



Huntington Beach Academy for the Performing Arts Information for the 2026-2027 School Year

The Huntington Beach Academy for the Performing Arts (HB APA) is a place where talented, ambitious young performers and art lovers can extend both their academic and arts education simultaneously in an enriching atmosphere. Academy classes allow students to realize their fullest potential while interacting with peers that share their passion for the arts. Involvement in the Academy not only increases the self-esteem of its young performers, but often raises their level of academic achievement as well.

Some facts you might find interesting:



1. APA is a magnet program within the HBUHSD, located on the Huntington Beach High School campus. Students must attend a high school within or transfer into the Huntington Beach Union High School District.
2. The Academy enrolls students entering grades 9-12.
3. Applicants are evaluated on their academic record, auditions or interviews, as well as teacher recommendations.
4. APA classes are taken for Visual/Performing Arts credit or P.E credit, and are not “extra-curricular” activities. Students may not add or drop classes at their own discretion.
5. Students may attend any high school within HBUHSD (EHS, FVHS, HBHS, MHS, OVHS, WHS) and attend afternoon APA classes.
6. If a student lives outside of the HBUHSD and is accepted into the APA program, they may apply for a transfer to Huntington Beach High School (HBHS).
7. Students are required to take two (2) APA classes per semester for a well-rounded APA education and to fulfill the APA Honor Cord program requirements.
8. All APA classes fulfill Visual Performing Arts requirements for UC and CSU systems. We also offer several honors and dual-enrollment college classes.

So, your student is interested – what’s next?

1. Complete the application for the 2026-2027 school year and submit it by the deadline:
Friday, January 30, 2026 by 3:00 p.m.
2. Applications may be submitted in person or mailed to the APA Office at:
1905 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648 (located in the Music Building).
3. Students may apply for up to two departments, and are encouraged to do so.
4. You will be notified of your *audition day*. See page 2 for more information.
5. We call you with audition appointment dates and times one to two weeks prior to auditions. We make appointments only for students who have submitted their completed applications by the due date.
6. If you are planning to transfer your student to HBHS, start the application process at your residence school *now*, and indicate on the transfer application: *Pending APA acceptance*.

Dear Applicant: We are excited that you are considering APA. Be sure to review the entire application, as it contains important information, helpful hints for audition preparation, and required paperwork. Many of your questions can be answered by the information available at hbapa.org under our *Be APA* page.

AUDITION TIMELINE for 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Task to complete before your audition:	Date to be completed by:
Step 1: Print out the APA application	Now
Step 2: Request the Instructor Recommendation Form	Now
Step 3: Compile your résumé, write your student essay, select your top two department choices, fill out Student/Parent Information section, and obtain an unofficial transcript.	Now
Step 4: Prepare, memorize, and rehearse your audition pieces	Now
For MMET Media: Make a 3-minute film that demonstrates your creativity, style, and skills in filmmaking. <i>More information can be found on page 4 of this packet.</i> Email link to hbapa.online/MEDIA-AUDITION-VIDEO (QR to right). <u>*THIS DEPARTMENT REQUIRES A VIDEO SUBMISSION AND LIVE INTERVIEW</u>	FRIDAY, JAN 30, 2026 by 3pm 
For Musical Theatre: Submit a video of 32 bars of an up-tempo Broadway Standard or contemporary up-tempo Broadway song <u>AND</u> 16 bars of a Broadway Standard Ballad or contemporary Broadway Ballad. Email video links to hbapa.online/MT-Audition-Video (QR to right). More information can be found on page 3 of this packet. <u>*THIS DEPARTMENT REQUIRES A VIDEO SUBMISSION AND LIVE AUDITION</u>	FRIDAY, JAN 30, 2026 by 3pm 
Step 5: Submit your completed application <u>*LATE OR INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS MAY NOT BE ACCEPTED</u>	FRIDAY, JAN 30, 2026 by 3:00pm
Step 6: You will be notified by phone call of your specific audition date and time. You must reply to secure your audition spot. This appointment time cannot be changed.	2026 Audition Dates: FEB 14, 21, 22, 28

2026 Audition/Interview Dates: FEB 14, 21, 22, 28	Audition/Interview Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The APA Office will call applicants to confirm the audition or interview. <u>You must return our call or confirm with the APA office before the audition/interview.</u> For questions please contact the APA Office M-F, 8:30am-5:30pm 714-536-2514 EXT 51454 <p>FEB 14 Acting, Dramatic Production, Costume Design FEB 21 Technical Theatre, Orchestra, Musical Theatre FEB 22 Dance FEB 28 MMET Pop, MMET Media</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please keep the entire day of auditions open. You will be notified a week before auditions of your specific appointment date and time. Please arrive 30 minutes before your appointment time to check in. Be prepared to spend some time waiting on audition day. We encourage you to bring a snack and bottle of water, as well as homework or a book to read.

