

Gifted & Talented Programs

Goodwood Administrative Center

6550 Sevenoaks Ave. Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Office: 225-929-8642

Fax: 225-929-8743

✉ gifted@ebrschools.org

🌐 www.ebrschools.org/GT

🐦 @EBRGiftedTalen1

📺 @EBRGiftedTalented

East Baton Rouge Parish School System Gifted & Talented

A Quarterly Insight into Middle & High School GT Programs

SPRING 2021 *Gifted Gab*

Special Programs >>>

Academically Gifted

An academic program for identified gifted students in Pre-K (3-year-olds) to 12th grade. Classes provide a high degree of complexity and extend beyond the curriculum offered in traditional classes. Gifted teachers have advanced degrees and certifications in Academically Gifted education that enable the teacher to individualize each student's educational program. Classes feature a reduced class size and a setting with intellectual peers.

Talented Arts

A program for students identified as Talented in visual arts, music, and/or theatre in K to 12th grade. Talented classes feature a reduced class size and are designed to provide experiences that enable the Talented student to further develop skills in their areas of talent and increase discipline knowledge as each student grows as an artist. Teachers are professional artists and Talented certified to provide students individualized and advanced instruction in their areas of talent.

Great Scholars Academy

Great Scholars Academy is an advanced academic program available in select middle and high schools. It is designed to parallel a level of rigor and individualized instruction offered in the Gifted Program. To qualify, students must score Mastery or Above (84th percentile) in 2+ areas on a standardized assessment in the last 12 months. Students must maintain a GPA of 2.5 or higher and good behavior standards to remain eligible.

SCAN THE QR CODE

for more information about Special Programs offered by the EBRP Gifted Office



Talented Visual Arts

"Creativity takes courage." – Henri Matisse



EBR Talented Visual Arts students display great courage as developing artists through the creation and exhibition of their artwork. Taught by professional local artists, these students are given a unique opportunity to develop the skills, techniques, and concepts that are essential to cultivating a young artist's creative mind. Students exhibit their artwork throughout the community and compete in local, regional, and national competitions. These platforms can give students opportunities to sell their artwork, win prize money, and/or generate commissions for their work.

At the high school level, students earn weighted credit towards their GPA for Talented Art classes and can participate in media arts and graphic design courses to earn certifications in Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator, as well as enroll in AP Studio Art courses to earn college credit while building a portfolio to use for college admissions and scholarships. Keep reading to learn about opportunities our Talented Visual Art students have had in recent years.

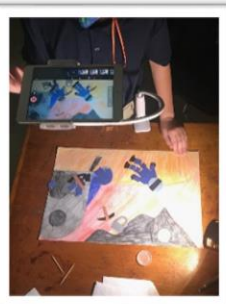
Last year, students at **Glasgow Middle School** collaborated with the Contemporary Fiber Artists of Louisiana guild to create an art installation displayed at the Shaw Center for the Arts. Entitled *Voice of the Sea*, this installation focused on sea pollution and habitat destruction and showcased large-scale sea creatures made by wiring, hand-sewing, weaving, knitting, and collaging fabric.

Currently, at **Westdale Middle School**, talented art students are participating in the internationally recognized Empty Bowl project by creating their own "Empty Bowls" to contribute to awareness and support of the hungry in the Baton Rouge community. Their bowls will be available for purchase and/or donation in Spring of 2021.

This year, several students at **Woodlawn High School** had their art selected for an online exhibition sponsored by Rau for Art, a foundation founded by M.S. Rau Gallery in New Orleans. These students created renditions of the prompt "Abstract Hauntings" using a variety of mediums and techniques. View the virtual art exhibit at this link: <https://www.instagram.com/rauforart/>.



McKinley High student Milan Green is a prolific & well-known artist. His social media following includes celebrities, a common theme of his pieces. He earned college credit for his AP Drawing portfolio & has his own trademark logo.



Animation Project, Glasgow Middle



Empty Bowls Project, Westdale Middle



Photo Extension, Woodlawn Middle

Call 225-929-8642 to learn how to have your child evaluated for a Gifted and/or Talented Program.

Talented Theatre

"Actors are agents of change" -Alan Rickman

EBR Talented Theatre students have the opportunity to devise original pieces for performance, gain experience performing material from a variety of theatrical traditions, and are given the space they need to find themselves within the theatre as artists. Instructors have direct connections to the local theatre scene and provide occasions for students to further their theatrical experiences inside and outside the classroom.

