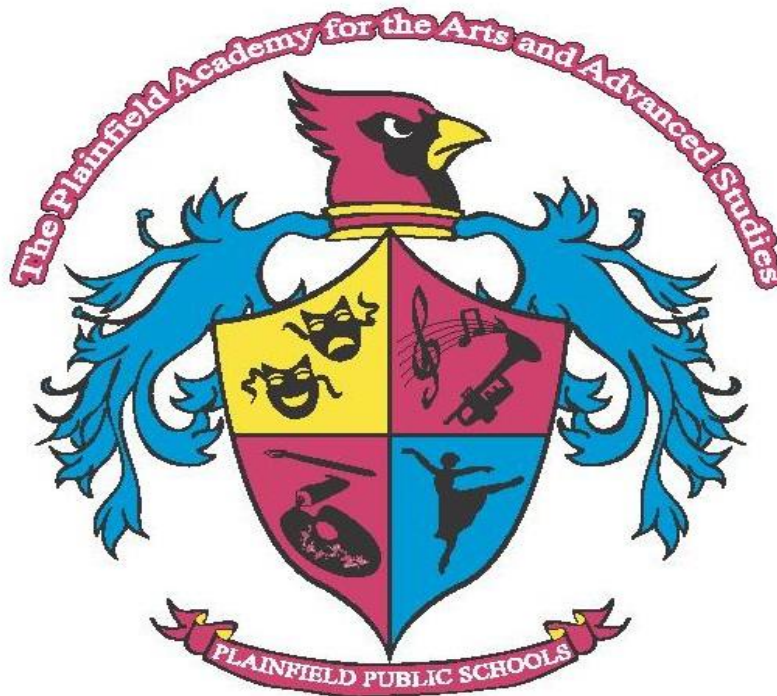


# **The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies**

**Application for the 2023-2024 Academic School Year**



**The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies**

1700 West Front Street & Rock Avenue

Plainfield, New Jersey 07063

Phone: (908) 731-4370

Email: [paaasapplications@plainfield.k12.nj.us](mailto:paaasapplications@plainfield.k12.nj.us)

# **The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies**

November 1, 2022

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students:

The Plainfield Board of Education is accepting applications for students who are interested in attending the **Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies** (PAAAS) for the 2023-2024 school year. This program, which encompasses grades 7 to 12, has been uniquely designed for students that are talented in the visual and performing arts as well as students who are seeking a rigorous and challenging curriculum in a college preparatory environment.

The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies recognizes, values, and strengthens student individuality in academics and artistic areas of interest. Our faculty is committed to working with students on an individualized basis to stimulate and develop their intellect, artistry and creativity. Upon graduating from The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies, students will be prepared for future matriculation and success in colleges, universities, art institutions, and/or conservatories.

All students who are interested in applying to the Academy are required to complete all sections of this application and must attend an audition and/or interview for consideration in the admission process.

**The deadline to submit this completed application to PAAAS is 12 noon on Friday, January 20, 2023.** Once applications are reviewed, and applicants have met all of the qualifications, an audition will be scheduled for the first week of February 2023.

Sincerely,

Gregory Sneed  
Principal

Aurora J. Hill  
Vice-Principal

# **The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies**

## **Application Process**

1. Prospective applicants must complete all parts of this application. **Applications missing information will *not* be accepted or considered. All parts of the application must be submitted as one packet.**
2. Carefully read the audition procedures for your selected artistic area of study. You will be notified of the date and time of the audition.
3. Provide ***two*** letters of recommendation. One must be from a teacher or administrator.
4. Provide current report cards as stated on pages 4 and 5.
5. Provide a current transcript. If coming from out of district.
6. Submit a completed Personal Essay and Parent/Guardian Statement. Topics for the Personal Essay are listed on page 13.
7. Mail or hand-deliver the completed application and required documents to the following address by 12 noon on **Friday, January 20, 2023**.

### **The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies**

1700 West Front Street & Rock Avenue

Plainfield, New Jersey 07063

Phone: (908) 731-4370

Attn: 2023-2024 Applicant

Email: [paaasapplications@plainfield.k12.nj.us](mailto:paaasapplications@plainfield.k12.nj.us)

## **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS PAAAS 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR**

The following items are required before handing in your application to PAAAS and due by 12 noon on **Friday, January 20, 2023**. **PLEASE NOTE:** If all items are not present when due, your application will **NOT** be accepted and processed for admission consideration.

