**VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT AUDITION INFORMATION**

**AUDITION DATES**  
Your specific audition time will be given to you at the Pre Audition meeting.  Audition dates are: Thursday, January 9, 2020 – Pre-Audition Meeting at 6:00pm Saturday, January 25, 2020 – drawing date  
Saturday, February 1, 2020 – callback/interview date #1  
Saturday, February 8, 2020 – callback/interview date #2

**AUDITION REQUIREMENTS**You will receive an audition number, date, and time at our Pre Audition meeting**.**The audition date and time is pre-selected for you and you must be able to come at the prescribed time.  Applicants will only be assigned one audition day.    Call back details for interview and specific portfolio information will be given at the mandatory Pre-Audition Meeting. The dates are not negotiable.

Please keep these dates/times open for both the audition and interview days.

**YOU MUST KNOW YOUR AUDITION NUMBER AS WE WILL BE USING THIS AS AN IDENTIFIER AND WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GIVE THIS INFORMATION TO YOU LATER.**

[**VA teacher recommendation form – due by Wednesday, January 22, 2020**](http://dsa.dpsk12.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/VA-teacher-recommendation-form-1.docx)Forms must be mailed directly to the DSA VA Department by your teachers

Provide your teacher with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to insure timely delivery.

Your letters must be received by the due date, so give teachers plenty of notice — keep checking to be sure they fill out and send the form to us.

Be sure to ask a teacher who knows you well and can speak to your interest/ability in art as well as your work ethic.  Be sure the teacher agrees to write the recommendation.  You may need to remind them. No late letters will be considered in your score.

**DRAWING AUDITION**One **Still Life Drawing** and one **Creativity Exercise** to be completed in a one hour audition session, you will draw in groups of approximately 24 students.

Do not bring your portfolio. Portfolios are NOT due unless the student receives a call back

All art materials will be provided.

Arrive 10 minutes early to check in.   Late students do not get extra drawing time.

Audition drawings will be scored for call back interviews and those numbers will be posted on the VA web page and the school office at **12:00 noon,  Tuesday, January 28 with an interview appointment time.**

**CALLBACKS POSTED**

On the DSA Visual Arts web page with your initials, audition number, and an appointment time for an interview on **Saturday, February 1 or February 8.**Many students have the same initials so your initials and audition number must match.Please do not call the office or VA classroom if your number does not match the initials.

Audition numbers are posted next to initials only.  Your initials and number must match.  If your student is listed as a callback, they must return for an**interview and portfolio review on Saturday, February 1 or February 8 at their appointed time.**

If you are not listed as a call back you will receive no further communication from us.

**CALL BACKS FOR INTERVIEW AND PORTFOLIO REVIEW**

Approximately 50% of applicants  (highest scores) will be “called back” with an assigned interview appointment time.

Interviews are conducted without parents by a panel of 3 – 5 teachers and artists for 10 minutes.  Plan to arrive a few minutes before your appointment time.

Be prepared to show your portfolio and talk informally about your work, your interest in art and why you want to be a student at The Denver School of the Arts .

**PORTFOLIO**

Portfolio refers to a body of work, not the container it is presented in.  Cardboard is a good way to support and hold your work.  Do not wrap individual artworks to be shown as unwrapping takes time from your interview.

You may show photographs for large pieces or 3D work

**Bring 8- 10 examples of your best work created in the last 2 years.**

Any media is acceptable, show your greatest strengths and passion for making art.

Show evidence of your thoughts, ideas,creativity, invention, and a few examples of observational skill.  Observation is from life, not photographs.

Applicants to the high school program must show evidence of skill and experience equal to our current students at that grade level.  Include a variety of media if applying to high school.

You will take your portfolio home at the end of the interview.

Quality of work is more important than diversity

If you keep a sketchbook or journal, it can be counted as one of your portfolio pieces, but please do not make a sketchbook specifically for this interview.

**All artwork in the portfolio must be original** **and not derivative of existing comics, characters**, **or photographs.**Internet images and photographs taken by others may be used as reference but should never be directly copied for portfolio submission. Drawing from photographs is not “observational” drawing.

**ACCOMMODATIONS**If your student needs accommodations for the audition, as written in a 504 or IEP, please provide a copy of the 504 or IEP to Assistant Principal Aspen Burkett ONE WEEK before your student’s audition date.

**VISUAL ARTS SCORING RUBRIC (50 points)**

**2 Letters of Recommendation — 5 Points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Received by **January 22, 2020**, **no late letters will be considered** in your score  
Required information addressed, appropriate person selected for letter

**Still Life Drawing – 15 Points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Name, date and next year’s grade on back, lower right  
At least 3 objects included as observed from still life  
Use of the entire page, thought given to whole design of page  
Ability to record shapes and sizes accurately  
Variety in texture, line quality, shading  
Ability to focus on drawing for full session  
Strong individual style or technique

**Creativity Assignment – 15 Points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

original work not derivative  
Imagination, creativity, self-expression, humor  
personal voice/style  
Variety of art elements and design used: form, shape, line, texture, value, size variation

**Portfolio – 10 Points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

8 – 10 pieces including some observational work  
Original work, no copies of photographs or comic characters  
Skill in drawing or handling of selected media  
Personal voice, evidence of individuality, creativity  
work goes beyond simple class assignments

**High School Applicants**Evidence of advanced skills and knowledge equal to DSA VA grade level.  Strong evidence of personal voice, passion and interests

**Interview – 5 points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Student communicates interest and passion for art  
Student communicates desire and interest to be at DSA  
Student is able to speak clearly about the works presented in their portfolio  
Positive attitude, student communicates work ethic and determination

**TOTAL         \_\_\_\_\_ /**50