Performing Arts Academy

The New Performing Arts Academy - Projected Opening January 2020
Located on the Ocean County College Campus, Toms River, New Jersey
This amazing educational and cultural project is the direct result of the cooperation and partnership between the Jay and Linda Grunin Foundation, the Ocean County Freeholders, the New Jersey State Department of Education, Ocean County College and the Ocean County Vocational School District."

-William P. Hoey, Jr., Former OCVTS Superintendent

"We are breaking new ground in an associational innovation by partnering with OCVTS to construct a Performing Arts Academy on the OCC campus. This will be the first-in-the-nation organically grown example of an entire early college high school that allows a student to graduate with a high school diploma and OCC’s Associate in Arts degree at the same time. Only through the generous support of the Grunin Foundation, the County Freeholders, and the State of New Jersey is this project becoming a reality."

– Jon H. Larson, Ph.D., President, Ocean County College

“Helping to bring the Performing Arts Academy to the campus of Ocean County College is a reaffirmation of our commitment to the Arts at the Jersey Shore. This partnership will allow our young people, who have a real passion for the Arts, to receive a first-class education in a beautiful college setting, at a state-of-the-art facility. We know that one of the drivers of a strong economy is a thriving Arts culture, and with this Academy we will see graduates for generations to come who will continue to uplift our community.”

-Jay Grunin, The Jay and Linda Grunin Foundation

“On behalf of the entire Board of Chosen Freeholders, I am very pleased that this partnership will bring exciting new opportunities to our Vocational School students. The Performing Arts Academy on the Ocean County College campus will provide students with an outstanding education using both existing college buildings and state-of-the-art new facilities. Here, our creatively gifted young people will find a place where their talents will truly blossom.”

-Joseph H. Vicari, Ocean County Freeholder and Liaison to OCVTS
Note to students interested in attending the Performing Arts Academy

Academy applications are made available to students attending the academy admission information sessions only.

The academy admission information session is designed to help students and their families make informed decisions regarding an educational pathway that is in the best interest of each student.

The academy approach to learning is different from the traditional high school setting and the decision to apply should be made after review and discussion of the material presented during the information session.
1. You may apply to only one academy. You may attend as many information sessions as you like to help you decide which school is right for you.

2. Academy information can be obtained through your school guidance counselor. Academy applications and admission materials can be obtained at one of the information sessions.

3. Complete the required application. Bring the application to your school so that the school portion can be completed and signed by a school official. Support materials MUST be included: grade transcript, standardized test results, etc.

4. Application deadline is December 11, 2019. Your application must be postmarked by this date.
   A completed application should be sent from your school to:
   
   OCVTS Career Academy Admissions
   131 Bey Lea Road
   Toms River, NJ 08753

5. Take the admissions test on January 11, 2020 at OCVTS’s Toms River Center:

   1299 Old Freehold Road
   Toms River, NJ 08753

6. Auditions will be on January 25, 2020

**Acceptance Criteria**

Applicants will be ranked using the following criteria:

A) Academic grades
   - 7th grade
   - 8th grade (first marking period)

B) Admissions Exam

C) Audition
Q. **What must be included with my application?**
A. The application must be completely filled out and signed by a parent/guardian and a school official. Grade transcripts compiled from 7th grade and the first marking period of 8th grade and standardized test reports must be included. The postmarked deadline for applications will be December 11, 2019. It is the applicant's responsibility to make sure that the application is in the OCVTS's Student Services/Academy Admissions Office on or before the deadline. Late applications WILL NOT be accepted.

Q. **How competitive is the admissions process, and what are the minimum requirements?**
A. In general, there will be more applicants than available space. We assign scores to all applicants based on academic records, performance on our entrance exam, and performance at our auditions.

Q. **What happens if I am not accepted?**
A. If you are not accepted but you meet the minimum criteria, your application will remain on file. Should an opening occur, your application may be reconsidered.

Q. **What is on the entrance exam?**
A. The exam contains two sections: mathematics and language arts literacy. Questions are multiple-choice.

Q. **What is the audition?**
A. An audition is an interview for a singer, actor, dancer, or musician, consisting of a practical demonstration of the candidate's talent and skill. For dance, theatre, or voice applicants, auditions will exhibit their aptitudes in their desired major. Students interested in Audio Engineering are expected to create a product/presentation and participate in an interview. Auditions are evaluated by industry professionals. Specific audition/interview requirements will be made available to applicants prior to auditions during the Information Sessions.

Q. **What if I am sick and miss the exam/audition?**
A. A make-up date will be available for the exam and/or the audition, based on the circumstances of the individual.

Q. **How and when will I be notified of acceptance?**
A. It will take approximately four weeks for all processing to be completed after the audition date. All applicants who have completed the admissions process (which includes an audition), will be notified by mail whether they have been accepted or not.