**1. Personal Information** (pages 11 - 12)

**2. Student Essay** (page 13)

**3. Parent/Guardian Statement** (page 14)

**4. Full or Partial Year Report Card/Transcript: Incoming Grades 7, 8, 9, 10**

- **Full Year Report Card Year 2021-2022**
- **Present Year Report Card (2022)**
- **2022 NJSLA Scores for Grades 7, 8, 9, 10, 11**

**5. Two (2) Recommendations** (pages 15-18)

**#1 Teacher's Recommendation**

**#2 Personal Recommendation**

# **The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies**

## **Audition Process**

### **DANCE**

The Dance Audition covers ballet, jazz, and modern techniques. Dancers will be assessed on their technique, musicality, alignment, flexibility, and performance skills. The audition will include a short ballet barre, modern center floor, and jazz across the floor for all interested candidates, followed by individual solos.

Solo criteria – Length is to be two minutes maximum. Solo may be choreographed by the student or another choreographer; choreographer's name must be given. Students must supply their own music on an iPad or iPhone.

Proper attire must be worn for dance auditions:

#### **Proper Attire for Dance Auditions:**

Males: T-shirt must be white and fit smoothly, black tights and/or jazz pants, ballet shoes.

Females: Tan footless or convertible tights, black leotard, pink or skin tone ballet shoes, **hair must be off the face and neck in a ponytail or bun.**

### **THEATER**

Students are required to memorize a two-minute monologue from a published play or monologue book and be prepared to perform it live before a panel of judges. All theater applicants are also required to sing a song of their choice acapella. The evaluation places more emphasis on the monologue than the song performance.

In addition to your monologue and acapella singing performance, you may be given an improvisation and/or cold reading. You will be evaluated on your speech, voice, creativity, physicality and character identification.

Lastly, there will be a brief interview component of your audition.

#### **What type of monologue should I prepare?**

**Answer:** Please prepare a 1½ to 2-minute contemporary dramatic or comedic monologue from a published play or monologue book. The monologue should feature a character close to your own age and temperament. Avoid playing characters with dialects or impediments unless you have mastered them. Lastly, **DO NOT** select monologues from classical works such as Shakespeare.

#### **Can I prepare something I wrote myself or something that is not from a play?**

**Answer:** **NO**. Do not select pieces that you have written yourself or passages from novels, short stories, poems, or screenplays.

# **The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies**

## **Theater- continued**

### **How should I dress?**

**Answer:** Dress in your normal attire, but make sure your clothes are comfortable enough to move in. Avoid jewelry and costumes.

### **Where can I find and/or purchase suggested plays or monologue books?**

**Answer:** Please visit your local or school library, bookstore, or PAAAS website for suggested monologues. As for bookstores equipped with suitable plays and monologues, we recommend the Drama Book Shop (250 W. 40<sup>th</sup> St., between 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenues, New York City. (212-944-0595).

## **VISUAL ART**

The **Visual Art** audition process includes the submission of the applicant's portfolio. It must have the following:

### **Observational Art:**

- A self-portrait in pencil.
- One still-life drawing in charcoal.
- One outdoor scene using pastels or colored pencils.

### **Personal Art (in student's choice of subject matter):**

- One design emphasizing use of color.
- One collage.
- One painting using water colors or acrylics.

### **In addition to the requirements listed above:**

- Three additional pieces (pieces need to be related to one another by subject matter or medium, student's choice).
- Student's sketchbook
- Artist statement (four sentence paragraph describing themselves as an artist).
- One live drawing during the portfolio review session will be required.

# **The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies**

## **GRAPHIC ART**

The **Graphic Art** audition process includes the submission of the applicant's portfolio. The portfolio must be printed. It must include the following:

- One collage (Utilizing photos and text create a collage that represents you)
- One design emphasizing the use of color
- One design in black and white
- One poster design on any subject matter
- One design emphasizing the use of text/words only (Typography)
- One line drawing of yourself as a cartoon character
- Sketchbooks
- Three additional designs (of different subject matter, student's choice)
- Artist statement (1 paragraph describing yourself as a designer)
- One live drawing during the portfolio review

## **PIANO MUSIC**

**Pianists** should demonstrate the following:

- Play C, G, D, F, B flat Major scales- two octaves. Each hand separate, then with both hands.
- Chord progression (I-IV-V-V7-I) in the key of C, G, F Major.
- C chromatic scale two octaves in both hands.
- A piece that demonstrates lyrical playing and technical proficiency.

## **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**

The **Instrumental Music** requirements are as follows:

**All Wind Instrumentalists** should demonstrate the following on their respective instrument:

- Concert G, C, F, B-Flat, E-Flat major scales and arpeggios, two octaves.
- Concert F chromatic scale, two octaves.
- Two contrasting pieces that demonstrate lyrical playing and technical proficiency.
- Sight-reading of grade 2 level music.

**Percussionists** should demonstrate the following:

- Eight of the Percussion Arts Society forty international drum rudiments.
- Chromatic scale three octaves from C on a mallet instrument.
- Concert F, B-Flat, E-Flat major scales, two octaves on a mallet instrument.
- A prepared solo piece on snare drum exhibiting technical ability.
- Sight-reading of grade 2 level music on snare drum, mallet, and timpani.

