

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ADMISSION PROCESS TO CARDINAL CARTER ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS

Our primary intake years are grades 7 and 9. Our waitlist expires at the end of September each school year. We do offer auditions for students who wish to enter grades 8, 10-12.

Q. What is the process for applying to CCAA?

A. **STEP 1: Application:**

To download our application and receive further information regarding the audition requirements please visit our website:

<http://cardinalcarteracademyforthearts.tcdsb.org>

Complete the application, include all the required documents and return it to Cardinal Carter by **Friday, October 26, 2018**.

Required documents included with the application are:

Report Cards: For applications for grades 7, 8, 9, we require the final June Report Card of the previous year AND the Progress report card of this current year. If the Progress Report is not available by the application due date, please forward it to the school when you have it. Report cards are reviewed for the following purposes: to confirm grade eligibility; to ensure that the Learning Skills portion of the Report Card reflects the organizational and work habit expectations that will support the success of students at CCAA. Report card marks are **not** used for admission criteria.

Two letters of Reference: One from your classroom teacher, and another which is Arts based. This Arts letter should be written by someone who has witnessed the ability, creativity, and passion of the applicant in the Arts area to which he/she is applying.

Audition Fee: \$35.00 cheque payable to *Cardinal Carter Academy for the Arts*

STEP 2: The Audition:

Once a completed application is received by Friday, October 26, 2018 applicants will be mailed an audition appointment time. Audition date is November 14, 2018 and November 15, 2018 for Grade 7 & 8, 10-12 Dance Auditions.

For Visual Arts applicants:

The submitted portfolio is screened (Round 1) and further audition requirements are sent out (Round 2) only to those with the strongest portfolios. A successful audition is the key requirement for admission. Selection is determined by a panel of adjudicators made up of members of our faculty as well as outside experts from the field.

The decision of the Adjudicators is final.

Q. How many Arts credits do students take and are these credits recognized by Colleges & Universities?

A. All courses are Ministry approved and recognized by Ontario post-secondary institutions. They are enriched versions of courses being taught in Ontario secondary schools. These courses rely heavily on ensemble performance expectations which is why attendance is critical. From Grades 9-11, students will complete 2 credits per year and in Gr. 12, 1 Art course is required and the 2nd is optional.

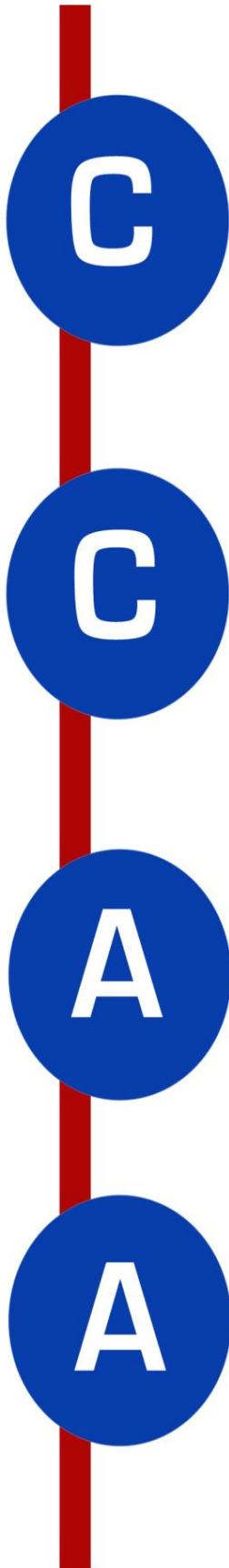
Q. Do you have to be Catholic to come to CCAA?

A. We adhere to the TCDSB admissions policy. For students who are residents of Toronto and are applying to GR. 7 or 8, the child **or** one parent **must** be Catholic. For Gr. 7 & 8 applicants residing outside Toronto, the child **must** be Catholic. Students applying to grades 9-12, do **not** have to be Catholic.

