



PARENT APPLICATION FOR POSSIBLE PLACEMENT IN
GARLAND ISD GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM

Secondary Grades

Directions: Please complete all of this nomination form and return it to Austin Academy by January 23, 2009.

The middle school GT Academy is:

Austin Academy (grades 6–8; parents and student may live in any part of Garland ISD.)

1125 Beverly Drive, Garland, Texas 75040

Date of Nomination _____

Student nominated by: _____ Parent _____ Teacher _____ Other

Student's Name _____
Last First

Date of Birth _____ Ethnicity _____

Present School _____ Current Grade _____ Teacher _____

School Address _____
Street City State Zip Code

School Telephone Number () _____ Fax () _____

Parent/Guardian's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Mapsco _____

Home Phone () _____

Father's Business Phone () _____ Fax () _____

Mother's Business Phone () _____ Fax () _____

Please complete the following, if applicable:

I have another child already attending _____ Academy for Excellence.

If you are interested in having your child nominated as artistically talented to participate in enriched art classes after being accepted, please review the following characteristics and circle all that apply to your child:

Characteristics for Art Ability (*Circle all that apply.*)

- A. Draws or paints a variety of things
- B. Draws realistically with sensitivity to detail and shading.
- C. Achieves more than one dimension; adds depth, plans pictures, and uses good proportions.
- D. Anxious to try new materials, media and experiences.
- E. Uses art to express his/her own experiences and feelings.
- F. Shows originality and imagination in art works.
- G. Uses space to advantage in a picture.
- H. Fills free time with drawing or similar art activities.
- I. Enjoys visiting art museums/art shows; enters art contests.

Students nominated for possible placement in an academy for excellence will receive an audition appointment with a three member teacher selection committee. **You will be notified of the date, time and location of audition. Parents or students must furnish transportation to audition site.**

Austin Academy Art Auditions Portfolio Guidelines

Listed below are six visual art categories. The portfolio should have at least one artwork that demonstrates the applicant's ability in each category.

1. Drawing from observation.
A still life; a portrait of an actual person (not a photograph); a landscape; or any other object drawn from direct observation. This indicates a child's ability to observe and to render accurately from that observation.
2. Originality.
Any artwork that demonstrates an ability to think, imagine, create, and or invent in a way that is unique, original and personal. (Copy work of any kind is not suggested for the portfolio).
3. Sense of Design.
Any artwork that demonstrates skill in the placement of lines, shapes and spaces within a picture plane. This can be a traditional pictorial composition or something more abstract or non-objective.
4. Visual Communication.
Any artwork that communicates, through its visual elements alone, a story, event, feeling, opinion, etc. The work should not need words, captions or verbal explanations.
5. Experimentation.
Any artwork that shows a child's eagerness and confidence exploring new media. This quality can also be observed throughout the portfolio if a variety of media are used.
6. Graphic Layout.
An artwork, preferably in black pen or marker, that demonstrates an ability to combine words and images. Simplicity is recommended.

Other Suggestions.

It is beneficial if a portfolio shows an involvement with art over a period of months or even years. If a child keeps a sketchbook, that should be included in the portfolio submissions. The criteria listed represent the areas of concern of the review committee and are to be viewed as guidelines. Applicants and their parents should strive to demonstrate abilities in each of the six categories. We ask that you do your best to accomplish this, but do not want you to think that these guidelines are inflexible. The review committee wants as clear a view of an applicant's abilities as possible so that a fair and accurate evaluation can be obtained.

The presentation of the portfolio is not a formal consideration, but work that is well organized in its presentation is appreciated. It is suggested that drawings torn from spiral notebooks have the rough edges trimmed. Whenever possible, children are advised to avoid notebook paper, but that should certainly not be a reason to exclude an artwork.

Applicants are encouraged to bring in photographs, computer art or any other artwork that they feel represents their art abilities.

The portfolio will not be kept by the review committee, so do plan to take it with you after the audition.

Art honors or awards your child has received: _____

Why do you think your child needs to participate in the Gifted and Talented Program?

*I understand that my child is being considered for possible placement in the artistically talented component of the Garland ISD Gifted and Talented Program. If my child is ill on or before the audition date, I will notify the Austin Academy principal and request another time during the next regularly scheduled audition session for students currently **not** in the Gifted and Talented Program.*

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____