

Bak Middle School of the Arts

SY20

Admission & Audition Guidelines

Students applying for school year 2019-2020

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or

<https://msoa.palmbeachschools.org>

Admission for SY20

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 7, 2018.** 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 19, 2019.**
3. **Come to one of the Audition Registration sessions at Bak MSOA on Saturday, January 12, 2019.** (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 19, 2019. **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 29, 2019 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 7, 2018 for Bak MSOA.

Late applications are accepted at the Department of Choice Programs and Career Options after December 7, 2019. 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, 2018 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 7, 2018 deadline.

OR

- Print application from www.palmbeachschools.org/choiceprograms website and complete, then mail, (must be postmarked no later than December 7, 2018), or deliver by 4 pm on December 7, 2018 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 7, 2018. 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:



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 12, 2019.

Admissions

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 2019- 2020 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 19, 2019.

The Audition Registration Session is Saturday, January 12, 2019:

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 SY20

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 12, 2019.

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

Read on for important details
about the audition process.

Communication Arts Audition

The Bak MSOA Communication curriculum includes: creative writing, journalism, newspaper and yearbook publications, radio and television broadcasting, video production, marketing/advertising/public relations, digital media, and speech & debate.

At the audition, students will complete the following tasks:

1. **Writing-** During the audition, students will have fifteen minutes to compose a short fiction story based on the content of a photo that will be provided. Paper and pencils will be provided in the classroom.

Note: Adjudicators will assess the Writing Prompt based on creativity, fiction writing techniques, narrative content, focus, organization, vivid vocabulary, and supporting details.

2. **Public Speaking-** During the audition, students will verbally present a memorized one minute, original, student created speech on any topic. The speech should be prepared prior to the audition. **The applicant must bring a handwritten copy of the speech to the audition.**

Note: Adjudicators will assess the Prepared Speech based on organization; vocal expression including speech clarity, volume and well defined delivery style; gestures; facial expression; body language; enthusiasm; and recovery. Providing an original hand written copy of the speech will be scored.

3. **Media Analysis and Critical Review –** During the audition, students will talk about a short video excerpt viewed TWICE during the audition. Students will be given three minutes to record observations after viewing. Students will share observations with adjudicators individually. Paper and pencils will be provided in the classroom.

Note: Adjudicators will assess the Media Analysis and Critical Review based on student's complete and detailed description of the subject matter and/or elements seen in the short video. The student should demonstrate attention to details (everything they see and hear) and sensitivity to film-making techniques including lighting, music, sound effects, camera angles, and character behavior.

FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS: Students should be prepared to listen carefully and follow the directions given at the auditions.

Dance Audition

Bak MSOA 6th grade dance classes include ballet and modern; 7th & 8th grade dance classes include ballet, modern, and jazz. All dancers will participate in at least one dance class daily.

At the audition, students will complete the following tasks:

1. **Participate in a dance class** that incorporates ballet and modern dance. Judging is based on technical ability, alignment, movement quality, musicality, flexibility, focus, ability to apply corrections, and overall potential. Though prior training is not required, an aptitude for dance and physicality is.
2. **Perform a prepared solo dance** that is no longer than one minute in length. This will be performed alone in front of the judges. No costumes, accessories, or props are allowed. The solo should focus on the dancer's strongest qualities. Consider including turns, jumps, and level changes. Please include the full use of the studio space and your body. Judging is based on technique, quality of movement, musicality, and expressiveness. Do not lip sync.

Suggested attire: Girls should wear a solid color leotard and convertible or footless tights. Hair should be in a bun. Boys should wear a white or black t-shirt with leggings or convertible tights. Students who have ballet shoes should wear them. All students should also be prepared to dance barefoot. Do not wear skirts, jeans, or jewelry.

Music: Applicants should bring a CD of their music, labeled with the number of the selection. If the CD is a copy, make sure it has been finalized properly to play in a CD player. MP3 Players and phones **may only** be used if the song is downloaded, not online, and is cued up without a passcode. Bak MSOA staff and volunteers are not responsible for the safety of these devices.

Dance Studio: 30' x 40' with a dance marley surface and mirrored wall in the front. Ballet barres along one wall and portable metal barres will be used for part of the class.

Music Auditions

Band, Strings, Vocal & Piano

Students will need to bring their own instruments for band and strings auditions. For vocal auditions students may bring a CD for vocal accompaniment. Pianos and string basses will be provided. Bak MSOA does not offer instructions in all musical instruments; therefore, applying students must audition with an instrument listed under the following Band or Strings sections. For example, students may not audition using a guitar, hand bells, or non-orchestral instruments.