Q. **Can I apply to more than one Career Academy?**
A. No, you may only apply to one school. The Career Academies offer very specialized curricula. The Career Academies' admissions process attempts to match students to the most appropriate program for that student. One of the first steps in that process is for you to choose the school that most fulfills your interests and abilities.

Q. **How will I make arrangements for transportation and other costs?**
A. The Ocean County Vocational Technical School District is a public school district. If you have been accepted, your resident school district will be notified and transportation will be provided by that district. You can expect to incur the same kinds of costs that you would in your resident school. Notebooks, pens, pencils, etc. are your responsibility to provide.
The Ocean County Vocational Technical School’s Performing Arts Academy (PAA) was one of 337 schools nationwide to be selected as a 2014 Blue Ribbon School by the US Department of Education. The National Blue Ribbon Schools award honors public and private elementary, middle, and high schools where students perform at very high levels or where significant improvements are being made in students’ levels of achievement. PAA was recognized as an exemplary high performing high school.

The Performing Arts Academy is a four-year full-time high school designed to provide performing arts curriculum focused in dance, vocal music, and acting, integrated into a rigorous college preparatory academic program. The school exists to provide a unique, nurturing, and challenging learning environment for students living in Ocean County who are gifted in the performing arts. The teaching philosophy strives to incorporate the arts into all educational areas by integrating curriculum and by interaction with professionals from the arts industry.

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan proclaimed, "These great schools are fulfilling the promise of American education—that all students, no matter their name or zip code, can flourish when schools provide safe, creative, and challenging learning environments. National Blue Ribbon Schools are models of consistent excellence and a resource for other schools and districts. We celebrate them for their tireless effort and boundless creativity in reaching and teaching every student."

PAA Principal Karen Homiek added, “The staff’s teamwork, collaboration and dedication play a major role in the success of our program. College prep, Honors classes, AP and college courses provide the foundation for academic and performance achievement. We are proud of this recognition and will continue to offer a challenging and rigorous curriculum to our students.”

The Performing Arts Academy is now accepting applications for incoming freshman for the 2020-2021 school year. Students are selected from applications through a highly competitive process and enter at the ninth grade level. Applicants must reside in Ocean County to be eligible for admission. Application deadline is December 11th.
The Performing Arts Academy is a four-year comprehensive public high school administered by the Ocean County Vocational Technical School district. Our program opened its doors in September 2001 for students entering the ninth grade. The Performing Arts Academy is designed to provide performing arts curricula focused in dance, vocal music, acting, and audio engineering, along with a four-year rigorous academic program. At the Performing Arts Academy, students are exposed to a college preparatory program. Additionally, they have the opportunity to register in Ocean County College embedded classes for dual credit, opening up the opportunity to earn a dual degree.

The Performing Arts Academy is located at Ocean County Vocational Technical School's Lakehurst Center, housed inside historic Hangar One at the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. We are excited to share that in the very near future, we are moving from this location to a brand new, state-of-the-art building on the Ocean County College campus in Toms River, NJ. This move not only results in the Performing Arts Academy becoming more centrally located in Ocean County, it presents advanced learning opportunities for our students.

The mission of the Performing Arts Academy of the Ocean County Vocational Technical School district is to provide a rigorous curriculum for creatively gifted and academically driven high school students. Our challenging coursework empowers graduates with the experience, knowledge, and 21st Century skills necessary to succeed in the academia and arts industry. Our students will develop critical thinking skills to propel them into the global landscape of interconnectivity. The Performing Arts Academy exists to provide a unique, nurturing and challenging learning environment for students gifted in the performing arts.

STUDENT SELECTION AND ADMISSION
Students are selected through a competitive application process. For admission, students are assessed using the applicant’s current academic transcript, as well as their performance on admissions exam and an audition/interview. Students typically enter the Performing Arts Academy at the 9th grade level; however, openings for students presently enrolled in 9th grade may be available and will be determined annually. Applicants must reside in Ocean County to be eligible for admission. All school districts in Ocean County are eligible to participate in sending applications to the program.

ADMISSION
To be eligible for admission, the student should be enrolled in and successfully complete an eighth grade program that includes: English, math, science, social studies and physical education. It is recommended that students also be involved in performing arts activities. Students applying as high school transfers will have current transcripts evaluated.

TRANSPORTATION
The student’s resident district will be responsible for transporting the student to the Performing Arts Academy.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
The school day runs from 7:30AM until 1:53 PM. Classes are offered in a block scheduling format which allows for maximum participation in the learning process. Students enroll in four years of academic college preparatory coursework as well as training by professionals in the art of performance.
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION (Continued)
The course of study meets and exceeds the New Jersey Core Content Curriculum standards. Performing Arts students are offered the skills necessary to develop and manage a career in the arts industry. Students are provided with the opportunity to perform and record in a professional recording studio. Trips are taken to see professional performances. Guest artists are invited to the school to perform and train our students.

