

Admission for SY19

Please read this entire packet completely.

In order to be eligible to become a part of the student population at Bak Middle School of the Arts (MSOA), students and their families must submit an application to the Palm Beach County School District's Department of Choice Programs and Career Options by the due date AND successfully audition for one of the Bak MSOA art programs. The student applicant and parent(s)/guardian(s) must reside full-time in Palm Beach County in order to submit an application. Bak Middle School of the Arts considers students for sixth, seventh, and eighth grade admission; however, the majority of student openings are for incoming sixth graders.

Please follow the procedures described on the following pages carefully. The entire process for application into Bak MSOA includes the following steps:

1. **Submit an application by Friday, December 1, 2017.** Applications are available online at www.mypbchoiceapp.com. Online application submission is highly encouraged and sends an immediate confirmation of receipt by email. Please retain all login information for future use in the Application Management System. If a computer is unavailable at home, please visit the local library or the child's school. Refer to the Choice Programs Booklet for further details.
2. **Prepare for your audition** by following the audition guidelines as listed under each art area in this Admissions & Audition Guidelines information. **Students should be prepared to audition as early as January 20, 2018.**
3. **Come to one of the Audition Registration sessions at Bak MSOA on Saturday, January 13, 2018.** (See details of times on page 3). During this registration session you will be scheduled for an audition appointment. In order to audition, you must receive an audition appointment at Audition Registration.
4. **Come to your audition** 30 minutes prior to the appointed time. Auditions will be held beginning January 20, 2018. **If a student becomes ill and is unable to audition on the scheduled audition date**, written verification documenting the illness from a doctor must be presented to the school within three (3) school days after the date of the student's scheduled audition.

If additional audition dates are available, the student's audition will then be rescheduled at a time determined by the school. Undisclosed illness at the time of the student's audition is NOT grounds for an appeal. Students who have not auditioned before the scheduled March lottery will not be eligible for the initial lottery selection process.

Applicants will receive notification on March 30, 2018 regarding the status of student's acceptance or eligible status. Some students will be placed in an applicant wait pool when there are more eligible applicants than available seats. Students will be selected on a random basis as openings occur.

Appeals Process: Parents who believe their child was not allowed an equitable opportunity to a Choice program during the audition or eligibility process because of a technical problem or inequity may request an appeal. An Application for Appeal of Choice Program Eligibility (Form #PBSD 2418) must be submitted to the Choice and Career Options Director within 5 school days from the date of the audition. The appeals process is governed by Policy 5.016 and is described in the District's Procedures Manual for Choice Programs. Please refer to the Department of Choice and Career Options website for additional information:

www.palmbeachschools.org/choiceprograms

Applications must be submitted by December 1, 2017 for Bak MSOA.

Late applications are accepted at the Department of Choice Programs and Career Options after December 1, 2017. However, they will **NOT** be included in the March 2018 Selection Lottery and may be auditioned **ONLY** after all applicants in the wait pool have been placed.

Choice Program Applications are available beginning November 1, 2017 at:

- Online applications are highly encouraged and may be submitted online at: www.mypbchoiceapp.com
Confirmation of receipt will be sent immediately via email. In addition, it is suggested that you sign in to your application dashboard to verify program selection choices prior to the December 1, 2017 deadline.

OR

- Print application from www.palmbeachschools.org/choiceprograms website and complete, then mail, (must be postmarked no later than December 1, 2017), or deliver by 4 pm on December 1, 2017 to the School District of Palm Beach County Department of Choice Programs and Career Options, 3308 Forest Hill Boulevard, Suite C-124, West Palm Beach, FL 33406 - Phone Number: (561) 434-8755. The Department of Choice and Career Options is NOT responsible for any application not received as a result of an error or delivery delay by the US Postal Service.

Completing and Submitting an Application:

- Only one application may be submitted per student. For online applications, one application selection change will be allowed prior to December 1, 2017. No changes are allowed after submission of a hard copy application.
- Either one or two choices are allowed on the application and should be rated as first and second preferences. First and second choices do NOT have equal chances of being selected.
- The student and parent/guardian must reside full-time in Palm Beach County at the time of the application submission.
- The address listed on the application must match the address listed in the District's student database system (TERMS) for a student attending a Palm Beach County public school. See page 13 for details.
- Pursuant to Florida Statute, Section 92.525 and under penalties of perjury, parents/guardians will sign the application verifying that the information stated in the application is true and correct.

Important BAK MSOA Contact Numbers:



Admissions Office (561) 882-3819

ESE, ELL and 504 students may be accommodated in all Choice Programs and are encouraged to apply. If ESE student is accepted to the school, an IEP team may convene to ensure the student's IEP can be implemented. It is the parent's/legal guardian's responsibility to provide a student's IEP, ELL, or 504 Accommodation Plan to Bak MSOA at Audition Registration on January 13, 2018.

ALL STUDENTS MUST PASS A PERFORMANCE AUDITION before they can be considered eligible for admission to Bak Middle School of the Arts. Higher audition eligibility scores are required for ascending grade levels.

**For more information about Choice and Career Options Programs please access:
www.palmbeachschools.org/choiceprograms**

Audition Registration Dates At Bak Middle School of the Arts For 2018- 2019 School Year Admission

Audition Registration is a session set aside for applicants to **schedule an audition appointment**. A parent, guardian, or an adult representing the student **MUST** attend to schedule an audition appointment. It is not necessary to call ahead and students **do not** need to attend Audition Registration.

Students should be prepared to audition as early as January 20, 2018.

