PINE CREST SCHOOL
PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS

To offer a challenging academic experience complemented by excellence in the arts and athletics; to develop the character, independence, and leadership of each student, and to provide a nurturing learning community that prepares students to meet the global challenges of our future.
A sweeping brush stroke ... the graceful turn of a dancer ... the resonance of a chord ... each action starts with an individual energy, thought, and emotion that has the potential to reach across time, to enrich and define the human experience. At Pine Crest, the Arts (dance, music, theater, forensics, and visual arts) play a unique and central role in the educational process, promoting the awareness to see, feel, hear, understand, and interpret the world. We feel that it is essential to empower young people with a comprehensive education which includes the Arts, instilling the value of creativity, as they inherit the ever-changing world of the 21st Century.

PROGRAM

In the spirit of our founder, Pine Crest aims to successfully balance academic prowess with the importance of creativity. As individual talents are nurtured, students discover a deep sense of community accomplishment based on their personal effort and achievement.

Drama: Introduction to Drama, Advanced Theater, Drama Club, Musical Theater
Music: Symphonic Winds, Pep Band, Jazz Ensemble, Chorus, Music Theory Honors, AP Music Theory, Orchestra
Dance: Pointe, Dance Etc..., Beginning Ballet, Advanced Ballet, Jazz
Visual Arts: Fundamentals of Art, Drawing and Painting, Graphic Design, Sculpture and Ceramics, AP Art 2-D, AP Art 3-D, and Drawing
Forensics: Debate, Forensics, Basic Communication
Video: Broadcast Production, Pine Crest Television (PCTV)
Private Instruction: Art, Acting, Voice, Piano, and Instrumental

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

With a wide range of options available, the Arts at Pine Crest have something for students at every level of interest and ability. Beyond the mainstage of Stacy Auditorium and the Guardabassi Art Gallery, you will find evidence of Pine Crest’s performing and visual artists well beyond the walls of our campus:

- Students and faculty have twice authored and performed original musicals selected for the internationally acclaimed Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland.
- The Dance department has been recognized by Dance Spirit magazine as one of the top high school programs for Dance in the country.
- A silent auction of student artwork raises funds for charitable organizations.
- The Crestian Tournament continues to be one of the premier Forensics competitions in the country.
- The Debate team consistently ranks in the top 10 nationally.
- Our music ensembles receive excellent and superior ratings in local, state, and national competitions.
- Additionally, students reach out into the community with performances and service for local organizations.

FACULTY

The Performing and Visual Arts classrooms are a safe atmosphere that encourage risk, growth, tenacity, with a focus on excellence. A dedicated faculty of practicing artists, writers, musicians, choreographers, composers, and coaches challenge students to build understanding, develop technical skills, while encouraging creative perception and interpretation. Pine Crest prides itself on attracting teachers of the highest caliber from across the country, including former professors and lecturers from Boston Conservatory, Brevard College, Brown University, New England Conservatory, Southern Methodist University, University of Houston, and University of Miami. This group of select practicing artist-teachers have collectively worked with such prestigious institutions as Boston Symphony Orchestra, Florida Grand Opera, Orlando Philharmonic, Girls Chorus of South Florida, Jacob’s Pillow, Lincoln Center, New York City Opera, Nantucket Playwright Festival, Pittsburgh Ballet, Providence Ballet, Wolf Trap Center for the Arts, and live broadcasts on CBS, ABC, NBC, Lifetime, and PBS.

Students appreciate and value the impact of the Arts on their personal and academic development. Nearly 70% of our student body is engaged in Arts coursework or activities during the school year.

ALUMNI

Consider the accomplishments of noted alumnus who have excelled in the Arts. The Pine Crest philosophy has proven to successfully prepare students for the demands of an artistic career.

Kelsey Grammer ’73, actor/author: Cheers, Frasier
John Prescott ’77, Music Division Head, Missouri State University
Steve Brill ’80, actor, director, writer, Mr. Deeds, Little Nicky, The Mighty Ducks
John Medeski ’83, jazz musician (Medeski, Martin & Wood)
Jeff Marx ’84, co-creator/composer/lyricist of Tony Award-winning musical Avenue Q
Brian Eckert ’85, Eckert Labs Recording Studio in Nashville
Curtis Kheel ’94, television writer and producer, Charmed, Kyle XY
Brie Neimand’96, film producer
Mark Ledbetter ’96, actor: Mary Poppins, The Drowsy Chaperone, White Christmas
Amit Arison ’96, film, stage, and television actor
Brian Greene ’97, Emmy Award winner and writer, Cash Cab
David Abeles ’97, actor: Radio City Music Hall Christmas, My Fair Lady
Lynn Abeles ’98, opera singer – Chicago Opera, Ashlawn Opera, Jacksonville Lyric
Frank Grande-Marchione ’01, actor, Winning Our Dora the Explorer LIFE!
Rachel Frankenthal ’03, actor, Mamma Mia!, Grease
Daniel Abeles ’03, film, stage, and television actor, Crimes of the Heart, Officer

COMMUNITY

The Arts can help students become confident, cooperative problem-solvers who are able to think creatively. But the robust arts curriculum is only one aspect of the well-rounded Pine Crest education. The support of family, classmates, and caring adults is invaluable in the development of young artists. The entire community is invested in student success by supporting the hundreds of Arts activities and performances throughout the school year.

Remember, the sooner you start, the sooner you’ll be on your way to developing your skills and reaching your personal goals. We want you to make the most of this educational adventure and discovery in your Pine Crest experience.

For further information about the Arts at Pine Crest, please contact:
Christopher Fitzpatrick, Performing Arts Chair, christopher.fitzpatrick@pinecrest.edu
Barbara Smith, Visual Arts Chair, barbara.smith@pinecrest.edu