NINTH GRADE COURSES OF STUDIES
Performing Arts I / DANC130**, THTR193**, MUSC101** or MUSC 194**
English I *
Algebra I* or Geometry* or Elementary Functional Analysis (EFA)*
Biology*
World Civilization or World Civilization/HIST 173**
Health & Physical Education
Spanish I or SPAN151**
STSC150** Student Success Seminar
CSIT123** Integrated Office Software

* Indicates course may be taken as college prep or honors level
** Embedded course/Ocean County College Credits
***Ocean County College course credits vary by major

ADVANCED CURRICULUM OFFERINGS
Technology is integrated into performance and academic areas. Embedded Ocean County College coursework is available at all grade levels. Students can earn most credits needed for an Associate’s Degree.

Performing Arts Academy
Admission Information Sessions
at the Jay & Linda Grunin Center for the Arts, Ocean County College, Toms River, NJ 08753
Saturday October 19, 9:00AM
Thursday October 24, 6:30PM
Saturday November 16, 9:00AM

Pre-registration is not required

DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO THE JAY AND LINDA GRUNIN CENTER FOR THE ARTS
AT OCEAN COUNTY COLLEGE, TOMS RIVER
From North: Garden State Parkway to Exit 89. Follow signs for Route 70 East/Airport Road. Left on Route 70 East. Continue 1/3-mile, turn Right on Shorrock Street. Road curves left and becomes Beaverson Blvd; continue to end. Turn Right on Brick Blvd. (Route 549 South), continue 2.5-miles, turn Right on College Drive (lake and OCC monument on right). Continue on College Drive to Parking Lot 2.

From South: Garden State Parkway to Exit 82. Route 37 East towards Toms River/Seaside Heights. Continue approx. 1 mile (2 traffic lights). Use the jug handle at the intersection to turn Left onto Route 549 North. Continue 3 miles, use the jug handle to turn Left onto College Drive. Local Access Road from the West: Route 9 to Church Road, east. Continue 1.5 miles. Turn Right onto H. George Buckwald Drive. This access road ends at College Drive near Lot #2.

From West: Route 70 to Lakehurst; at second traffic circle, Right onto Route 37 East to Toms River/Seaside Heights. Continue 7 miles. Use the jug handle at the intersection to turn Left onto Route 549 North. Continue 3 miles, use the jug handle to turn Left onto College Drive. Continue on College Drive to Parking Lot 2.
The Performing Arts Academy is a four-year comprehensive public high school administered by the Ocean County Vocational Technical School district. Our program opened its doors in September 2001 for students entering the ninth grade. The Performing Arts Academy is designed to provide performing arts curricula focused in dance, vocal music, acting, and audio engineering, along with a four-year rigorous academic program. At the Performing Arts Academy, students are exposed to a college preparatory program. Additionally, they have the opportunity to register in Ocean County College embedded classes for dual credit, opening up the opportunity to earn a dual degree.

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The Ocean County Vocational Technical School District is responsible for recruitment, admissions, and the instructional program. The Performing Arts Academy is a competitive, specialized high school that selects its 9th grade class each year from applicants found within the public and private schools of Ocean County. All students apply and participate in a selective admissions process that considers middle school grades, standardized test scores, an admissions test, and an audition in a specified discipline.

**QUICK FACTS:**
Type of School: Public Grades Included: 9-12  
Total Enrollment: 262 (as of September 2019)  
CEEB Code: 310683
Performing Arts Academy COURSE OF STUDY

All students must successfully complete a minimum of 162 high school credits or their college equivalent to graduate. All courses are instructed in block format, either semester long or alternating day. All courses are instructed on at least the college preparatory level.

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<th>FRESHMEN</th>
<th>PAA CREDITS</th>
<th>OCC CREDITS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Performing Arts I, THTR193**, MUSC101**, or MUSC 194**</td>
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<tr>
<td>English I*</td>
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<td>Algebra I* or Geometry* or Elementary Functional Analysis (EFA)*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biology*</td>
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<tr>
<td>World Civilization or World Civilization/HIST 173**</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health &amp; Physical Education</td>
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<td>Spanish I or SPAN151**</td>
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<td>STSC 150**, Student Success Seminar</td>
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<td>Performing Arts II, THTR197**, MUSC190**, or COEM231**</td>
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<td>English II*</td>
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<td>Geometry* or Algebra II* or Elementary Functional Analysis (EFA)*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chemistry*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Education &amp; Driver’s Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPAN151**/Spanish II or Spanish III</td>
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<td>English III, ENGL 151**, or AP English Language and Composition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Algebra II* and Elementary Functional Analysis (EFA)*, Pre-Calculus or Statistics</td>
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<td>ENVI 152**, or Physics*</td>
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<tr>
<td>US History I or US History /HIST 173**</td>
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<td>Political Science/POLI 183</td>
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<td>Sociology/SOCI 181</td>
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<td>Health &amp; Physical Education</td>
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<td>Health &amp; Physical Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Internship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Performing Arts History/Theory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
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* Indicates course may be taken as college prep or honors level
** Embedded course/Ocean County College Credits
***Ocean County College course credits vary by major