Talented Theatre classes have had to get creative this year as they compete with restrictions brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic and their desire to create quality theatrical productions. Talented Theatre students at **Woodlawn High School** stepped away from the stage and performed their own modern twist of the original 1950 radio play, *A Holiday with Murder*. Voice acted by students both from home and at school, this 20-minute Christmas suspense was complete with classic sound and visual elements. Students are learning Alexander Technique to promote body alignment and will explore modern theatre styles through readings and participation in workshops this spring.

Talented Theatre students at **Glasgow Middle School** and **Westdale Middle School** have been working on building the perfect monologue. Through class discussions, video examples, and readings, students have explored, analyzed, and evaluated monologues, famous plays, and playwrights. Students analyzed characters and created a character profile for their monologues. They worked virtually, using cameras and lights to explore how lighting and background affect video. They practiced strategies for framing a picture and other self-taping techniques to record their monologues. Recorded monologues will be showcased at the DeBose Fine Arts Festival.

Woodlawn Middle School students will use their study of Shakespeare to guide performances of personal sonnets. Others are studying classic Greek theatre and analyzing Greek plays, as well as working on physical theatre through an exploration of movement techniques. All students will take virtual field trips related to units of study and participate in an upcoming film project where they will perform an adaptation of the Wizard of Oz.

Talented Theatre classes meet the graduation requirement for art and receive weighted credit towards a student's overall GPA at the high school level. At **McKinley High School**, Talented Theatre classes are interdisciplinary opportunities for students to gain hands-on experience with script analysis, supplementing students' core curricula in English and Social Studies. This program is under the direction of Dr. Neal Hebert, who is a theatre historian. These students learn to be excellent communicators, performers, and writers. The poise and confidence they acquire in Talented Theatre follows them in all their endeavors, whether they become a working actor or pursue a law degree.



Original Monologue, Westdale Middle



Naomi Lizuka's *Good Kids*, McKinley High



Shuddersome: Tales of Poe, Woodlawn High

Talented Music

"Music can change the world." – Beethoven

The EBR Talented Music program is designed to help further develop the musical skills and talent of those students who qualify for the program. Students receive individual instruction on their primary instruments and are instructed in music theory at an advanced level. Because the program is designed to develop well-rounded musicians, students are exposed to all styles of music and encouraged to try new instruments or vocal genres. Additionally, Talented Music students create music of their own and learn how to become polished performers as solo artists or in small ensembles.

Talented Music students at all Gifted and Talented schools have been preparing for the 2021 DeBose Virtual Fine Arts Festival Series Competition and the DeBose Online National

Piano Competition. While Talented Music ensembles have showcased their talents annually at the festival, this year they will participate in the inaugural performing arts competition sponsored by the DeBose Foundation. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, students will record individual and/or ensemble performances to submit for the competition this year.



Woodlawn High graduate & musical prodigy Meshak Muyaka has been an accomplished musician from an early age, composing & producing music worldwide. While at WHS, he released his first studio EP entitled "Glorious" that hit the Billboard Charts for top Gospel Albums. Download his current album singles on any music platform & follow him on social media @KT_Muyaka.



Virtual Music Collaboration, Glasgow Middle

Middle & High School Programs >>>



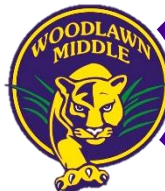
Glasgow Middle School

GT Coordinator: Amy Rivet, ARivet@ebschools.org
<https://www.glasgowmiddle.org>
 @GlasgowMiddleBR



Westdale Middle School

GT Coordinator: Janet Cornelius, JCornelius@ebschools.org
<https://www.westdalemiddleschool.com/>
 @gohawknation



Woodlawn Middle School

GT Coordinator: Cindy Phillips, CPhillips24@ebschools.org
<https://www.woodlawnmiddlebr.org>
 @WoodlawnMiddleBR



McKinley High School

GT Coordinator: Billie Smith, BSmith90@ebschools.org
<https://www.mckinleyhighbr.org/>
 @McKinleyMedia @SGA_MCK



Woodlawn High School

GT Coordinator: Danelle Miller, DMiller@ebschools.org
<https://www.woodlawnhighbr.org>
 @WoodlawnHighBR

"EBRPSS Gifted and Talented Programs: As Unique and Exceptional as Your Child."