



## Fine Arts Distinction

The Fine Arts Distinction at North Cross School is designed to foster a life-long love of the arts in its students and to promote serious study and high-level accomplishment. Through coursework, outside-of-school activities and experiences, and real-world shows and performances, students work to hone their craft, whether in the studio or on stage. Students who successfully complete the program requirements will earn the designation of Fine Arts Scholar on their transcript and receive a special diploma upon graduation.

### REQUIREMENTS

Students must earn at least 500 points to receive the distinction at graduation. Enrolling in classes, participating in activities related to fine arts initiatives, and attending outside field-related seminars and performances all count toward this goal.

Among the points earned for completing certain elective activities, there are four additional required elements: reading an arts-related book each summer with a follow-up seminar in the fall; an arts-related DeHart Project; the completion of a senior performance or show; and a culminating program reflection.

Beyond the core components listed above, additional options to earn points include:



### GOALS OF THE PROGRAM

1. To inspire students to become immersed in a field of art, music, or theater.
2. To work toward the highest levels of artistic, design, musical, and/or theatrical skill and achievement through continual practice and performance.
3. To encourage students to seek interconnectedness between the arts and other disciplines.
4. To promote endeavors in the fine arts, whether or not in pursuit of an arts-related fields in the future.
5. To honor students who have dedicated their talents to the development of the fine arts at North Cross School.

“The arts matter because without them our strong emotions, our vital voices, our move-to-the-groove energy and necessary empathy and life-affirming connectedness and tendency toward complexity might all wither from disuse, maybe even destroy us through misuse. The arts matter because with them, we matter.”

For more information on the program and participation requirements, email Thomas Costello, Fine Arts Department Chair at [tcostello@northcross.org](mailto:tcostello@northcross.org).

-Amy Stolls, National Endowment for the Arts