

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR THE Arts



DISCOVER THE KENTUCKY GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

Each summer since 1987, GSA and our faculty of professional artist/educators guide hundreds of Kentucky's most promising young artists through three weeks of incredibly intense (and incredibly fun) arts instruction. For three solid weeks residing on a college campus, the students discover the power of their art and their opportunity as an artist to make a lasting impact on their community and their world. It's a thrilling, and often life-changing experience, as they meet new friends, explore their state, and learn to empower themselves through creativity.

GSA is looking for students with skills in their art form, passion for creativity, an open mind, collaborative spirit, and eagerness for learning to apply for the 2026 Summer Program.

KEY INFORMATION



The summer program is **FREE** for all accepted students and alumni gain access to scholarships at nearly 30 colleges/universities.



Students must currently be a sophomore or junior in high school or home school and live in Kentucky to apply.



Students may apply in up to two of GSA's art forms: Architecture + Design, Creative Writing, Dance, Drama, Film + Photography, Graphic Design, Instrumental Music, Musical Theatre, Visual Art, and Vocal Music.



ACT/SAT Scores and GPA are **NOT** required to apply.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Learn more on our website about what is required to submit for each art form as early as possible so you have plenty of time to prepare.

- 1 View important dates and other important information for prospective students at kentuckygsa.org.
- 2 Carefully review the Applicant Guide for your art form to learn more about submission requirements, criteria, and application tips.
- 3 Seek out teachers, mentors, friends and/or family to help you during the application process. Consider if there are any organizations that might be a resource to you (a theater, library, gallery, etc.).
- 4 Attend (or watch a recording of) GSA's series of Virtual Info Sessions to learn more about the program and the application.
- 5 Submit any questions to GSA at gsainfo@kentuckyperformingarts.org
- 6 Start your application early and submit by **January 18, 2026**.



IMPORTANT DATES

September 25 – December 10, 2025: GSA 101 Webinars

In these webinars, our admin team will introduce you to the ins and outs of GSA. View all 4 dates at kentuckygsa.org.

October 10, 2025: Application Portal Opens & Applicant Guides Released

Read the applicant guide to learn about the submission requirements and criteria.

January 18, 2026: GSA 2026 Application Due by 11:59 p.m. ET / 10:59 p.m. CT

February 13, 2026: Finalists Announced

March 12–14, 2026: Final Round Auditions and Reviews

All finalists will attend an audition/review. Some artforms will hold their auditions/reviews in-person at Northern Kentucky University, while others will be held virtually.

Apr 10, 2026: GSA 2026 Announcement (Accepted Students & Alternates)

June 7–27, 2026: Summer Program

GSA 2026 will be held at the Northern Kentucky University. All students will attend one unified session.

ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN • CREATIVE WRITING • DANCE • DRAMA • FILM + PHOTOGRAPHY • GRAPHIC DESIGN • INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC • MUSICAL THEATRE • VISUAL ART • VOCAL MUSIC