Band (Brass, Percussion, and Woodwind)

Students may audition with the following concert band instruments:

Flute
Piccolo
Oboe
Clarinet
Bass Clarinet
Bassoon
Alto Saxophone
Tenor Saxophone
Baritone Saxophone
French Horn
Trumpet
Baritone/Euphonium
Trombone
Tuba
Percussion (see below) *

At the audition, students will complete the following tasks:

1. **Perform a solo** that demonstrates their highest level of ability. An accompanist is not permitted. Students need to bring **two (2)** copies of their sheet music for the judges.

*NOTE: Percussion/Drums: Students perform a solo demonstrating their highest level of ability on a snare drum and mallet percussion instrument (Xylophone/Marimba). Students will need to bring their own snare drum, sticks, mallets, and mallet instrument. Bak will have Xylophone/Marimba available for the audition, if needed. As students are required to perform their percussion audition using only a snare drum, students should NOT bring a drum set.

2. **Audition requirements will also include:**

- ◆ responding orally to questions about note recognition for their own clef, note, and rest values;
- ◆ hearing a series of 3-4 pitches on the piano and singing them back;
- ◆ performing a major scale of his/her choice;
- ◆ sight-reading.

Students will be judged on pitch accuracy, tone quality, rhythmic accuracy, expressiveness, technique, sight-reading, tone matching, musical effect and the ability to produce a major scale.

Strings (Violin, Viola, Cello, & Bass)

Students may audition with the following orchestra strings instruments:

Violin

Viola

Cello

Upright Bass

At the audition, students will complete the following tasks:

1. **Perform a solo** that demonstrates their highest level of ability. An accompanist is not permitted. Students need to bring **two (2)** copies of their sheet music for the judges.
2. **Audition requirements will also include:**
 - ◆ responding orally to questions about note recognition for their own clef, note and rest values, and musical symbols;
 - ◆ hearing a series of 3-4 pitches on the piano and singing them back;
 - ◆ performing a major scale of the applicant's choice, one or two octaves;
 - ◆ sight-reading.

Students will be judged on pitch accuracy, tone quality, rhythmic accuracy, expressiveness, technique, sight-reading, tone matching, musical effect, and ability to produce a major scale.

Vocal

At the audition, students will complete the following tasks:

1. **Perform a memorized solo***. Students **MUST** provide **two (2)** copies of their sheet music for the judges. Students will be judged on ability to vocalize, tone matching (hearing a series of 3-5 pitches on the piano and singing them back), solo pitch accuracy, rhythmic accuracy, tone quality, expressiveness, and musical effect.

Accompaniment: Students may sing with or without accompaniment. If accompaniment is desired, it must be a CD. Students must sing without recorded voices on the CD.

Please be aware that it may not be necessary for the student to finish the solo for the assessment to be completed by the judges.

*Suggested Literature for Vocal Audition, which may be purchased at local music stores, includes:

(These are only suggested, not required.)

- Folk Songs for Solo Singer, Volumes 1 & 2 - Jay Althouse
- The Young Singer – Richard Row
- Easy Songs for the Beginning Soprano, Volume 1
- Easy Songs for the Beginning Mezzo-Soprano, Volume 1
- Easy Songs for the Beginning Tenor (for boys with changed voices only), Volume 1
- Easy Songs for the Beginning Bass, Volume 1

All above listed vocal literature are available with CDs for rehearsal and performance purposes.

Piano

Students will be judged on pitch accuracy, tone quality, rhythmic accuracy, expressiveness, technique, sight-reading, musical effect and the ability to produce a major scale and arpeggio.

Piano/keyboards will be provided at the audition. It is recommended that students bring one or two original books of their music to the audition.

At the audition, **applying 6th grade** students will complete the following tasks:

1. Technical requirements: a scale, an arpeggio and a Hanon exercise
 - a. Prepare scales and arpeggios for G Major, D Major, A Major, E Major, F Major, Bb Major and Eb Major. The judges will choose one major scale from the seven listed above. The scale and the corresponding arpeggio need to be hands together and at least two octaves.
2. Repertoire requirements: two contrasting works, one Baroque and one classical, no repeats are to be used during the audition
 - a. Perform a Baroque piece – **does not have to be memorized**
Note: A Baroque period piece from the following books is suggested:
 - Short Preludes – J. S. Bach
 - Two-part Inventions – J. S. Bach
 - b. Perform a classical piece, **must be memorized**
Note: A first movement classical period piece from the following is suggested:
 - Sonatinas Op.36 – #2, #4 or #6 Clementi
 - Sonatinas Op.151 – A. Diabelli
 - Sonatinas Op.55 – F.Kuhlau
 - Sonatinas in C Major Hob.XVI/35
3. **Sight Reading:** sheet music provided to the student at the audition

At the audition, **applying 7th & 8th grade** students will complete the following tasks:

1. Technical requirements: need to prepare all major and harmonic minor scales and arpeggios, sharps and flats. **The judges will choose one of these scales. The scale and the corresponding arpeggio need to be hands together and at least two octaves.**
2. Repertoire requirements: two contrasting works, one Baroque and one classical, no repeats are to be used during the audition
 - a. Perform a Baroque piece – **does not have to be memorized**
Note: A Baroque period piece from the following books is suggested:
 - Any of the 15 Sinfonias – J.S. Bach
 - b. Perform a classical piece, Haydn Sonata, **must be memorized**
Note: a classical piece from the following is suggested:
 - Sonata in G Major, Hob.XVI/27, Sonata in e minor, Hob.XVI/34, Sonata in D Major, Hob./37, Sonata in b minor Hob./32, Sonata in G Major, Hob.XVI/39 and Sonata in D Major, Hob.XVI/33.
3. **Sight Reading:** sheet music provided to the student at the audition.

Note: It is recommended that students bring one or two original books of their music to the audition.

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.

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.

Visual Arts Audition

Bak MSOA Visual Arts Department classes include ceramics, drawing, painting, photography, sculpture, and printmaking.

PLEASE NOTE: Students **should not** bring any artwork or supplies with them the day of their audition.

All artwork at the audition will be created with soft drawing pencil and vinyl eraser on white drawing paper. The sculpture portion will be created with a poster board type of paper, scissors, and clear tape. The audition is scheduled for three hours.

At home students should prepare for their audition by working with the above cited materials while practicing drawing and sculpting.

At the Audition students will complete the following tasks:

1. **Creative Exercise:** Students will be given a series of unfinished drawings and illustration prompts and asked to complete the drawings. Emphasis will be placed on the creative process and final design choices made by the student. Students will be assessed on originality, creative vision, and personal expression. The emphasis of this exercise is to measure creativity as opposed to observational skill and technique.
2. **Still Life Drawing:** Students will participate in an art class where they will be given a group of objects prearranged in a still life. Students will then complete a 2-D observational drawing of the still life. Applicants are judged on their ability to create an accurate likeness of the still life provided. This would include their understanding of proportion, placement (correct spatial relationships between objects), compositional layout on the page, quality of line and/or mark-making, and rendering to create volume. We expect students to have a basic understanding of values and shading, but not to complete the drawing with full shaded rendering. This would include a good range of values (at least six) and the ability to transition between them. Students will have at least 45 minutes to complete the work. The assessment of the drawing will include the student's ability to sustain the work for the amount of time given, the accuracy of their image and completeness of the work.
3. **Sculpture Exercise:** Students will participate in an art class where they will be given a poster board type of paper, scissors, and clear tape. They will be asked to make a sculpture from a given prompt. Students will be allowed to cut, bend, fold, roll, or use any type of construction method they choose to complete their sculpture. Student's artwork will be judged on their ability to create a 3-D object out of a flat material, construction techniques, stability, and craftsmanship.

Some facts about Bak Middle School of the Arts

- Bak MSOA is a public school serving 1380 talented students in the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades.
- Bak MSOA selects students from all areas of Palm Beach County using an application, audition, and lottery process.
- Bak MSOA provides an extensive arts education in the areas of Communication Arts, Dance, Music (band, strings, piano, vocal), Theatre, and Visual Arts.
- Bak MSOA follows the general core curriculum guidelines that are used in all Palm Beach County middle schools.

Instructional Program

Bak Middle School of the Arts develops the interests and talents of students in the visual, performing, and communication arts. Simultaneously, it is designed to enhance the academic disciplines through an integrated, interdisciplinary approach, stressing creativity and artistic expression. Visiting artists, Artists in Residence and guest speakers regularly interact with and support the professional arts faculty and students in providing a cutting edge arts program. Performance opportunities are offered at all levels. A student at Bak Middle School of the Arts experiences a balance of incomparable arts instruction and exceptional academic experiences. Additionally, Bak Middle School of the Arts offers a full slate of activities from sports, to clubs, and after-school programs. Free transportation is available for all admitted students.

Core Curriculum

English/Language Arts
Mathematics
Honors Algebra I (high school)
Honors Geometry (high school)
Science: Life, Physical, Earth/Space
French I and II (high school)
Spanish I and II (high school)
Computers
Arts Exploration
Civics
Physical Education
World History
United States History

Sports & Clubs

Volleyball
Basketball
Baseball/Softball
Track
Soccer
Cheerleading
Builders Club
Academic Games
Math Counts
STEP Team
S.E. Consortium for Math & Engineering
Student Government
National Jr. Honor Society
Jr. International Thespian Society
Book Club
Recycling Green Team
Robotics
Speech and Debate

Commonly Asked Questions....