The Performing Arts Academy Class of 2019 was offered over $8,200,000 in scholarships and awards.
Graduates of the Performing Arts Academy have been offered acceptances to the following institutions:

Adelphi University
Albright College
American Academy of Dramatic Arts
American Musical and Dramatic Academy
Arcadia University
Atlantic Cape Community College
Ball State University
Belmont University
Bennington College
Berkeley College
Boston Conservatory
Boston University
Brandeis University
Brookdale Community College
Caldwell College
California State University
Carnegie Mellon University
Cedar Crest College
Coastal Carolina University
College and Conservatory of Music
Columbia College
Dartmouth
Delaware State University
DeSales University
Drew University
Drexel University
East Carolina University
Elon University
Emerson College
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Fashion Institute of Technology
Five Towns College
Flagler College
Florida Atlantic University
Florida State University
Fordham University
Georgian Court University
George Mason University
Green Mountain College
Hartford County College
Hartford University

The Hart School of Music
Hofstra University
Ithaca University
James Madison University
Kean University
La Roche College
Long Island University, CW Post
Louisiana State University
Loyola University
Manhattan College
Manhattan School of Music
Marymount University
Marymount Manhattan College
Maryville College
Mason Gross School of the Arts McNally Smith College of Music
Messiah College
Miami Dade College – Kendall
Monmouth University
Montclair State University
Mount Saint Mary’s College
Naropa University
Nazareth College
New World School of the Arts
New York Film Academy
New York University
Northeastern University
Nyack College
Ocean County College
Ohio Northern University
Otterbein College
Pace University
Peabody Conservatory of Music
Penn State University
Point Park University
Rampone College
Rider University

Rutgers University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rowan University
Sacred Heart University
Salisbury University
Sanford Brown Institute
Santa Fe University of Art and Design
Savannah College of Art and Design
Seton Hall University
Shenandoah College
Slippery Rock University
St. Joseph College
St. Louis University
St. Peter’s College
Stevens Institute of Technology
Stockton University
Southern Illinois University
Temple University
The Art Institute of New York City
The College of New Jersey
Tisch School of the Arts
Towson University
University of Arizona
University of the Arts University of Cincinnati – Conservatory of Music University of Delaware
University of Alabama
University of Georgia
University of Hawaii at Hilo
University of Maryland
University of North Carolina
University of the Sciences
University of Tampa
Vassar College
Wagner College
Washington College
West Chester University of Pennsylvania
Westminster College of the Arts
Wilkes University
William Patterson University of New Jersey
York College
PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY TENTATIVE
CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2019-2020

September
- Back-To-School Night
- Welcome Back Dance

October
- Ocean Gate Bon Fire
- PAA Performance Troupe School Visitations
- NHS Breast Cancer Walk
- Two River Theatre Field Trip
- PSATs
- Stockton University Dance Day
- Performance of “Bang, Bang Your Dead.”
- Trip to Wall Street

November
- Fall Drama Production at Ocean County College
- Friendsgiving
- PAA Performance Troupe School Visitations
- Guest Artist Workshops
- College Fair

December
- International Thespian Society State Competition
- Guest Artists Workshops
- Snowball Dance
- Junior Dance and Vocal Winter Showcases
- Vocal Ensemble Performance for Assisted Living
- Vocal Ensemble and Dance Club Performance at Bey Lea Nursing Home
- Senior/Junior trip to Broadway and Ellen’s Stardust Diner
- American Playwrights Project

January
- Guest Artist Workshop: Dance
- Black Box Players production of “Almost, Maine”
- Mutter Museum fieldtrip

February
- Musical Theatre Production at the Strand Theater, Lakewood NJ
- NJMEA Regional Chorus Festival
- Two River Theatre - Poetry Out Loud
- Danceworks/Rutgers University Workshop
- Guest Artist Workshops

March
- Show Up and Dance at Two River Theatre
- Freshman/Junior Dance
- Dance Field Trip - Jeanne Ruddy Dance
- Guests Artist Workshops
- International Thespian Society Induction Ceremony
- NJMEA Allstate South Auditions
- Black Box Players One Acts
PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY TENTATIVE CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2019-2020 (CONTINUED)

