

Applying to Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12 is as easy as 1-2-3!

Please note, if you are a current **Pittsburgh CAPA 8th grader applying for 9th grade in the same art form**, you will go through a different process. Information regarding this process will be distributed to you by your current Principal. **Current Pittsburgh CAPA 8th graders wishing to audition to a new art form** should apply using the process outlined below.

Step 1: Complete the General Magnet Application and Appendix C.

Ensure that this is received by the **Magnet Office** at the Administrative Building in Oakland no later than **October 21, 2011 at 5pm**. The General Magnet Application and Appendix C: Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12 can be found in several places:

- a. Your school guidance counselor.
- b. Online at www.pps.k12.pa.us/magnet and select the Apply! Link.
- c. Have one mailed to your home by calling the Magnet Hotline at (412) 622-3991.

Step 2: Complete Part II: Arts Selection and Essay (One for every art form to which you are applying.)

Ensure that this is received by **Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12** no later than **October 21, 2011 at 5pm**. Part II: Art Selection and Essay can be found in several places:

- a. Your school guidance counselor.
- b. Online at www.pps.k12.pa.us/magnet and select the Apply! Link.
- c. Have one mailed to your home by calling the Magnet Hotline at (412) 622-3991.

Step 3: Complete Part III: Letter of Recommendation (One for every art form to which you are applying.)

Ensure that this is received by **Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12** no later than **October 21, 2011 at 5pm**. The General Magnet Application and Appendix C: Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12 can be found in several places:

- a. Your school guidance counselor.
- b. Online at www.pps.k12.pa.us/magnet and select the Apply! Link.
- c. Have one mailed to your home by calling the Magnet Hotline at (412) 622-3991.

Use this checklist to ensure you have completed everything!

Complete?	Form to Complete	Sent to:	Due
	General Magnet Application and Appendix C: Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12	Magnet Office, 341 S. Bellefield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 or if applying online— www.pps.k12.pa.us/magnet	October 21, 2011 at 5pm
	Part II: Arts Selection and Essay (one per art form)	Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12, 111 Ninth Street Pittsburgh, PA 15222 Attention: Application	October 21, 2011 at 5pm
	Part III: Letter of Recommendation (one per art form)	Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12, 111 Ninth Street Pittsburgh, PA 15222 Attention: Application	October 21, 2011 at 5pm

Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12

Part II: Arts Selection & Essay (Complete One Per Art Form)

Student Name: _____
(Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial)

Current School & Grade: _____

Student Home Phone Number: _____ Parent or Guardian Phone Number: _____

Parent or Guardian E-mail: _____

Student Address, City, & Zip Code: _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please note, if you are accepted to Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12, you will be removed from any other magnet programs into which you have been accepted unless you call (412) 622-3991 and inform them of your decision by February 1, 2011.

Art Form

Please select the art department to which you are applying by checking the appropriate box below. You may audition for no more than two departments. Please note, you are required to complete a Part II: Art Selection and Essay (this form) and Part III: Letter of Recommendation for each department to which you apply.

Dance

Instrumental Music (please indicate the instrument(s) that you play)

• Instrument(s): _____

Literary Arts

Theatre (please indicate which aspect of theatre for which you wish to audition)

Drama (Acting)

Musical Theatre (Acting, Singing & Dancing)

Technical (Stage Craft)

Technical (Costume)

Visual Arts

Vocal Music (please indicate your range)

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

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Part II: Arts Selection & Essay (Complete One Per Art Form)

Essay

Please respond to the following questions by crafting **one** short essay that answers **all** of the questions for your chosen art department, and submit your essay along with your Arts Supplement and Letter of Recommendation by October 21 to Pittsburgh CAPA. Remember that essays have a strong introduction, body paragraphs, and a conclusion that leaves the reader with a thought or idea to ponder. Please include a heading on this essay in the upper left hand corner that includes: your name, art department applying to, and the grade you will enter in the 2012–13 school year. All essays must be typed using 12pt. Times New Roman and should not include any images.

