



Guidelines for Participation in the Dozier School of the Arts (DSA)

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A message from the MPCS Director of Arts:

Greetings, and thank you for your interest in The Dozier School of the Arts at Mount Paran Christian School! This document has been created to inform students and parents of the guidelines for participation in the DSA. The rigor and expectations for excellence in the program are high, but not unattainable. Our goal is to help you succeed in realizing your gifts in the arts, to prepare you to utilize your skills in accordance with our mission, and to move the progress of our unique program to new levels of achievement.

- Cary Brague

**Guidelines for DSA Participation In The Areas of
Contemporary Media, Dance, Music, Theatre, and Visual Arts**

1. DSA AREAS OF CONCENTRATION

- a) Contemporary Media (Audio Eng., Graphic Arts, Contemporary Music, Worship Arts)
- b) Dance
- c) Music (Instrumental, Theory/Composition, Voice)
- d) Theatre (Performance or Technical)
- e) Visual Art (2D/3D)
- f) Composite (Students may designate multiple areas of concentration, schedule permitting)

2. DSA PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

- a) **Academic Standing:** DSA students must remain in good academic standing at all times. A grade average below 80% in *any* academic class must be reported to a DSA advisor. A plan for improvement must be established to raise the grade to a minimum of 80% by the end of the semester. A mid-term or semester grade report below 70% will result in the student being placed on DSA participation probation.
- b) **Artistic Standing:** DSA students must maintain a grade of 80% or higher in all arts classes. Failure to do so will result in the student being placed on DSA participation probation.
- c) **DSA Graduation Recognition:** Through coursework selection and commitment, DSA students will be recognized at varying levels of honor at graduation. The levels of honor are: Artist, Artist cum Laude (with Praise), Artist Magna cum Laude (with Great Praise), and Artist Summa cum Laude (with Highest Praise). The coursework selection guide is found in the Appendix of this document.
- d) DSA students must be enrolled in a class reflective of their DSA major area of study each academic term. Scheduling conflicts will be resolved on a case-by-case basis.
- e) DSA students must follow the suggested DSA coursework guide with the high school counselor or academic advisor to ensure success of all graduation requirements being met.
- f) DSA students must audition for/participate in at least two arts events in their major area per academic school year, one of which must be at MPCS. Failure to meet this expectation during the academic school year will result in DSA participation probation.
- g) DSA students will be annually reviewed by their DSA major area instructor(s) to discuss progress, goals, strategies, and priorities for MPCS arts classes and college planning
- h) DSA students must engage in a high school arts club that is established and active on the MPCS campus. Modern Music Masters (Tri-M), International Thespian Society (ITS), and the National Art Honors Society (NAHS) are examples of these clubs.
- i) DSA students must participate in a minimum of one masterclass per semester. Masterclasses will be offered on campus through the Murray Arts Center. Attendance at off-campus masterclasses will satisfy this requirement if approved by DSA faculty in advance. Weekly private lessons or extracurricular dance/theatre class participation will also satisfy this requirement.
- j) DSA student behavior must reflect the mission of MPCS and the mission statement of the DSA, which is to change the world of the performing arts for Christ. The expectation for personal responsibility to the DSA mission statement applies to all artistic endeavors, regardless of sponsorship, on and off the MPCS campus. Any student not consistently modeling the Christ-centered attitude that exemplifies the MPCS ideal for self-conduct may be placed on DSA probation. If necessary, disciplinary concerns will be handled in partnership with the high school administration.

4. ANNUAL REVIEWS

At the end of each academic year, DSA students will be reviewed in the major area of concentration. Reviews are designed to help students see a larger scope as they pursue their artistic goals. The Review is a time for reflection, encouragement, and planning for the future.

