

## Emerging Artist Cohort Handbook

We believe that creativity is a God-given gift, and the Fine Arts Department offers a place to develop talents in the visual and performing arts with a career emphasis. This arts-focused curriculum acknowledges and affirms the notion that students headed for a career in the arts need a special program designed with them in mind. In short, we are preparing Christians to make their innovative mark on the world through fine arts.

### Overview

The Emerging Artist Cohort is designed for the student who is passionate about the arts and creativity. It is not intended to create more work for a student; on the contrary, the program takes what a student is already doing in their free time to offer an opportunity for growth, mentorship, networking, and community engagement.

### Requirements

1. Rigorous core curriculum. Curriculum path includes the equivalent of 5 years of fine arts (including performance-based credits *and* academic credits). Students must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher in arts curriculum courses.
2. Participation in each Arts Cohort Conversation, held one Friday a month.
3. Field Experience in an arts-related career for 40-hours total, compiled in a portfolio for review.
4. Independent research project, guided by a faculty mentor, and including field visits to museums or galleries.
5. Book study with Emerging Artist Cohort.
6. Capstone Project of student work, to be showcased in a public exhibition or performance.

\*Successful Emerging Artist Curriculum candidates will, upon completion, receive commendation on diplomas and on transcripts, as well as recognition at Concordia Academy's Honors Convocation.

## Timeline

*Follow the timeline below to keep on track with cohort requirements.*

Students can join the Emerging Artist Cohort at any time during the Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior years and complete the requirements.

However, it is recommended that students apply to the program by second semester sophomore year.

Freshman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Enroll in full year of fine arts coursework</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Meet once each semester with the entire EAC membership</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Attend monthly Cohort Conversations</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Produce and compile original work outside of school</li> </ul>
Sophomore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Enroll in full year of fine arts coursework</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Attend monthly Cohort Conversations</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Submit formal EAC application by February 15, 2025</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Begin to identify topic for independent research project; complete project by graduation</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Produce and compile original work outside of school</li> </ul>
Junior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Enroll in full year, plus one semester, of fine arts coursework</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Submit formal EAC application by February 15, 2025</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Attend monthly Cohort Conversations</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Produce and compile original work outside of school</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Attend "Art Business" seminar second semester (date TBD)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Secure job shadow for summer (spring of junior year)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Summer: read books to participate in cohort discussion fall of Senior year</li> </ul>
Senior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Enroll in full year, plus at least one semester, of fine arts coursework</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Attend monthly Cohort Conversations</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Write artist statement</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Complete Independent Research Project</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Turn in completed Field Experience Portfolio</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Complete Capstone Project pieces</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Public performance or display of Capstone Project</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Attend Honors Convocation</li> </ul>

## Cohort 4-Year Curriculum Plan

*Students can see a complete list of required and elective course options in the CA Academic Handbook.*

### Four Year Course Requirements

<b>Freshmen Year</b>	<b>Sophomore Year</b>	<b>Junior Year</b>	<b>Senior Year</b>
Scripture Math Science English Social Studies PE Fine Arts (Rec)	Scripture Math Science English Social Studies Fine Arts (Rec) Health	Scripture Math Science English Social Studies Foreign Lang (Rec) Elective Elective Elective	Scripture English Social Studies Foreign Lang (Rec) Elective Elective Elective

### Cohort Course Options

<b>Freshmen Year</b>	<b>Sophomore Year</b>	<b>Junior Year</b>	<b>Senior Year</b>
Fundamentals of Art Intermediate Art Photojournalism Chorale Concert Band Concordia Strings	Fundamentals of Art Intermediate Art Advanced Art Mixed Media Arts Select Studio Photojournalism Chorale Concert Choir Concert Band Concordia Strings	Fundamentals of Art Intermediate Art Advanced Art Mixed Media Arts Select Studio College Ceramics College Graphic Design College Drawing Photojournalism Creative Writing Concert Choir His People Concert Band Concordia Strings College Improv	Fundamentals of Art Intermediate Art Advanced Art Mixed Media Arts Select Studio College Ceramics College Graphic Design College Drawing Photojournalism Creative Writing Concert Choir His People Concert Band Concordia Strings College Improv

Students must take 5 credits in the Fine Arts department. These credits can be a combination of performance-based and/or visual arts classes, high school and/or college.