We wish you luck — oops! — break a leg,



Andrea Taylor
APA Administrator



Jenny McClintock
APA Artistic Director



Susan West
APA Supervisor

APA Audition Requirements

To audition or interview for APA, you must ensure that you have submitted the complete APA application to the APA office **FRIDAY, JAN 30, 2026**. The complete APA application includes:

- Application Cover Page and paperwork (pages 7-11)
 - Your photo affixed to the Cover Page (page 7)
 - Your selected top two audition/interview pathway choices (page 8)
 - Student and Parent Information Page (page 9)
 - Résumé (a sample is enclosed) (page 10)
 - Personal Essay (instructions enclosed) (page 11)
 - One (1) Instructor Recommendation Form (page 13)
- Unofficial copy of transcript or latest report card
- \$30 application donation
- For MMET Media and Musical Theatre *only*: videos due **FRIDAY, JAN 30, 2026**.

Below are the APA audition requirements, listed by pathway. Kindly review the guidelines for the pathway(s) in which you are auditioning or interviewing. The APA Office will arrange the audition or interview time with applicants based upon Director availability. The APA office will notify you a week before auditions of your specific audition date and time. We must receive a call back to confirm your student's audition. *We wish you the very best of luck!*

DEPARTMENT	AUDITION REQUIREMENTS
Acting	<p>Perform 2 one-minute memorized monologues: 1 comedy and 1 drama</p> <p>It is advisable that one monologue is a character close to you in terms of age and personality. The other monologue should show your range in terms of playing a challenging character. Monologues should be from published plays.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce each monologue by the name of the play, the author, & the character you are performing (Monologues from plays/scripts can be found on the internet or at your local library).
Costume Design	<p><u>Interview with Costume Design faculty and presentation of portfolio or samples, if available.</u> Please be prepared to answer this question: <i>"Why do you want to be a member of the APA Costume Design department?"</i></p>
Dance	<p><u>Learn a ballet barre, jazz progression, modern combination, & tap sequence on site.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior technical training <i>required</i> • Attire: dark leotard, pink or black tights, hair back. Bring jazz shoes & ballet slippers. tap shoes optional
Dramatic Production <i>Scriptwriting & Directing</i>	<p><u>Presentation of a portfolio, if available.</u> Playwrights: Bring writing samples of plays, short stories, poems, etc. Directors: Expect a short interview in which you will talk about your leadership potential and creative ideas</p>
Musical Theatre	<p><u>This department calls for a live audition as well as a video vocal audition due on FRIDAY, JAN 30, 2026 by 3:00 PM.</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Submit your vocal audition video:</u> Submit a video of 32 bars of an up-tempo Broadway Standard or contemporary up-tempo Broadway song <i>AND</i> 16 bars of a Broadway Standard Ballad or contemporary Broadway Ballad. Submissions may be with a track or with an accompanist. Videos must be uploaded to a platform such as YouTube or Vimeo. Email video links to hbapa.online/MT-Audition-Video by FRIDAY, JAN 30, 2026 <u>Subject line should read: MT Audition Jane Doe</u> 2. <u>Live auditions, consisting of three components:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SING: Perform 32 bars of an up-tempo Broadway Standard and 16 bars of a contemporary Broadway Ballad (song selections may be the same as your audition video). Please bring your sheet music in the correct key. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On audition day, you may be asked to perform only a portion of your music, but be prepared to perform the entire selection if asked. • DANCE: Learn and perform a short dance combination on-site at auditions • ACT: Perform one (1) memorized monologue from a Broadway musical. Introduce the monologue by the name of the musical and the character you are performing.