April
- Acting Majors Showcase Performance
- International Thespian Society Induction Ceremony

May
- Vocal Majors Showcase Performance
- Dance Majors Showcase Performance
- Freshman Showcase (all majors)
- PAA Senior Actor Thesis Presentations/Performances
- State Exit Exam, Dance Majors
- Guests Artist Workshops
- Freshman/Sophomore Acting Showcase

June
- Senior Vocal Theses Projects/Performances
- Junior/Senior Choreography Performance
- Dessert Cabaret
- PAA Picnic
- International Thespian Society Festival, Lincoln Nebraska
- Senior Awards Ceremony
- Graduation
STUDENT CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

A cappella (Phantastix)
Black Box Players/Drama Club
Bible Club
Dance Club
Fall Drama
Film Club
GSA
Instrumental Club
International Thespian Society (ITS)
Key Club
 Literary Magazine (Wasabi)
Math League
National Honor Society (NHS)
National Honor Society of Dance Arts (NHSDA)
PAA Performance Troupe
PAA School Musical
Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO)
Student Council (by grade level)
Table - Top Role Playing Club
Technology Club
Vocal Music Club
Vocal Ensemble
Vocal Chorale
Yearbook

Current Fall Dramas and Spring Musical:
- Cinderella – Spring Musical 2016
- Sister Act – Spring Musical 2017
- Beauty and the Beast – Spring Musical 2018
- Chicago – Spring Musical 2019
- Skin of Our Teeth – Fall Drama 2016
- Peter and the Starcatcher – Fall 2017
- Alice in Wonderland – Fall Drama 2018

Outside Intensives/Workshops/Performances 2004-Present:
- NYU Tisch School of the Arts (summer program)
- Alvin Ailey summer intensive program
- Alvin Ailey independent study program
- Governor’s School (summer experience), The College of New Jersey (TCNJ), Ewing Twp., NJ
- Peridance (summer program)
Outside Intensives/Workshops/Performances 2004-Present (Continued):
- Manhattan Dance Project (summer program)
- The Rockette Experience (summer program)
- “Slide” (summer intensive workshop with Mike Minnery)
- “The Pulse” (hip hop convention)
- New York City Dance Alliance
- The State University of New York (SUNY) - Binghamton, intensive summer dance institute
- Tremaine Dance Convention
- Annie Get Your Gun, Phoenix Productions; Count Basie Theatre, Red Bank
- The Scarlet Pimpernel; Count Basie Theatre, Red Bank
- Young Artist Program, Westminster Conservatory
- Phantom of the Opera, Broadway
- Miss Saigon, Broadway
- Crossmen Drum and Bugle Corps summer program, East Coast Tour/Performances
- Once Upon a Mattress; Manchester Township High School, Manchester
- West Side Story; New Egypt High School, Plumsted Township
- Desire Entertainment Talent Expo 3; The Strand Theatre, Lakewood
- Benefit performance for Tsunami Victims; Methodist Church, Island Heights
- Intern/Apprentice Cabaret; Surflight Theatre, Beach Haven
- The Pirates of Penzance, Phoenix Productions
- United Synagogue Youth Mission Mitzvah; nationwide tour
- Joe Valmonte and Christmas Bash performance, The Valmonte Studio
- “Write On” Workshop; Our Gang Players, Barnegat
- New York Performing Arts Center
- The Strand summer theatre program, Lakewood, various productions
- “The Play’s the Thing” Scholarship, Two River Theatre Company
- A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, Toms River High School North
- Student vocal major currently signed to a record deal with a country music label, Nashville TN
- Westminster Youth Chorale, Brazilian Tour, Summer 2006
- St. Brendan the Navigator, Irish Pipe and Drums Band
- Dover Recreational Parks’ Summer Program and Musical Revue
- Westminster Choir College’s Summer Musical Theater Camp and Youth Chorale
- National Anthem Performance, Giants Stadium
- Songs of Inspiration, Algonquin Theatre
- Internships, Two Rivers Theatre
- Surflight Theatre’s Summer Program Apprentice Program
- Berkshire’s Institute of Music and Art’s Summer Program
- Rock N’ Roll Chorus
- All State Chorus
- Two River Metro Scholar
Performing Arts Academy
Show Dates

2019 FALL DRAMA
CRUCIBLE
Friday November 15, 2019
7:00 PM Performance
Saturday November 16, 2019
2:00 PM (Understudy Performance) and 7:00 PM Performance
Jay and Linda Grunin Center for the Arts Ocean County College Campus,
Toms River, New Jersey

2019 WINTER SHOWCASE
DANCE SHOWCASE
Monday December 16, 2019
5:00 PM and 7:30 PM Performance
VOCAL SHOWCASE
Wednesday December 16, 2019
6:30 PM Performance