# **The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies**

## **Instrumental Music- continued**

**Guitarists** should demonstrate the following:

- E, A, D, G, C, F, and B-Flat major scales two octaves.
- A chromatic scale two octaves.
- Choose two representative solo works of contrasting styles, demonstrating tone, technical facility and interpretation.
- Sight-reading of at least grade 2 level pieces.

Students interested in participation in the jazz band component (including jazz piano), should demonstrate the following abilities in addition to the above audition requirements:

- Perform the melody and improvise on “Song for my Father” from Jamey Aebersold Play-A-Long Volume 54.
- Perform the melody and improvise on “Ornithology” from Jamey Aebersold Play-A-Long Volume 93.
- Sight-reading in the jazz/swing genre at grade 2 level.
- Drum set should also perform p. 18-19 from the “Art of Bop Drumming” by John Riley.

## **VOCAL MUSIC**

The **Vocal Music** requirements are as follows:

All students interested in auditioning for vocal music should come prepared and ready to sing two (2) songs. One song must be the “Star Spangled Banner”. The other song can be a song of your choice. (Classical, Broadway, Pop, Sacred, etc.) Students may bring a music track, sheet music, or sing acapella. Auditioning students must demonstrate the following in their presentation:

- Centered pitch.
- Good tone quality.
- Proper breathing technique.
- Adequate phrasing.
- Confidence in performing.

Students must have the ability to sing the following scales:

- A major scale.
- A minor scale.
- A chromatic scale.



# **The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies**

## **TV PRODUCTION: GRADES 9, 10, 11 & 12 ONLY**

The TV Production requirements are as follows

### **Part I**

- Do you work well as part of a team? Describe your experience working as a part of a team. (Class project, sports, extracurricular)
- List three of your favorite films. What do you like most about each film?
- Why do you want to become a part of the TV Production Program at P.A.A.S.?
- What news programs do you watch? Where do you get the majority of your news from? (Newspaper, TV, Web)
- Describe your experiences so far as a filmmaker.

### **Part II**

**Take a picture of the following things:**

- A face
- A rock
- A car in motion
- A tree
- Two people together
- A sunset
- Your favorite person
- Your favorite food
- Your favorite place

# **The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies**

## **ROBOTICS STUDIO: GRADES 9, 10, 11 & 12 ONLY**

Students accepted into the Robotics Studio must be able to show an interest and a proclivity for science, engineering, and mathematics. One qualification for the acceptance into the studio is that the student has advanced academic standing in their science and math courses. Additionally, this course will be primarily focused on competing in the FIRST Tech Challenge and it is crucial that the student familiarizes themselves with this completion so they understand the objectives of this studio.

During the interview process, the student will be required to answer several questions where their answers must reflect their ability to work creatively, an interest in applying scientific principles to real situations, and an ability to address open-ended problems. Questions that may be asked may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Why do you want to be part of the robotics program?
- How do you see yourself benefiting a robotics team?
- How do you see yourself using robotics and engineering in your future?
- What interests you about the FIRST Tech Challenge?
- An impromptu open-ended question where the student will have to discuss different possible solutions and how to achieve such solutions. Student's answer should reflect the concept of applying engineering principles.

# The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies

## Application for the 2023-2024 Academic Year

Application Deadline: 12 noon on Friday, January 20, 2023.



### Applicant Information (Please print neatly)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name                                      First Name                                      Middle                                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth                                      Gender                                      Grade - Next School Year

\_\_\_\_\_  
House Number                                      Street Name                                      Apt #

\_\_\_\_\_  
City                                      State                                      Zip                                      Home Phone #                                      Parent Cell Phone #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name                                      Work Phone #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Primary e-mail Address                                      Secondary e-mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Current School

### Area(s) of Interest

Please select one area of interest for which you wish to audition by writing the number 1 in the corresponding box. Students proficient in more than one area should mark their second choice with the number 2. Students may be invited to audition in a second area if time permits.

|                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Dance                    | Theater                  | Visual Art               | Graphic Art              | TV Production            | Robotics                 | Vocal Music              | Piano                    | ** Instrumental Music    |

\*\*Name of Instrument \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICATION CONTINUES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE →→→

**APPLICATION PAGE 2**

Check this box if your child requires special services. This remains confidential and its sole purpose is for planning.

Please be advised that PAAAS offers the following Special Education Programs for students with Individualized Education Programs (IEP's):

- In-Class Resource for English/Language Arts
- In-Class Resource for Mathematics
- Science and Social Studies may have teacher's assistants as in-class support depending on availability.

Please sign and date that you understand and consent to this educational support program.

After the adjudication process has been completed, a team will review the results of the audition, applications, report cards, personal essay, and teacher recommendations to determine admission. Every student who successfully auditions into the program must meet the minimum cumulative 2.5+ GPA requirement. Students who successfully audition into two majors must choose one before April 19, 2023.