DEPARTMENT	AUDITION REQUIREMENTS
MMET: Media	<p><u>All students will be interviewed by Mr. Rhone and are to produce and submit a video about themselves not to exceed 3 minutes (maximum).</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make a 3-minute film that demonstrates your creativity, style, and skills in filmmaking. • Videos should be uploaded to a platform such as YouTube or a Google Drive. Once uploaded, please copy the link and visit hbapa.online/MEDIA-AUDITION-VIDEO to upload your video's link by FRIDAY, JAN 30, 2026
MMET: Popular Music	<p><u>VOCALISTS:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be prepared to sing one (1) pop or rock song of your choice. Please bring your own accompaniment (such as a karaoke track in your preferred key). You will not be permitted to sing acapella or to the original track with vocals. 2. Please visit bit.ly/MMETAudition Perform one (1) entire song from the list provided in the folder. Materials will be posted in this folder January 1. <p><u>INSTRUMENTALISTS:</u></p> <p>Bring your guitar or bass. You do not need to bring a keyboard, drum set, pedal boards, or amps (these are provided). Know how to plug into an amp and tune your instrument.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be prepared to perform one (1) popular rock or pop song of your choice. Please play a verse and a chorus. If you have a recording to play along with, you may do so. 2. Please visit bit.ly/MMETAudition Perform 1 song from the list provided in the folder. Materials will be posted in this folder January 1. 3. Be prepared to play a twelve-bar blues progression in the key of A.
Orchestra <i>Traditional Music Program</i>	<p><u>Play 1-2 short selections (3-minutes maximum) which best demonstrate your musical and technical ability. Expect a short excerpt to sight-read.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play scales from memory as follows (two octaves when possible): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Wind instruments:</u> B-flat, E-flat, A-flat, F, C, chromatic (from your lowest note to highest note - show your range) ○ <u>String instruments:</u> C, G, D, A, F, chromatic (from your lowest note to highest note show your range) ○ <u>Piano:</u> F, C, G (2 hands), 2 octave chromatic C-C ○ <u>Guitar, drum set:</u> demonstrate the following styles - swing, rock, Latin ○ <u>Concert percussion</u> (in addition to 1-2 short selections: keyboard marimba, bells, etc.): C, B-flat, E-flat scales, concert snare drum-roll soft to loud to soft. • Bring your instrument & sheet music. A piano, all percussion, & guitar amp are available.
Technical Theatre	<p><u>All students will be interviewed by Technical Theatre faculty, and may prepare the following:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not required, however applicants are highly encouraged to bring samples in the areas of Technical Theatre which might include photos of their lighting design project(s), sound design, set design, painting, construction, stage management, etc. Other items to bring to the interview might be samples of sketches, drawings, or photos of art pieces (including sculpture or paintings) created by the applicant. 2. Speak on your supporting abilities for Technical Theatre (such as skills in drawing, painting, carpentry, craftsmanship, technical skills, or other hobbies/occupational interests). 3. Please be prepared to answer questions regarding Technical Theatre, such as why you are interested in the department, what experience you have, moments you have prioritized safety and communication, and an achievement you are most proud of. 4. You are welcome to ask Mr. Behrens and Mr. Henderson any questions you may have about the program and department.

What to Do Now

1. Download the application.
2. Request your Instructor Recommendation Form (page 13). Please submit this form to your chosen instructor early, as it may take time. If you need an electronic copy of the Instructor Recommendation Form to email to your teacher, visit this link:
hbapa.online/instructor-recommendation Once completed, the instructor may either:
a) email the completed form to asharp@hbuhsd.edu
or b) give it back to you in a signed and sealed envelope
or c) mail the completed form to HB APA: 1905 Main St, Huntington Beach, CA 92648.
3. Thoroughly read through the audition guidelines for each department.
4. Start preparing for your audition.

Application Procedure

1. Follow all instructions carefully and submit the completed application to the APA office by Friday, **FRIDAY, JAN 30, 2026 at 3pm.**
2. Incomplete applications delay the process and may not be accepted.
3. Please reserve the entire day for your audition.
4. After submitting your APA Application, you will receive a phone call with your appointment time and other details for your auditions about 1-2 weeks before the audition day. You must respond to be placed on the audition/interview list.
5. Please check your calendar to make sure that there is not a conflict.
6. You may audition for up to two APA departments. Please indicate your 1st and 2nd choice on your application.
7. If you are auditioning for MMET: Media or Musical Theatre, submit your video by **FRIDAY, JAN 30, 2025** (this is the same day that applications are due).