Q. Where is Bak Middle School of the Arts (Bak MSOA) located?

- A. Bak MSOA is located east of I-95 on the corner of Echo Lake Drive and North Shore Drive, five blocks south of 45th Street.

Q. What are the requirements for admission?

- A. Bak Middle School of the Arts considers students for sixth, seventh, and eighth grade admission. The parent and the applicant must be residing full time in Palm Beach County when the application is submitted.

Applicants must participate in an audition for the year applied for in one of five art areas. The audition process varies from art area to art area. Audition criteria must be carefully followed in preparation for an audition. Applicants must pass Bak MSOA's audition in order to be eligible for the admission selection lottery. The address listed on the student's application must match the address listed in the District's student database system (SIS) for a child attending a Palm Beach County public school. If an address discrepancy exists and is not resolved by the applicant prior to the December 7, 2018 deadline, the application will not be processed.

Q. What is the timeline for the application and audition process?

- A. Choice applications for Bak Middle School of the Arts are accepted by the PBC School District from November 1, 2018 through December 7, 2018. Only one application may be submitted per student. For online applications, one application selection change will be allowed prior to December 7, 2018. No changes will be allowed after submission of a hard copy application.

Appointments for auditions must be obtained in person during the Audition Registration session on Saturday, January 12, 2019 (see page 3). Students should be prepared to audition as early as January 19, 2019. Auditions are held by appointment in January and early February. The Selection Lottery will be held in March with notifications being sent out on March 29, 2019 (subject to change).

Families/students who move to Palm Beach County after the application deadline should contact the Department of Choice and Career Options at the Palm Beach County School District about the late application process and the possibility of alternate audition opportunity. Only students who apply with on-time applications will be auditioned during the January-February audition times.

Q. How many choices are allowed on the Choice Program Application?

- A. Either one or two choices are allowed on the Choice Program Application. Applicants rate choices as first and second preferences. Two program choices may be selected for Bak MSOA. However, first and second choices do NOT have equal chances of being selected.

Commonly Asked Questions....

Q. Will students that have not had extensive arts training be able to qualify for Bak Middle School of the Arts?

A. Students with potential or undeveloped talent are sought as well as students with more developed technical skills.

Q. Is there a required grade point average for entrance into Bak Middle School of the Arts?

A. No. Students are admitted solely on the basis of their audition.

Q. Are there audition accommodations for students with current IEP or 504 plans?

A. Yes. At the Audition Registration session, you MUST bring a copy of your child's current IEP or 504 plan and visit the ESE table in order to request allowable audition accommodations. 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.

Q. What if a student speaks English as a second language?

A. Translation services can be provided to students who speak English as a second language. The parent should contact the school's ELL Admissions Contact at (561) 882-3819.

Q. Does Bak MSOA's academic program offer varied level courses?

A. Yes, Bak MSOA offers special education, gifted, advanced, and regular classes, as well as high school level courses in math and foreign language. Students leaving our school after 8th grade are academically and artistically ready for many high school programs.

Q. Are there any academic classes offered to students who have been identified as ESE?

A. Yes. There are students who attend the Bak Middle School of the Arts who have been identified as ESE. We offer a variety of exceptionality resources to students depending on their Individual Education Plans.

Q. Is transportation provided for students who attend Bak MSOA?

A. Yes. The School District provides transportation for students living in Palm Beach County via school bus or Tri-Rail.

Tour

Bak Middle School of the Arts

1725 Echo Lake Drive
West Palm Beach, FL 33407

When: September 25th – December 4th, 2018
Select mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
By Appointment Only – to reserve a spot sign up on line at

www.msoa.com

or

<https://msoa.palmbeachschools.org>

On select mornings beginning in September you can come and see what our school is all about. See arts classrooms in action as we move through Dance, swing into Jazz Band, brush by Visual Arts, zoom into Communications, and direct your way to the Theater Department. Along the way you will hear our voices in Chorale, see our bows fly in Strings, watch our skills sharpen in the Keyboard Lab and get all the information that you need about our school.

Directions:

Take I-95 to 45th Street, go east 1 mile to North Shore Drive (across from the Tri-Rail Station); go south on North Shore Drive. At the end of North Shore Drive, turn right onto Echo Lake Drive. The school's entrance is on your right.

When visiting Bak MSOA, please follow all traffic laws and respect the neighborhood driveways, lawns and especially the swale areas. The city of West Palm Beach prohibits parking upon the swales and visitors could be subject to fines. Please park where directed and be patient with school police officers and/or parent volunteers.

**THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PALM BEACH COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF CHOICE AND CAREER OPTIONS
(561) 434-8755**

SY18 SHOWCASE OF SCHOOLS

October 16, 2018

4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Expo Center at the South Florida
Fairgrounds**