2020 MUSICAL PRODUCTION
LEGALLY BLONDE
Friday, February 21, 2020
7:00 PM Performance
Saturday February 22, 2020
2:00PM (Understudy Performance) and 7:00PM Performance
Strand Theater
400 Clifton Avenue, Lakewood, New Jersey

2020 SPRING PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE
Acting Performances
Thursday, April 23, 2020 (Juniors) & Friday, April 24, 2020 (Seniors) – 7:00 PM performances
Vocal Performance
Friday, May 1, 2020 (7:00 PM performance)
Dance Performance
Tuesday, May 8, 2020 (7:00 PM performance)
Sophomore Vocal and Freshman Dance Showcase
Tuesday, May 12, 2020 (7:00 PM performance)
Freshman and Sophomore Acting Showcase
Thursday, May 14, 2020 (7:00 PM performance)
Jay and Linda Grunin Center for the Arts Ocean County College Campus,
Toms River, New Jersey
OCVTS
Performing Arts Academy
Presents:

The Crucible
By Arthur Miller

November 15th at 10am and 7pm
November 16th at 2pm and 7pm

The Jay and Linda Grunin Center for the Arts
1 College Drive, Toms River, 08754

For Tickets visit:
http://www.gruninceneter.org/events

Or call: 732-255-0500
Performing Arts Academy
Ocean County Vocational Technical School District
Christine Santasieri, Acting Principal

Audio Engineering
William Bourke
Zack Slater

Dance
Kelly Bourke
Melissa Faisst

English
Gabriella Grant
Frank Mastroianni
Michelle Stavros

Health/Physical Education
Michael Baiata
Barbara DeSantis

Mathematics
Patricia Allen
Andrew Dennison
Robin Kelly
Eileen Verde

Science
Olympia Gaglioti
Kerri Shoenberger
Leah Vicari

Social Studies
Tierney Meeker
Michael Mazzola
Robert Townsend

Spanish
Sheila Lyons-Meyer
Daniel Wellner

Technical Theater
Tara Braun

Technology
Joanie Beckenhauer

Theater
Anthony Ciccotelli
Doug Bollinger

Board of Chosen Freeholders
Virginia Haines..............................................Director
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Gary Quinn..................................................Member
Joseph H. Vicari........................................Member/OCVTS Liaison

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Dr. Michael Maschi ...................................Assistant Superintendent
Frank J. Frazee ............................................Business Administrator

OCVTS Administration
Mary Beatty-Sharisky ..........................Principal, Adult Education
John Biocardi ...........................................Principal, MATES
Alison Carroll ............................................Principal, Student Services
Kevin Dineen.....................................Principal, Jackson
Gary MacDonald ..................................Director, Curriculum/Grants
Thomas McInerney ....................................Principal, Waretown
Christine Santasieri................................Acting Principal, Lakehurst
Lynn Sauer...............................................Principal, Brick
Tiffany Seeley ......................................Vice Principal, Brick
Michael Tash ........................................Vice Principal, Toms River
Dr. John Wnek ....................................Supervisor, MATES
Dr. John Wnek .................................Principal, Toms River, LPN

The mission of Ocean County Vocational Technical School is to provide an intensive and immersive educational experience aligned with the current and emerging demands of business, industry, and advanced education. We instill the knowledge, skills, and competencies required for students to experience success in entering the workforce, advancing along a career pathway, and achieving career aspirations.

It is the policy of the Board of Education of Ocean County Vocational Technical School not to discriminate in its technical programs, vocational opportunities, activities, employment practices or admission policies and practices on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, ancestry, national origin, affectional and sexual orientation, disability or social or economic status. Lack of English language skills will not be a deterrent to admission to any program at Ocean County Vocational Technical Schools.

Inquiries regarding affirmative action, discrimination (including Federal Title IX requirements), sexual harassment or equity should be directed to:
Dr. Michael Maschi, Title IX/Affirmative Action Office, 732.240.6414 (ext. 3332)
Alison Carroll, Federal Section 504 Officer, 732.286.5660 (ext. 4001)
Alison Carroll, Americans with Disabilities Officer, 732.473.3100 (ext. 4001)
Alison Carroll, Equity Officer, 732.473.3100 (ext. 4001)

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer and Educator who fully and actively supports equal access for all people regardless of race, color, religion, gender, age, national origin, veterans status, disability, genetic information or testing, family and medical leave, sexual orientation and gender identification and expression. We prohibit retaliation against individuals who bring forth any complaint, orally or in writing, to the employer or the government, or against any individuals who assist or practice in the investigation of any complaint, or otherwise oppose discrimination.
### Meet the Performing Arts Academy Faculty