5. DSA PARTICIPATION PROBATION

DSA participation probation is the result of a student not demonstrating satisfactory progress in the academic or artistic classroom, or in personal behavior. Should a student be placed on DSA Probation, participation in DSA activities may be limited. Examples of limited DSA participation include:

- Limited participation in field trips associated with DSA.
- Limited participation in masterclasses offered through DSA.
- Limited participation in performance events (e.g. concerts, shows)

When DSA probation is enacted, a plan for improvement will be implemented in order to bring the student to a level of satisfactory progress. Terms and limitations of the DSA probation will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Students on DSA probation will be reviewed by the Director of Arts at the end of the year.

To be permitted to return to regular DSA activities, students must complete their plan for improvement as approved by the Director of Arts.

Students on DSA probation who fail to complete their plan for improvement may be released from DSA participation. The Director of Arts will work in partnership with the high school administration in order to resolve the matter.

6. DSA PARTICIPATION RELEASE

DSA participation release is a result of a student’s failure to meet expectations as specified in the DSA Guidelines for Participation and is enacted only after the student has demonstrated an inability to improve after having been provided with ample guidance and opportunity through a plan for improvement.

A student may be released from the DSA for any of the following reasons:

- The student repeatedly demonstrates an inability to abide by the DSA Guidelines for Participation, either through direct non-compliance with the expectations stated, through a violation of the spirit of the guidelines, or through misrepresenting the greater vision and values of MPCS and DSA.
- The student repeatedly fails to demonstrate satisfactory progress by merit of the annual review.
- The student fails to complete a plan for improvement, given ample time to do so.
- The student, DSA advisor, and parent(s) mutually agree that participation in DSA is not in the best interest of the student.

The Dozier School of the Arts at Mount Paran Christian School reserves the right to immediately release a student from participation should it be necessary or be in the best interest of the student and the common good of the school.

Suggested MPCS DSA Coursework Guide

	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
Science	Biology	Chemistry or AP Biology	AP Chemistry or Physics	AP Physics or Science Elective
Math	Algebra I	Geometry	Pre-Calculus	Pre-Calculus

	or Geometry	or Algebra II	or Algebra II	or AP Calculus
Social Studies	Honors World History or AP Human Geo.	Honors or AP World History	Honors or AP U.S. History	Honors or AP Econ. & Government
English	9 th Lit	10 th Lit	American Lit or AP English Language	AP or Honors British Literature
Foreign Language	Foreign Language I or DSA II Elective	Foreign Language I or Foreign Language II	Foreign Language II or Foreign Language III or DSA II or Other Elective	Foreign Language III or Foreign Language IV or DSA II or Other Elective
Bible	Freshman Bible	Sophomore Bible	Junior Bible	Senior Bible
DSA I (Major Area)	DSA Major in Visual Arts, Dance, Theatre, or Music	DSA Major in Visual Arts, Dance, Theatre, or Music	DSA Major in Visual Arts, Dance, Theatre, or Music	DSA Major in Visual Arts, Dance, Theatre, or Music
DSA II (Minor Area) or	Dance or PE/Health* or DSA Minor in Visual Arts, Dance, Theatre, or Music	DSA Minor in Visual Arts, Dance, Theatre, or Music	DSA Minor in Visual Arts, Dance, Theatre, or Music	DSA Senior Project
Other Elective(s)	STEM or Academic Electives, Study Hall or Directed Studies	STEM or Academic Electives, Study Hall or Directed Studies	STEM or Academic Electives, Study Hall or Directed Studies	STEM or Academic Electives, Study Hall or Directed Studies

**DSA Majors are encouraged to study Dance/Health to satisfy the PE/Health graduation requirement; however, it may be taken as an online course to facilitate other elective coursework. Online coursework must be approved by the Director of Guidance.*

DSA Levels of Graduate Recognition

DSA Artist Requirements: 4 Units

DSA Artist cum Laude (with praise) Requirements: 4.5 - 6 units

DSA Artists Magna cum Laude (with great praise) Requirements: 6.5 - 8 units

DSA Artist Summa cum Laude (with highest praise) Requirements: 9+ units

Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
DSA Major	DSA Major	DSA Major	DSA Major
Dance/Health	Minor or major area class	Minor or major area class	Senior Project in Major
			Minor area class
			Minor area project