On Audition Day

1. Please dress appropriately for your audition and/or interview.
2. Arrive 30 minutes before your appointment time.
3. Be prepared. Those who are not prepared (not to be confused with those who are nervous) will not be considered for acceptance.
4. *Break a leg!*

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Huntington Beach Academy for the Performing Arts

2026-2027 Application Cover Page

Legal Last Name	Legal First Name
Preferred Name (if Applicable):	Preferred Pronouns:

If accepted, will you be moving into the area to attend APA? Please check one: ☐ **YES** or ☐ **NO** (Please check one)
 If Yes, Where will you be moving from: _____

Do you currently live in the HBUHSD (Huntington Beach High Union High School District)? ☐ **YES** or ☐ **NO**
 (Please check one)

Will you be transferring to HBHS from another high school or school district? ☐ **YES** or ☐ **NO** (Please check one)

1. Use a computer to complete the application or use black/blue ink.
2. To upload a photo, click the photo icon (vertical photos work best).
3. Attach this page to the top of your application.
4. Keep pages 1-6 for your personal records.
5. Submit pages 7-11 to APA
6. Submit page 13 to your chosen instructor for them to return to APA
7. Obtain an unofficial copy of transcript/most current report card

Affix Photo Here
 (Copy of School ID or
 School Photo OK)

3.5" x 2.5"

Please tape or glue
(no staples)

The completed APA Application includes:

- ☐ Application contribution: \$30.00 (cash or check payable to "APA")
- ☐ Application paperwork, pages 7-11 (included with this cover page on top)
 - ☐ Student photo affixed to the right (page 7)
 (Please only attach a photo on this page 7 in size 3.5"x2.5".
 No large portraits or headshots. School pictures are perfect.
 - ☐ Résumé (you may use sample page 10, or prepare your own)
 - ☐ Personal Essay (page 11)
- ☐ One (1) Instructor Recommendation Form turned in by instructor (page 13)
- ☐ Unofficial copy of transcript/most current report card. *(Required)*

Note: Before you submit your application, check that your packet is complete as we cannot process incomplete applications. Application materials (including pictures and letters of recommendation) will not be returned after submission. All applications are due by **FRIDAY, JAN 30, 2026**.

How did you hear about the Huntington Beach Academy for the Performing Arts? Please answer below:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| [] Teacher/school staff | [] APA Open Doors | [] Attended APA show; show name: _____ |
| [] Friend/sibling in APA;
(student name): _____ | [] Dance studio/music, drama,
vocal coach; (name): _____ | [] Social Media or Ad; (name): _____ |

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	APPOINTMENT TIME	CLASS ASSIGNMENTS AND CODES
<u>1ST CHOICE:</u>		
<u>2ND CHOICE:</u>		
NOTES:		

Please mark the APA Pathway for which you are auditioning. You may audition for a maximum of two (2) Pathways. If you are auditioning for more than one Pathway, please rank your preference by numbering the APA Pathway:

“1” being your first choice, “2” being your second choice.

_____ **Acting**

_____ **Costume Design**

_____ **Dance**

_____ **Dramatic Production** (Scriptwriting and Directing)

_____ **Orchestra**

Please list all instruments you play in order of proficiency:

1)_____ 2)_____ 3)_____

_____ **Music Media & Entertainment Technology (MMET): Popular Music**

(Pop/Rock Band)

Please indicate whether you are primarily a vocalist or instrumentalist (you may only choose one). Then check “YES” or “NO” for all other areas.

☐

Primarily a VOCALIST

Do you sing lead vocals? (Please check one)

☐

YES

or

☐

NO

Do you sing background vocals? (Please check one)

☐

YES

or

☐

NO

☐

Primarily an INSTRUMENTALIST (PLEASE ONLY CHOOSE ONE)

Do you play (an) instrument(s)? (Please check one)

☐

YES

or

☐

NO

If yes, please list instruments below in order of proficiency:

