

# BHS ARTS MAGNET

## Academic Excellence Through Artistic Inquiry

### How to Apply

1. Register for Arts Infused Foundations, as well as other Arts Infused Classes as you choose your 9th grade classes at BHS.
2. Apply to the program through Northwest Suburban Integration School District: <http://www.nws.k12.mn.us/magnet-lottery.html>
3. Complete the Student Art Interest Biography. This will be sent to you in an email after registering for Arts Magnet Classes and/or applying to the program through Northwest Suburban Integration School District. It can also be found by following this link: <https://forms.gle/QkaE3XRYXXeotUTH9>

### Arts Magnet Overview

The Buffalo High School Arts Magnet program promotes academic excellence through artistic inquiry, motivating students with an interest in visual, performing, literary, media and applied arts. The unique program, launched in 2006, is open to any student in the Northwest Suburban Integrated School District. The Arts Magnet Program operates as a school within Buffalo High School, offering students a small-school environment with all the options of a large-school setting.

The curriculum is based on the belief that infusing the arts across the academic disciplines improves academic achievement, supports the growth of 21st century skills, and prepares students for whatever career path they chose. The arts actively engage kids to think creatively, collaborate with peers and advisors, apply critical thinking skills, and learn to communicate their ideas. Because the arts cross cultural and socio-economic boundaries, they prepare students to become inclusive and creative members of their community.

#### The Art Herd



Buffalo High School Arts Magnet  
Academic Achievement through Artistic Inquiry.

Contact Melissa Bertsch, Arts Magnet Coordinator  
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## What Makes the Arts Magnet Program Unique

### Hands-On Learning

Students use projects to develop a new art skill or to hone a skill. The finished product, along with a reflection from the student, allows students to learn to use their art to communicate their important ideas to the world.

### Making Connections

The curriculum centers around an inquiry-based learning model that teaches students to make connections between their content area classes and their art skills.

### Arts Infused Classes

The Arts Magnet teachers use artistic ways of knowing and learning to enrich their curriculum (English, social studies, science) through individual and collaborative projects, artists in the classroom, and field trips. The course curriculum is "Arts Infused" so we call it "AI".

### Real World Learning

Our creative learning environment includes partnerships and resources from the surrounding community. Students interact with professional, working artists and arts organizations to enrich and enlarge learning.

## Feedback From Arts Magnet Parents

This fall, Arts Magnet parents were surveyed about the program. Here is a summary of their responses.

### *How the Arts Magnet Program is Different From Other Schools*

- Different assessments
- More student choice
- Deeper understanding of content
- More motivation and engagement
- "...it's given her a sense of community with like-minded students and teachers. She has connections and support that she did not have before this program."

### *Challenge Level of Arts Magnet Program*

- 80% of parents felt that their child was challenged to achieve their highest potential
- "I feel that my student is asked to learn in ways that stretch his thinking."
- "The content is the same as traditional classes. The students simply are allowed to show their understanding in a different way."

### *Strengths of the Arts Magnet Program*

- Students use full abilities, talents, and mind
- Relationships/Community
- Teachers
- Deeper learning
- Smaller setting
- "Teaching the kids how to think versus what to think."