- A.** Please describe any arts classes that you have taken. Include when you took the class, what you did, and any other arts activities in which you have participated. Also, tell us about special achievements and awards that you have received, and why you are interested in attending Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12.
- B.** Choose your area of interest and answer the following specific questions within your essay:
- **Dance:** What dance genres have you studied and with whom? How long have you studied dance? What area of dance most interests you and why? Do you plan to pursue a dance career?
 - **Instrumental Music:** How long have you have been playing? With which ensembles and groups have you performed? If you have you taken private lessons, from whom and for how long?
 - **Literary Arts:** Tell us about something you've read (please give title and author), or something you've written that has made you think or grow. Describe specifically what you learned and how it has affected you.
 - **Theatre:** What experiences have you had with theatre productions and in which capacity?
 - **Visual Arts:** With what mediums do you have experience in creating art? What kinds of materials do you prefer to use in your artwork and why? Do you plan to go into an arts related career? Tell us about your post-high school plans.
 - **Vocal Music:** How long have you been singing? What styles of music do you sing? With which vocal groups have you performed? Have you taken private voice lessons? If so, from whom and for how long?

Notification Process

Following the audition, all applicants will receive notification of their status for admission to Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12 in writing from the magnet office. Applicants may be accepted, denied admission, or placed on a waiting list. Students placed on the waiting list will be notified by the magnet office if accepted on or before July 15, 2011.

Please Note: Students may audition for no more than two art departments. When applying to more than one art department students must complete two applications. This means two of each of the following items: Arts Supplement & Essay and Letter of Recommendation.

For general questions or concerns regarding the audition requirements or application process, please contact the specific art coordinator by phone or e-mail. The magnet hotline does not have answers to art specific questions.

Dance

Telephone: (412) 338-6125
E-mail: rpolanco1@pghboe.net

Instrumental Music

Telephone: (412) 338-6112
E-mail: dknapp1@pghboe.net

Literary Arts

Telephone: (412) 338-0374
E-mail: mcregan1@pghboe.net

Theatre

Telephone: (412) 338-6121
E-mail: mrossistabler1@pghboe.net

Visual Arts

Telephone: (412) 338-6129
E-mail: spultz2@pghboe.net

Vocal Music

Telephone: (412) 338-6113
E-mail: gsavage1@pghboe.net

Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12

Audition Process Information

Art departments will conduct auditions on the dates listed below. **Please plan on arriving at the start time listed and expect the audition to last until the end of the audition window.**

Art Form	Incoming 6-8th Graders	Incoming 9-12th Graders
Dance	November 5, 2011, 9am–2pm	November 12, 2011, 9am–2pm
Instrumental Music	Strings, Percussion, Guitar: November 5, 2011, 9am	Brass, Woodwind, Piano: November 12, 2011, 9am
Literary Arts	November 5, 2011, 8am–12pm	November 5, 2011, 8am–12pm
Theatre	November 5, 2011, 8am–1pm	November 12, 2011, 8am–1pm
Visual Arts	November 5, 2011, 8am–2pm	November 12, 2011, 8am–2pm
Vocal Music	November 5, 2011, 9am–2pm	November 12, 2011, 9am–2pm

Audition Requirements by Art Form

Dance	<p>Incoming 6–12 Students will participate in a group technique class, which will consist of ballet, modern, and jazz techniques. In addition, applicants will perform a one-minute solo choreography in a discipline of choice. The applicant must bring his or her own CD or iPod to accompany their solo choreography. Proper dance attire is recommended and should be worn throughout the audition process. A brief interview will conclude the audition.</p>
Instrumental Music (Including Piano)	<p>Incoming 6–12 Students will perform two prepared pieces of contrasting style that accurately reflects their level of playing ability. These selections may be from the solo repertoire, etudes, or technical studies. Included in the audition will be the playing of major and minor scales and sight-reading. Students may audition on one instrument only.</p>
Literary Arts	<p>Incoming 6–12 Each literary arts applicant applying for grades 6–12 is required to write a <i>Neighborhood Essay</i>. Respond to the following prompt and include the neighborhood essay with the Arts Supplement and Letter of Recommendation by the magnet deadline. This neighborhood essay is not to exceed 750 words in length and is to be typed using 12pt. Times New Roman. Include a cover sheet with the essay that includes the student’s name, date, and the title of the creative essay. The student’s name should only be on the cover sheet—do not include a name on the actual piece of writing. Please note that student writing will not be returned and that the Neighborhood Essay. On the day of the audition all students will participate in a classroom lesson, an on-site writing task, and a personal interview.</p> <p>Neighborhood Essay Prompt Grades 6–12 <i>Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12 is an educational community that draws from all of the unique neighborhoods in the city of Pittsburgh. Write a creative essay that does not exceed 750 words in length that describes for the literary arts faculty in vivid detail, the neighborhood you come from. Be sure to use sensory details when writing this creative essay. Remember each neighborhood has a story to tell. Do not forget to give this creative essay a title. Most of all, you should enjoy writing about where you are from.</i></p>

