

Gordon's School

ARTS SCHOLARSHIP

Art

Drama

Music



Art, drama and music are integral to Gordon's School and the School offers a wealth of opportunities for students to develop their skills and to enjoy participating as fully as possible in the arts. The scholarship will run throughout the two years of Sixth Form, subject to good behaviour, an annual review, and sustained commitment to Gordon's Creative Arts Department.

A Creative Arts Scholarship is offered to a student who demonstrates outstanding ability in either music, drama or art. The successful student will join the Good to Great programme, a carefully balanced programme that ensures students get the 'balance' needed to remain successful in their academic studies whilst being able to enjoy the wider opportunities that the Good to Great programme offers outside of the curriculum. Students will receive a mentor, to act as a support throughout their time in the Sixth Form.

ART CANDIDATES:

As a minimum, candidates are expected to have a level 8 or A* in GCSE Art & Design and take Art & Design or Photography to A Level.

What we will expect from the Art Scholar:

- Assisting & entering work for the Summer Arts exhibition
- Assist with creation of props for school productions/set design
- Peer coaching (to help gain 20 hours compulsory volunteering hours)

Assessment:

- Potential scholars applying for a place in our Sixth Form and currently studying GCSE Art & Design/Photography will be asked to present a portfolio of their work which demonstrates outstanding ability in art/photography, particularly through creativity, imagination, manipulative skills and strong powers of observation. Candidates will demonstrate a range of experimentation with different media, techniques and processes showing appreciation of different ways of working. Candidates will show a passion and love for the subject beyond conventional expectations and an eagerness to get involved.
- The portfolio must show work completed in school (including homework), as well as pieces done for pleasure.
- 3D work/sculptures should be evidenced with photographs.
- Evidence of recent visits to exhibitions should also be provided.
- A testimonial from an art professional should accompany this application.
- A discussion with the panel will conclude the interview where the candidate will be able to eloquently discuss their portfolio; how they recorded their ideas, observation and insights. They will be expected to explain how they have used the visual elements in their artwork. This will also help to demonstrate their genuine passion, enthusiasm and desire to know more about historical and contemporary art and design/photography.

DRAMA CANDIDATES:

As a minimum, candidates are expected to have been involved in (and be able to evidence involvement) a range of performing opportunities and show a high level of academic and theoretical understanding of the subject. Whilst it may be that drama scholarship applicants have not taken GCSE Drama, where they have, a grade 7 at a minimum is expected. Similarly it will be preferable for students applying for the scholarship to be taking A level Drama and Theatre Studies. However, where applicants are not pursuing an academic drama course at KS5, it will be expected that they have a level of practical skill and theoretical knowledge commensurate with students on these courses.

The school offers an abundance of opportunities for drama, both on-stage and behind the scenes. The award winners will be expected to contribute in depth to the theatrical life of the school. Candidates will be able to demonstrate their passion for theatre and dramatic potential.

What we will expect from the Drama Scholar:

- Leading their House in Inter-House drama competition
- Help organise & perform at events organised by the department
- Assist or take part in school productions
- Peer coaching (to help go towards 20 hours compulsory volunteering hours)
- Act as positive role models in behaviour and show self-expression, verve, commitment to the subject and excellent vocal and physical skills.

Assessment:

- The auditions will involve the following elements: a performance of a period or classical monologue of the candidate's choosing and a brief improvised performance.
- Prior to the monologue performance, the candidate will present a brief introduction announcing the play title, author and character and outlining the context of the extract.
- A legible copy of the chosen scripted scene/s should be provided for the audition panel.
- The candidate will perform their audition from memory
- Secondly candidates will perform an improvised scene based on a stimulus provided by the panel. One minute may be taken to prepare the scene prior to performance. The scene must be a minimum of 1 minute no more than 2 minutes in performance time.
- Candidates will then be invited to discuss their pieces with the panel. The discussion might include the matters of character's objective in scenes performed, character's role within the context of the piece and how the structure of the piece was created. Candidates will be expected, therefore, to have a full appreciation of their pieces. The candidate's ability to talk about drama coherently, their passion for the art and critic of productions they may have seen, and the use of appropriate terminology is regarded as equal importance to the quality of their performance.

MUSIC CANDIDATES:

As a minimum, candidates are expected to have Grade 7 standard or above in music. While many applicants for Music Scholarships will intend pursuing an academic music course, this is not a condition of being awarded a scholarship; neither is having taken music GCSE although successful applicants will be likely to have a theoretical musical knowledge commensurate with GCSE and performing abilities that exceed it.

The school, with its well-equipped Music Department, offers abundant opportunities for music-making, both instrumental and vocal, and the award winners will be expected to contribute in depth to the musical life of the school.

What we will expect from the Music Scholar:

- Attendance at all relevant ensembles (depending on instrument/voice)
- Leading their house in Inter-House music competition
- Major school concerts
- Assisting in running of lunchtime concerts
- Peer coaching (to help go towards 20 hours compulsory volunteering hours)

Assessment:

- A 20 minute period of preparation is allocated before the audition. 5 minutes of this is for a timed preparation of the quick-study piece and 15minutes for preparation of the chosen music with a Gordon's School accompanist (sheet music must be sent to the music department 2 weeks ahead of the audition date). We do insist that all candidates work and perform with one of our own staff in order to assess how they work in such a situation.
- Candidates are asked to perform two contrasting pieces (if only one instrument) or if more than one instrument is being performed then one piece on each instrument.
- All candidates (instrumentalists & vocalists) will be given a piece to sight read (for their first instrument) before they enter the audition. Singing candidates should prepare a short song to sing (to either a backing track or with their own sheet music for accompaniment).
- Candidates will then be invited to discuss their repertoire. The discussion might include the matters of structure, texture, techniques, origins and background, including matters of style/ performance practice and any performance instructions given by the composer. Soloists will be expected, therefore to have a full appreciation of their accompaniments. The candidate's ability to talk about music coherently and use appropriate terminology is regarded as equal importance to the quality of their performance.