Q. Can you be admitted to CCAA without a successful audition?

A. No. All offers of admission are made based on a successful audition as being the key component. Learning Skills and work habits as reflected in the child's Report Card are also considered. Residency or attendance in local schools provide no advantages. Because we are a magnet school, the TCDSB Board Admission Policy on siblings does **not** apply. **Please note that we do not endorse any private studios nor their claim of ensuring the candidates' success through our audition process.**

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Q. Can a student apply to more than one Arts area?

A. Only **one audition** is granted to each applicant so please audition in your strongest Arts area. We process approximately 650 applications overall per year.

Q. Can students in other grades audition to enter Carter in grades other than 7 & 9?

A. Yes, we will offer one audition to one Arts area for students who wish to enter a grade other than 7 or 9. It is important to know that admission to grades 10-12 could be offered **ONLY** if space permits **AND** if we can provide a suitable course time-table that will meet the requirements of the OSSD for the student.

Q. Are there additional fees required from our students?

A. CCAA receives the same funding as other publicly funded high schools. There is a \$100 Arts fee per year to cover some of the additional consumable expenses for our specialized programs which falls under the Enhanced Programming Materials and Optional Programming selections as per Ministry direction. The money is specifically directed to your child's Art area.

Q. Is transportation provided for students coming from outside the area?

A. No school bussing is available. Families are responsible for their own transportation to and from school. We are located on the subway line allowing for easy travel to CCAA.

Q. What are the biggest intake years for CCAA?

A. Grades 7 and 9 are the traditional entry points. We will admit, overall, 60 student's in Grade 7 and approximately 115 new students in Grade 9 for the next school year. We do take students in other grades but **ONLY** where vacancies arise and only at certain times of the school year when it is educationally sound to transition students.

Q. Does CCAA have a Resource Department and a program for Gifted students?

A. We have a Resource Department that uses an integrated model to support students, including gifted students, with a variety of learning needs. We welcome all students based on a successful audition regardless of their learning needs. CCAA's resource department provides an "autonomous learner model" that focuses on the development of learning strategies. Students have the opportunity to access special activities within the regular class setting via differentiated instruction and various departmental competitions and activities which provide multiple outlets for expression and learning not only for the students identified as gifted, but for all interested students. Enrichment activities include, but are not limited to: model United Nations conferences such as CSUNA and CARMUN, Duke of Edinburgh Awards program, Advanced Placement Tests via the Guidance Department, and the W5H club for gr. 7 and 8 students.

Q. Do students at CCAA have limited course selection opportunities?

A. We offer all compulsory courses and a generous variety of optional courses within an enriched and accelerated Arts program. Course offerings allow students to access ALL Ontario post-secondary University/College programs. In grades 7 & 8, we provide the same program components as in other elementary schools. Students are at CCAA because they have a passion for an Arts area and their interests are reflected in the course selections they make each year which ultimately determine which courses are offered.

Q. Does CCAA have a French Immersion or Extended French program?

A. No. A recognized French Immersion/Extended certificate program requires a minimum number of courses, in addition to French class, where French is the language of instruction. In our Arts school model, French Immersion/Extended programming is not feasible. We do provide enriched learning opportunities within the Core French program only.

Q. What Extra-Curricular sport teams does CCAA offer? Clubs?

A. Due to our focus on the Arts and our intensive rehearsal schedule, it is not possible to offer the same number of teams as in other schools. We tend to participate more in individual tournament type sports like swim meets, badminton, cross-country, tennis and others. We do offer an array of clubs where students can develop leadership skills.

Q. When will families be contacted about whether their child is offered admission to CCAA?

A. **Audition day is Wednesday, November 14, 2018. Note that ONLY Grade 7 & 8, 10-12 Dance auditions are on Thursday, November 15, 2018.** We cannot accommodate alternate audition dates. The selection process will be completed by December 2018. You will be notified shortly thereafter. PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL FOR ADMISSION RESULTS. The decision of the adjudicators is final and we ask that you respect the expertise of these professionals. Our CCAA faculty is NOT permitted to coach or help prepare any applicant.