## Cohort Community

*Students in the Emerging Artist Cohort will be expected to work independently in their particular area of the arts and also share collaboratively with other artists in the program.*

The first two years, EAC members gather for two group meetings, one in the fall and one in the winter, for progress check-ins and to get to know other artists.

Junior and senior years, the artists will meet in addition to the events above with the purpose of sharing ideas, research, problem-solving, artist statements, and also conducting a book study together.

### [EAC Meeting Outline and due dates](#)

## Field Experience

Students in the Emerging Artist Cohort will learn about daily life in an arts-related career of their choosing. This is designed to occur during the summer between the student's junior and senior years of high school. The field experience is tailored to the student's particular interests. The field experience will be guided and supported by the EAC Coordinator and the EAC Team to help students enjoy and appreciate the work they will do in a fine arts organization.

1. Preparing for the [Field Experience](#) (junior year)
  - a. [Field Experience Agreement Form](#)
2. During the Field Experience (summer)
  - a. [Field Experience Portfolio guidelines](#)
  - b. [Field Experience Daily Log and Final Reflection](#) (on page 2)
3. Compiling the Field Experience Portfolio
  - a. [Supervisor Evaluation Form](#)

## Research

*Students in the Emerging Artist Cohort will be asked to identify an area of interest and spend time researching to learn about this topic. Students will work with the EAC Coordinator to identify a topic in line with what a student is already investigating on their own.*

*Follow the steps below to conduct your research.*

1. Select a focus area of the fine arts (music, visual art, dance, theater, writing).
2. Name a particular artist, genre, style, or era as your subject.
3. What is the question your research will answer? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Search for **at least 8 sources** and begin reading, viewing, and listening. The sources should meet the following criteria:
  - \_\_\_At least 1 primary source
  - \_\_\_At least 2 sources via museum, gallery, live performance, or special-focus library
  - \_\_\_At least one source should be a book-length print publication
5. Read and take notes, read and take notes, read and take notes.
6. Meet with your EAC Faculty Mentor for a Q and A about what you are learning.
7. Write your annotated bibliography in MLA format: Citation, paragraph of summary, and paragraph of evaluation of the quality of the author and the content of the source.
8. Write a one-page reflection on the significance of the information you learned and your own personal connection to it.
9. Meet with Faculty Mentor and EAC Coordinator to demonstrate your mastery of the subject chosen for this project

For assistance in constructing an [annotated bibliography, check here](#).

## **Capstone**

*Students in the Emerging Artist Cohort will celebrate their work through an exhibit which will be presented at the Cohort Showcase in the spring. This is a project which is unique to each artist and students will be guided throughout the process by ongoing conversations with the Emerging Artist Coordinator and other fine arts faculty.*

Artists must be willing to work independently towards the completion of the project, following benchmarks designed for a successful final exhibit.

Concordia Academy will assist in coaching students through the process while also promoting and facilitating the event.

### **Primary Benchmark: Fall of Senior year**

To ensure the quality of artistry intended for this program, all participants must present a portfolio of their work in the fall of their senior year to the arts faculty and panel of Emerging Artist students. The work will be evaluated and guidance given towards moving into the final phase of constructing the exhibit. Students not prepared with a qualifying portfolio at this time will not be able to complete the Emerging Artist Cohort.

## **Forms**

[Summer 2024 EAC outline and due dates](#)

[Emerging Artist Key Milestones by year](#)

[Field Experience Daily Log](#)

[Field Experience Supervisor Evaluation Form](#)

[EAC Field Experience Overview](#)

[EAC Field Experience Portfolio](#)

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