Audition requirements continue on the next page.

Audition Requirements by Art Form (continued)

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Theatre: Drama, Musical Theatre</p>	<p>Incoming 6–8 Students will present a one-minute monologue from memory. The monologue should be child appropriate and should be from a play or child’s monologue book. Monologues should be one character only—no multiple character scenes should be performed.</p> <p>Students may also perform a song. This musical selection should be either from the genre of musical theater repertoire or a song learned in music class. Students must bring sheet music, as an accompanist will be provided. No tapes or CDs may be used.</p> <p>During the auditions students may be asked to (1) perform and discuss a cold reading (2) perform choreography taught to them during the audition (3) complete a short writing activity (4) complete an interview.</p> <p>Incoming 9–12 Students will be asked to participate in a short interview, the presentation of a one to two minute monologue from memory, a cold reading, and a short writing prompt. The monologue should be age appropriate and can either be contemporary or classical.</p> <p>Auditions for the Musical Theatre Department, in addition to the requirements listed above, will include a song from musical theatre repertoire. The student must bring sheet music, as an accompanist will be provided. No tapes or CDs may be used. You may go the PPS website for suggested monologues.</p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Theatre: Technical Theatre (Stagecraft and Costume)</p>	<p>Incoming 6–12 Auditions for the CAPA Technical Theatre Department will include an interview, a short writing prompt, and require that students exhibit evidence of knowledge and usage of common hand tools by bringing a completely student-made project, built (stagecraft) or sewn (costume), for review. It is recommended that you also bring additional photographs of the student’s work for review. Students will also be required to complete a hands-on demonstration of skills including measuring with an English system to an accuracy of 1/8 inch. Students should also possess a working vocabulary and be prepared to respond to both written and oral questions.</p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Visual Arts</p>	<p>Incoming 6–8 Students will participate in an on-site, on-demand multi-faceted review of the student’s portfolio, drawing, writing and an interview. All students must bring a portfolio of 10 (ten) original artworks that include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A self-portrait in pencil done from observation (looking into a mirror) not at a photograph 2. A drawing done from observation – choose an object and draw it with pencil 3. A painting in watercolor, acrylics or oil paints. It may be done on paper, canvas or masonite board 4. A three-dimensional work – a sculpture, ceramic work or multi-media construction 5. A project done in school under teacher direction 6. A project done at home without adult input 7. The remaining 4 pieces should be chosen to demonstrate the student’s artistic interests and skills. <p>Cartoons and Anime should not constitute the majority of the artwork in the portfolio. Artistic work should, instead, show an emphasis on ORIGINAL observational drawings (drawing from life) and creativity/inventiveness. There are no size limitations but it should be easy for the student to carry to the audition and layout on the table. Clear photographs or digital prints are acceptable for three dimensional work but the actual work is preferred. Work does not need to be matted or framed but should be neat, clean and each piece dated.</p> <p>Work may be gathered into a large portable portfolio carrier either purchased or made at home. Two large sheets of cardboard with a taped edge to keep the work flat and safe are all that is needed.</p>

Audition requirements continue on the next page.

