*


Applicant will **perform a prepared solo** chosen from standard music literature available through any middle or high school music department. The solo repertoire should showcase the student’s technical ability and well-produced tone at the highest level with which the applicant is comfortable. Selection must be memorized. Please bring a track of your accompaniment on CD or downloaded directly on a device (no internet streaming).

*Evaluation will be based on:*

- tone quality
- technique (posture, breath management, legato style)
- pitch and rhythmic accuracy
- intonation
- diction (pure vowels, clear consonants, authentic diction)
- expressiveness (dynamics, phrasing, tempo)
- musical effect (6 elements: artistry, stage presence, appearance, emotion, memorization, choice of literature)

Applicant will **sing a familiar song** (e.g. “Happy Birthday.”) Applicant will also **sing tones** back from chords played on the piano.

*Evaluation will be based on:*

- aural memory (accuracy of pitch, range accessibility)

Applicant will **sing back a series of notes** from short melodies played on the piano. Five examples of progressive difficulty will be given.

*Evaluation will be based on:*

- aural memory, accuracy and intonation

Applicant will **sight-read several measures** after 30 seconds of visual study.

*Evaluation will be based on:*

- accurate performance of each measure

Applicant will participate in an **interview**.

*Evaluation will be based on:*
motivation and communication skills demonstrated through participation in musical events, musical achievements, eagerness to learn and try new concepts, ability to communicate in an articulate manner with poise

**Theatre Audition Guidelines**

**Attire:** Applicants should dress comfortably and tastefully in clothing that does not inhibit or restrict free movement. Clothing should completely cover the thighs, mid-section, back and chest when moving. Shoes should allow for safe, grounded and comfortable movement. No hanging jewelry. Do not wear a costume!

**Musical Theatre Track**

Applicant will present one (1) 32-bar cut from a published musical theatre song AND a dance combination taught by musical theatre faculty.

*Evaluation of the songs will be based on:*

- Energy & Emotional Investment
- Focus, concentration, control
- Clarity of storytelling (sense of imagination, discovery, communicating the meaning of the words)
- Specific & appropriate character choices (physical gesture, style of piece)
- Honest & truthful behavior in performance
- Vocal quality (pitch, intonation, rhythm, volume, diction, breath support)

*Evaluation of the dance combination will be based on:*

- Retention (learning movement quickly with little or no repetition of instruction)
- Execution (demonstrating coordination, dance technique and rhythmic accuracy of movement)

Applicant will be challenged to a redirect (perform in a different way with specific direction) on their prepared song.

*Evaluation of the redirect will be based on:*

- Willingness to take direction & ability to follow instructions
- Success implementing the requested direction
**Acting Track**

Applicant will **verbally present two (2) contrasting monologues (see criteria below)**.
Neither should be longer than 45 seconds in length.

*Monologue 1* should follow the following guidelines:
Sourced from a published play written in the last 100 years
45 seconds in length
Fully memorized

*Monologue 2* should follow the following guidelines:
Sourced from **one** of the following sources: a published play, a movie, television, a video game, a book, poetry/spoken word or an original piece
45 seconds in length
Fully memorized

*Evaluation of the monologue will be based on:*
Energy & emotional investment
Focus, concentration and control
Clarity of storytelling (sense of imagination, discovery, communicating the meaning of the words)
Specific & appropriate character choices (physical gesture, style of piece)
Honest and truthful behavior in performance
Vocal quality (volume, diction, breath support, inflection)

Applicant will be **challenged to a redirect** (perform in a different way with specific direction) on one of the prepared monologues.

*Evaluation of the redirect will be based on:*
Willingness to take direction & ability to follow instructions
Success implementing the requested direction
Apply today online at www.mypbchoiceapp.com
Performing Arts Deadline is December 10th, 2021

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