All of our instructors meet the highly qualified teacher provision of *No Child Left Behind*; Many of our instructors possess additional qualifications that provided an enriched education experience.  
**Student to Teacher Ratio (15:1)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Courses Taught</th>
<th>Degree, College</th>
<th>Related Experience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patricia Allen</td>
<td>Algebra I, EFA, Pre-Calculus, Geometry</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, Montclair State University</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Dennison</td>
<td>Algebra I, Algebra II, EFA, Economics</td>
<td>Mathematics and Economics, Ursinus College</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin Kelly</td>
<td>Algebra II, AP Calculus, EFA</td>
<td>Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics – Georgian Court College</td>
<td>SAT Prep Instructor, SRA/ HSPA instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eileen Verde</td>
<td>Geometry, EFA, Algebra II, AP Stats</td>
<td>Bachelors of Arts in Anthropology, Seton Hall University</td>
<td>SAT Prep Instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olympia Gaglioti</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Biology with a minor in French, (Cum Laude) Marymount Manhattan College, Master of Science in Biology, Clemson University</td>
<td>Tutoring all levels of Biology and French, MCAT Tutor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kerri Shoenberger</td>
<td>Biology, Chemistry</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology with a minor in Mathematics, Stockton University (Cum Laude and program distinction), Master of Science in Molecular Biology, Lehigh University (Magna Cum Laude)</td>
<td>7 years teaching chemistry, biology, and environmental science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leah Vicari</td>
<td>Biology, Environmental, Anatomy and Physiology, Chemistry</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Biology with a minor in French, (Cum Laude) Marymount Manhattan College, Master of Science in Biology, Clemson University</td>
<td>Tutoring all levels of Biology and French, MCAT Tutor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Courses</td>
<td>Degree(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Gabriella Grant</td>
<td>English/English Honors/AP</td>
<td>Bachelor of Arts in English, Kean University</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frank Mastroianni</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Bachelor of Arts in American Literature and Philosophy, Evergreen State College Master of Education (Social and Philosophical Foundations of Education), Rutgers University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Michelle Stavros</td>
<td>English/English Honors/AP</td>
<td>Bachelor of Arts Economics, Kean University Master of Arts in Teaching (Second-track), Monmouth University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>Sheila Lyons-Meyer</td>
<td>Spanish I, II, and/or III</td>
<td>Bachelor of Arts in Spanish, Adelphi University Associate of Arts in Spanish, Nassau Community College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Daniel Wellner</td>
<td>Spanish I, II and/or III</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Marketing and Minor in Spanish, St. Joseph’s University, Philadelphia, PA Master’s degree in Teaching Spanish, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>Michael Mazzola</td>
<td>AP European History World Civilization US History Economics</td>
<td>Bachelor of Arts in History and Education, East Stroudsburg University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tierney Meeker</td>
<td>World Civilization US History Economics College Success Seminar</td>
<td>Bachelor of Arts in History and Education, Monmouth University Masters of Science in Education-Administration and Supervision, Monmouth University</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Robert Townsend</td>
<td>World Civilization US History</td>
<td>Bachelor of Arts Sociology, Rutgers University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>Michael Baiata</td>
<td>Health and Physical Education I, II, III and IV</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Health and Physical Education, William Paterson University</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Barbara DeSantis</td>
<td>Health and Physical Education I, II, III and IV</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Health and Physical Education, Winthrop College Master of Public Health in Health Promotion and Education, University of South Carolina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Field</td>
<td>Education/Institution</td>
<td>Performance Credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doug Bollinger</td>
<td>Theatre</td>
<td>Bachelor of Arts (Speech and Theatre Education) – Montclair State University Certificate of Completion: Connecticut School of Broadcasting</td>
<td>- Burn This (Theaterfest)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Schmulnik's Waltz (Forum Theater)</td>
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<td>- It's Complicated (10 of 14 Productions)</td>
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<td>Film Credits</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Mail Order Bride (Writer)</td>
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<td>- Waltzing Anna (Writer/Director)</td>
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<td>- Transition (Director)</td>
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<td>- Clean Cut (Actor)</td>
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<td>Awards</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- ACTF -Regional Finalist</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Best Short Film -NYC Downtown Shorts Fest</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Best Actor –Downbeach Film Festival</td>
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<td>Affiliations</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>- La Strada Ensemble - Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelly Bourke</td>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Arts and Education of New Jersey, Arts High School and Arts Middle School Dance Instructor, Middlesex County, NJ</td>
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<td>American Repertory Ballet, 3rd grade Dance Power Instructor, Middlesex, NJ</td>
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<td>Movement Dance Academy, Dance Instructor, Eatontown, NJ</td>
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<td>Jill Justin Dance Alliance, Dance Instructor, Metuchen, NJ</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Bourke</td>