Audition Requirements by Art Form (continued)

Visual Arts

Incoming 9–12

Students will participate in an on-site, on demand multifaceted creativity exam. The exam will include writing a critical essay interpreting a master work of art, a problem solving event and an observational drawing. In addition, each applicant is required to submit a 10–15 piece portfolio including:

1. A detailed self-portrait drawn *with pencil* from observation not a photograph.
2. Five additional observational drawings: three in black and white with value (shading/gray scale) and two in color (colored pencil, marker, pastel and/or watercolor). Topics: your hand, a view of your room, still life with a variety of objects including plants, an outdoor environment and one of your choice not listed above.
No Anime or copied images.
3. Four original artworks in other media: painting, photography, fiber arts, printmaking, ceramics, digital media, video, or mixed media. Although the original work is preferable, you may also submit artwork samples on a CD as a JPEG, TIFF, PSD, GIF, or Quick Time file type. Please make sure that the CD is readable on Mac-based platform. You may also submit a short video as a DVD (preferred) or VHS format.
4. A maximum of five additional items, free choice, any media.
5. Student sketchbook(s).

All work must be original, must be no more than 1 year old and in a variety of sizes.

Vocal Music

Incoming 6–8

Students will sing one song for the audition selected by the CAPA Vocal Department Faculty. The required piece must be chosen from one of three songs on the Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12 website under the Voice Department 6–8 menu. Students should choose the song that best fits their voice. An accompanist will be provided. No CD's or electronic devices are permitted for accompaniment. Students will also perform pitch recognition exercises, complete a Music Theory placement exam and be interviewed by the Vocal Department Faculty.

Incoming 9–12

Students will sing one song for the audition selected by the CAPA Vocal Department Faculty. The required piece must be chosen from one of two songs on the Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12 website under the Voice Department 9–12 menu. Students should choose the song that best fits their voice. The student will be required to sing an additional piece of her/his choosing. At the audition an accompanist will be provided. No CD's or electronic devices are permitted for accompaniment. Students will also perform pitch recognition exercises, complete a Music Theory placement exam and be interviewed by the Vocal Department Faculty.

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Part III: Letter of Recommendation

Student Name: _____ Art Form: _____

Instructions to the Student Applicant

Please put your name on this form, and give it to an arts-related teacher at your school or an instructor at an arts organization who is familiar with your artistic work. After the person has filled it out, he or she should seal it in an envelope, put his or her signature across the seal, and return it to you to include with your application. Otherwise, you may ask the person to mail it directly to Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12 so it is received by 5pm, October 21, 2011. If your school does not offer arts-related courses, and you have not taken outside art classes—please have a teacher who can comment on your interest in the art form to which you are applying complete it.

Instructions to the Evaluator

The above named student is applying for admission to Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12 for the 2012–13 school year. He/she has requested that you complete this confidential recommendation form. The mission of Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12 is to develop the artistic potential of young people in dance, instrumental music, literary arts, vocal music, theatre, and visual arts within a comprehensive school experience that upholds rigorous artistic and academic standards. Your thoughtful comments will assist us in making an informed decision in the interest of this student and our program.

Please return this to the student in a sealed envelope with your signature across the seal, in time for him or her to send it so it is received by 5pm on October 21, 2011. Or you may mail it to: Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12, 111 Ninth Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, Attention: Letter of Recommendation.

Please check the description or descriptions that most accurately describe the student.

	Outstanding	Good	Average	Below Average	No Basis
Artistic Potential	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Artistic Performance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creativity and Originality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commitment to Studies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Study/Practice Habits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to Work Collaboratively	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to Work Independently	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to Follow Directions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fulfilling Responsibilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Written Expression	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Oral Expression	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Integrity and Honesty	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consideration of Others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effort and Perseverance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Self-Confidence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leadership Potential	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Strength of Recommendation—I recommend this student for admission to Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12:

Enthusiastically Highly Moderately Not At All

How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity? Please describe: _____

Please comment on this student's character and personality (e.g. maturity, peer relationships, commitment to the arts, etc.) and any strengths or weaknesses about which we should be aware. Please attach additional pages if needed.

Evaluator Name & Position: _____

Evaluator Phone Number: _____ Evaluator E-mail: _____

Evaluator Signature: _____