---

Student Signature

Date

---

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

**For Office Use Only:**

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Application#

Current School

Studio

# **The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies**

## **Personal Essay**

**Application for the 2023-2024 Academic School Year**

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_

In 500 words or less, describe why you would like to attend the Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies (PAAAS) and include the following:

- The reason(s) for which you should be considered for admission into PAAAS.
- Describe your previous involvement and/or training in your selected arts major.
- What do you consider to be your artistic and/or academic strengths and opportunities for improvements?
- Describe your artistic and/or academic qualities.
- What are your expectations of the Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies?

**You may type your essay using Times New Roman font, size 12 or you may write it on 8 1/2" by 11" composition paper using blue or black ink.**

# The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies

## Parent/Guardian Statement

Application for the 2023-2024 Academic School Year

The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies believes students learn best when parents, guardians, students and faculty form a meaningful partnership. To ensure a commitment of involvement in the whole education of PAAAS students, both faculty and parents must work closely and communicate often. To help us understand your child better, please answer the questions below.

**Write a statement that describes your child’s qualities, strengths, and challenges.**

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**What are your expectations of the Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies?**

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Parent/Guardian Name (print)

Signature

Date

# The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies

## Teacher or Administrator Recommendation (Page 1 of 2)

### Application for the 2023-2024 Academic School Year

Recommendations must be received at PAAAS by 12 noon on **January 20, 2023.**

(Please print neatly)

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Student Last Name

Student First Name

---

Name of Person Making Recommendation

Title

---

Address

City

State

Zip

---

Phone

E-mail Address

**How long have you known the student and in what capacity?**

**Provide three words that best describe this student.**

**PAAAS is an extended school program that requires its students to exceed the required number of high school credits. Give us your opinion of this student's aptitude for success under these conditions.**

# The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies

## Teacher or Administrator Recommendation (Page 2 of 2)

### Application for the 2023-2024 Academic School Year

Recommendations must be received at PAAAS by 12 noon on **Friday, January 20, 2023.**

---

Student Last Name

Student First Name

Please rate this student according to the criteria below. Place a check in the appropriate box below indicating your response.

|                              | Below<br>Average | Average | Good | Very<br>Good | Excellent<br>(top 10%) |
|------------------------------|------------------|---------|------|--------------|------------------------|
| Creativity                   |                  |         |      |              |                        |
| Self motivation              |                  |         |      |              |                        |
| Discipline and work habits   |                  |         |      |              |                        |
| Academic Achievement         |                  |         |      |              |                        |
| Interpersonal Skills         |                  |         |      |              |                        |
| Interest in the arts         |                  |         |      |              |                        |
| Written expression of ideas  |                  |         |      |              |                        |
| Potential for growth         |                  |         |      |              |                        |
| Ability to follow directions |                  |         |      |              |                        |
| Respect of others            |                  |         |      |              |                        |

Additional Comments:

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Print Name

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Signature and Date

Thank you for taking the time to provide this recommendation.

Teacher/Administrator Recommendation: page 2 of 2



# The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies

## Personal Recommendation (Page 1 of 2)

### Application for 2023-2024 Academic School Year

Recommendations must be received at PAAAS by 12 noon on **Friday, January 20, 2023**.

(Please print neatly)

---

Student Last Name

Student First Name

---

Name of Person Making Recommendation

Title

---

Address

City

State

Zip

---

Phone

E-mail Address

**How long have you known the student and in what capacity?**

**Provide three words that best describe this student.**

**PAAAS is an extended school program that requires its students to exceed the required number of high school credits. Give us your opinion of this student's aptitude for success under these conditions.**

# The Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies

## Personal Recommendation (Page 2 of 2)

### Application for the 2023-2024 Academic School Year

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Student Last Name

Student First Name

Please rate this student according to the criteria below. Place a check in the appropriate box below indicating your response.

|                              | Below<br>Average | Average | Good | Very<br>Good | Excellent<br>(top 10%) |
|------------------------------|------------------|---------|------|--------------|------------------------|
| Creativity                   |                  |         |      |              |                        |
| Self motivation              |                  |         |      |              |                        |
| Discipline and work habits   |                  |         |      |              |                        |
| Academic Achievement         |                  |         |      |              |                        |
| Interpersonal Skills         |                  |         |      |              |                        |
| Interest in the arts         |                  |         |      |              |                        |
| Written expression of ideas  |                  |         |      |              |                        |
| Potential for growth         |                  |         |      |              |                        |
| Ability to follow directions |                  |         |      |              |                        |
| Respect of others            |                  |         |      |              |                        |

Additional Comments:

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Print Name

---

Signature and Date

Thank you for taking the time to provide this recommendation.