1)_____ 2)_____ 3)_____

_____ **Music Media & Entertainment Technology (MMET): Media** (Film/TV Production)

_____ **Musical Theatre** (Singing, Dancing, and Acting)

_____ **Technical Theatre** Please check all areas of interest:

[] LIGHTING

[] STAGE MANAGEMENT

[] SET CONSTRUCTION
& RIGGING

[] SOUND

[] SCENIC DESIGN
& PAINTING

[] CURRENTLY UNDECIDED

[] INTERESTED IN ALL

Application for Admission: 2026-2027 School Year

STUDENT INFORMATION (Please type or write with pen)		<input type="checkbox"/> New APA student applicant <input type="checkbox"/> Previous APA student – last semester attended:	
Legal Last name:	Legal First name:	HBUHSD six-digit ID # (if available):	
Preferred Name (if applicable):		Preferred Pronouns:	
Street address, apt/unit number:	City, state, zip:	Graduating year:	
		Date of birth:	
Student phone:	Student email:		
Student lives with:			
School currently attending (please check/list one): <input type="checkbox"/> Middle/Junior High School (list below) OR <input type="checkbox"/> High School (list below) Current School Name: _____			
Please mark your residence high school in the Huntington Beach Union High School District (HBUHSD): <input type="checkbox"/> EHS <input type="checkbox"/> FVHS <input type="checkbox"/> HBHS <input type="checkbox"/> MHS <input type="checkbox"/> OVHS <input type="checkbox"/> WHS Will you apply for intra-district transfer to Huntington Beach High School (HBHS) from your HBUHSD residence school? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Will you apply for an out of district transfer? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No My residence high school is: _____ in _____ School District			
Student signature:		Date:	

PARENT / GUARDIAN INFORMATION		
PARENT/GUARDIAN #1 last name:	Parent/Guardian #1 first name:	Home phone: (____) _____ - _____ Cell phone: (____) _____ - _____
Street address:	City:	State, zip:
Parent/Guardian #1 email:		
Parent/Guardian #1 signature:		
PARENT/GUARDIAN #2 last name:	Parent/Guardian #2 first name:	Home phone: (____) _____ - _____ Cell phone: (____) _____ - _____
Street address:	City:	State, zip:
Parent/Guardian #2 email:		
Parent/Guardian #2 signature:		

Résumé

You may create a résumé on your own or complete the form below. Please type or write in pen.

Last name:	First name:	
Address:		Apt/Unit number:
City:	Zip:	Student phone:

EXPERIENCE:

DATE	EVENT	ROLE/POSITION	LOCATION

TRAINING (EDUCATION/RESIDENCIES):

DATE	EVENT	ROLE/POSITION	LOCATION

SPECIAL SKILLS (RELATED TO THE APA DEPARTMENT YOU ARE AUDITIONING FOR):

AWARDS:



Personal Student Essay

**Your essay is to be approximately 300 words (about one typed, double-spaced page).
Please attach your TYPED essay to this application.**

Please address each of the following questions in your essay:

1. a.) When and how did your interest in the performing arts (in general) develop?
b.) Specifically, when and how did your interest in the Academy for the Performing Arts (APA) develop?
2. What experiences do you hope to gain from your involvement in APA?
3. What are your special skills, and how will your involvement in the program benefit APA?
4. What extracurricular activities are you currently participating in at your middle school, high school, or other organizations?
5. What activities do you plan to be involved with in addition to APA for the coming school year?
6. Is there anything else you would like us to know about you?

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Instructor Recommendation Form

Huntington Beach Academy for the Performing Arts (HB APA)

Student Name: _____ **APA Pathway Applying for:** _____

Applicant Information: After filling out your name and department you are applying for above, give this to a teacher or arts instructor with whom you have worked closely. You may email this form to your instructor, or submit it to them in person. To download a fillable/email-friendly version of this form, visit: hbapa.online/instructor-recommendation

Instructor Information: Thank you for helping us learn more about this student. This form is to remain confidential; please do not give this back to the student, or do so in a signed and sealed envelope. Once completed, you may either: 1) email the completed form to asharp@hbuhsd.edu 2) give back to the student in a signed and sealed envelope, or 3) mail the completed form to HB APA: 1905 Main St, Huntington Beach, CA 92648.

Please rate the applicant's potential in the above chosen field by placing a check in the appropriate box:

	Unacceptable		Low		Average		Outstanding		Top 5%	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Potential										
Commitment										
Drive/Ambition										
Self-Discipline										
Professionalism										
Socialization										

Comments: _____

Instructor Name: _____

Instructor Email: _____

Instructor's Subject & Title: _____ **Years Instructing Student:** _____

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form.