<td>Audio Engineering</td>
<td>Ocean County College, Liberal Arts OSHA 10 Certified AVID Pro Tools Certified Instructor</td>
<td>Freelance sound engineer</td>
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<td>Part-time sound engineer at &quot;Asbury Audio&quot;</td>
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<td>Part-time sound engineer at &quot;Madison Marquette&quot;</td>
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<td>Former studio co-owner at Eight Sixteen Music Studio</td>
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<td>Former studio engineer at The Jam Room Music Complex</td>
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<td>Former studio engineer at Ocean Recording Studio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anthony Ciccotelli</td>
<td>Theatre</td>
<td>Bachelor of Arts in Drama, Empire State College Master of Fine Arts in Drama (under Jim Lipton, Dean) Actors Studio Drama School</td>
<td>Production Credits</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Winter (Lookglass Theatre, NYC)</td>
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<td>- Green Dragon (Access Theatre, NYC)</td>
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<td>- Richard II (Raw Space, NYC)</td>
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<td>- A Hell of a Mess (Ionesco Festival, NYC)</td>
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<td>- Have You Ever Seen Uncle Dan Sing? (Circle in the Square Downtown, NYC)</td>
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<td>Awards and Honors</td>
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<td>- Recipient of two Spotlight On Awards for Off-off Broadway excellence</td>
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<td>- Recipient of English Speaking Union Scholar of the Year, full paid trip to the Globe Theatre London</td>
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<td>Theatre Companies</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Members of Wrash, 2B Theatre Company, Founding Member of Mint Theatre Company and working Finalist at the renown The Actor Studio.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Major</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Performance Experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melissa Faisst</td>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>Bachelor of Fine Arts in Modern Dance (High Honors), Temple University</td>
<td>Performance: Deeply Rooted Production, Chicago</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Master of Education in Dance, The University of the Arts</td>
<td>Sens/ Noemie Lafrance, New York</td>
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<td>Choreography: The Outlet Dance Project, Grounds for Sculptures.</td>
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<td>Training: Dayton Ballet</td>
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<td>Membership: National Dance Education Organization Dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Kenny</td>
<td>Vocal Music</td>
<td>Master of Music, Manhattan School of Music</td>
<td>Performance Experience: McFarland Artists Management International</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bachelor of Music Education, Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University</td>
<td>Amore Opera, New York City</td>
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<td>Amato Opera, New York City</td>
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<td>Pacific Opera, New York City</td>
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<td>1776 (Abigail Adams) Surflight Theatre, Long Beach Island, New Jersey</td>
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<td>Trial by Jury (Plaintiff), Buxton, England</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph Puliafico</td>
<td>Vocal Music</td>
<td>Bachelor of Arts in Music Education, University of Delaware</td>
<td>Private Voice and Piano Instructor</td>
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<td>Performance Experience: Spring Lake Theatre: Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat</td>
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<td>Sayreville Main Street Theatre Company: Fiddler on the Roof and Sweeney Todd</td>
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<td>The Magic Flute (Monostatos), University of Delaware</td>
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<td></td>
<td>East Brunswick Young Adult Charity Players</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zack Slater</td>
<td>Audio Engineering</td>
<td>Associates Degree in Liberal Arts, Ocean County College</td>
<td>OSHA 10 Certified</td>
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<td>AVID Pro Tools User Certification</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Professional Credentials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joan Beckenhauer</td>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems, Kings College Masters of Science in Education, Wilkes University</td>
<td>CNA (Certified Netware Administrator) CNE (Certified Netware Engineer) Silicon Valley, California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tara Braun</td>
<td>Technical Theatre 1 Technical Theatre 2</td>
<td>Bachelor of Arts in Technical Theatre, Rowan University Master of Arts in Educational Theatre, New York University</td>
<td>Professional Credits: Emmy Award winning ABC carpenter shop CNN Harrah’s Theatre Membership: International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) Local One</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Haber</td>
<td>Nurse</td>
<td>Kean University, Master of Science in Nursing Degree in Clinical Management with an emphasis in transcultural nursing concepts Rutgers Camden, School Nurse Certificate Program Kean University, Bachelor of Science in Nursing</td>
<td>NJ State Nurses Association Board Member NJ State School Nurses Association Research Committee Adjunct Clinical Professor, Brookdale Community College Medical Committee, Camp Nejeda-for children and teens with type 1 diabetes and their families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawn Murphy</td>
<td>Counselors</td>
<td>Masters of Arts in Counseling, Kean University Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Montclair State University</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandra Stout</td>
<td>Guidance Counselor</td>
<td>Masters of Education in Counselor Education, Virginia Commonwealth University Bachelor of Arts in Psychology (minor in Guidance, counseling and human service), Montclair State University</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>