The Audition Registration Session is Saturday, January 13, 2018:

Students with last names beginning with “M” thru “Z” 9:00 - 11:00am

Students with last names beginning with “A” thru “L” 12:00 - 2:00pm

Audition appointments will be issued in a continuous process, so you may arrive at Bak MSOA anytime during the above sessions.

ESE / 504 /ELL Students:

If your child has a current **IEP** or **504 plan**, please bring a copy of it to the **Audition Registration Session** in order to request allowable audition accommodations. Parents will need to stop at the ESE table on that date to meet with an ESE representative.

ELL students please stop by the ELL table during the **Audition Registration Session** in order to request a translator.

Failure to accept accommodations offered at the time of an audition when accommodations are needed is NOT grounds for an appeal.

Private school students without a District IEP or a District 504 Plan may also request allowable audition accommodations if the parent provides appropriate documentation of the student’s disability to the school at the Audition Registration session.

Parents of students identified as Gifted do NOT need to bring the student’s Educational Plan (EP) to the Audition Registration session.

Audition Process for Admission SY19

All auditions are held on the Bak MSOA campus. Parents are to bring their auditioning child thirty minutes prior to the audition appointment time on the scheduled date; however, parents may not accompany their child into the audition room. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure that all instruments and CDs are in good working order. By the student beginning or continuing with an audition, parents are accepting that their child is not ill or unable to perform.

All students applying to Bak MSOA must meet the District and school eligibility criteria and meet qualification requirements, through the Bak MSOA audition process, in order to be part of the March random lottery system for admission into the school. Higher audition eligibility scores are required for ascending grade levels. Bak Middle School of the Arts will provide audition results only if a written request along with a postage paid envelope has been received in the Magnet Office by Friday, April 13, 2018.

There are many people at your child's current school who can guide and assist them as they prepare for their auditions. Talk to your art and music teachers, your media specialist, your guidance counselor, and your language arts teacher. If you have questions, call Bak MSOA at (561) 882-3819.

On the following pages are the **specific audition requirements** for each art area. Please read these carefully, so that your child will be fully prepared for his/her audition. Auditions are scored using a rubric. Students who are well prepared with all audition requirements and who are motivated to attend Bak MSOA will enjoy the audition experience.

For Choice Program Application, Choice Program Booklet, Choice Program Procedures Manual and additional information please access:

www.palmbeachschools.org/choiceprograms

For information about other Choice Programs in Palm Beach County:

Email: choicequestions@palmbeachschools.org

Non Discrimination Statement

The School Board of Palm Beach County, Florida, prohibits discrimination in admission to or access to, or employment in its programs and activities, on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or sexual orientation, marital status, age religion, disability, genetic information, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic prohibited by law. The School Board also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Read on for important details
about the audition process.

Theatre Audition

Bak MSOA Theatre students will study and explore all aspects of the theatre process. Through classroom study and studio work, students will be introduced to the areas of acting and musical theatre performance; stagecraft, costuming, technical theatre; and stage management. Additionally, they will learn the principles of theatre production, theatre history, playwriting, and audience appreciation.

Theatre Audition

Think of this audition session as a theatre workshop: all that is needed are students that are interested and willing to demonstrate their abilities through the workshop activities. Parents and students should be aware that the entire process may take up to two and a half hours, including the orientation to the audition, the acting exercise, and the cold reading or song assessment.

Preparation for the Theatre Audition

There is no specific preparation for the Theatre Audition. Students must come dressed prepared to move freely: flat-sole, closed-toed shoes, loose-fitting clothing such as t-shirts, gym shorts, modest or conservative dancewear, yoga or exercise clothing is appropriate. No jeans or jewelry.

At the Audition Students will participate in the following:

1. Acting Exercise: Students will be matched up with one or two other students for this audition assignment. *Each student is judged on his/her own work.* Students will have 10 minutes to create a believable scene based on the short original script provided. The script should be memorized (but memorization will not be scored.) A stage manager will be present at all times to “prompt” the young actors whenever they need a line. The scenes will be presented and a moderator will give an adjustment, coaching or redirection for each scene and may side-coach during the second presentation.

It is the goal of every young actor to learn from each scene they observe and to incorporate what they learn into their work. (The very first scene that presents may opt to go again once they have had the chance to observe others.)

2. Cold Reading OR Song

OPTION A – COLD READING. Students will be given a brief script and will be asked to read it making character choices. Students will be evaluated based on their ability to express a character vocally and physically through spoken word in a way that matches what the actor can learn from the script.

-OR-

OPTION B – SONG: Students will be taught approximately 16 bars (less than one minute) of a Broadway musical style song. Students will be evaluated based on their ability to express a character vocally and physically through song in a way that matches what the actor can learn from the song.

Evaluation of Students for the Theatre Audition

We are assessing each child on his/her potential as a theatre student. We apply the audition criteria to the whole child rather than to simply past training/experience or presentational skills. The student’s goal is to listen, follow directions, and freely express his/her creativity as a theatre student.

Students will be evaluated on the criteria as listed below:

Voice and Movement (Acting Exercise and Cold Reading or Song)-Demonstrates an ability to express a character vocally and physically in a way that matches what the actor can learn from the script or song.

Ensemble-Demonstrates teamwork through an ability and willingness to collaborate, listen, and react to create a believable scene together.

Responsiveness to Coaching-Demonstrates an ability to take direction and use it to change, correct, or enhance the creation of a believable character/scene on stage.

Creativity/Theatrical Awareness-Demonstrates an ability to have ideas, explore possibilities, make discoveries, and make effective choices to create character, place, and situation.