

Columbus Gifted Academy Purpose Statement

To engage, enrich, and empower gifted learners through unique, rigorous, self-directed educational experiences in a collaborative learning environment that supports the whole child within and beyond the classroom.

Columbus Gifted & Talented Purpose Statement

Identify and nurture gifted scholars through a continuum of services delivered in appropriate and challenging learning environments with rigor and individualization to foster creativity, leadership, and social-emotional well-being.

Vision

Rigorous, student-centered learning experiences and social-emotional supports delivered by collaborative teams.

Identification

Students are formally identified in compliance with Ohio's regulations for gifted and talented identification in the areas of superior cognitive ability, specific academic ability, creative thinking ability, and the visual and performing arts.

The Columbus City School District does not discriminate based upon sex, race, color, national origin, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, ancestry, familial status or military status with regard to admission, access, treatment or employment. This policy is applicable in all district programs and activities.

Enrichment Activities and Clubs

- Art Club
- Book Club
- Chess Club
- Debate

- Destination Imagination
- FIRST LEGO League Robotics
- Invention Convention
- JA Biztown
- Math Challenge/Counts
- Mock Trial
- Ohio History Day
- Student Council
- Techie Club
- And more!

***7th & 8th Grade students may participate in sports with their homeschools.*

Community Partners

- Actor's Theater of Columbus
- Center of Science and Industry (COSI)
- Columbus Museum of Art
- Columbus Zoo and Aquarium
- Franklin Park Conservatory
- Grange Insurance Audubon Center
- Ohio History Connection
- PAST Foundation
- See Kids Dream
- Thurber House
- CATCO
- Junior Achievement of Central Ohio
- Columbus Parks & Recreation: Thompson Recreation Center
- Dream Center Columbus



COLUMBUS CITY SCHOOLS

Columbus Gifted Academy



Active Learners. Innovative Thinkers. Compassionate Leaders.

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Gifted & Talented
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Mission: Each student is highly educated, prepared for leadership and service, and empowered for success as a citizen in a global community.

What is the Columbus Gifted Academy?

The Columbus Gifted Academy is a self-contained gifted program located at the former Everett school in the Short North. Building on the history of the ECLIPSE Program, it is a collection of self-contained, gifted classrooms throughout the district for select students identified as gifted in Grades 3 through 8. The program offers students the opportunity to participate in accelerated curricular opportunities throughout the school day. Classes of up to 25 students are taught by full-time teachers who possess a special license to teach gifted students.

In a CGA classroom, students have the opportunity to:

- Learn at a pace suited to their individual needs
- Gain independence in their learning while evaluating the quality of their work.
- Apply learning to real world scenarios
- Develop leadership qualities by assuming responsibility for their academic and social activities.
- Strengthen peer respect through peer interaction.
- Grow in the affective and academic areas.
- Increase motivation to perform at high levels.

Features of a CGA Classroom

- Incorporate ideas of depth and complexity (curriculum model by Sandra Kaplan) to increase the rigor during study of the state content standards
- Mastery-based learning
- Project-based learning in partnership with community organizations
- Opportunities for students to incorporate interest and choice in learning activities
- Flexible grouping to adjust academic difficulty to student need
- Use of technology for a variety of learning purposes
- Guidance in social-emotional development tailored to the needs of the gifted child

Middle School Experiential Learning Program

We are excited to partner with many community organizations for an experiential learning pilot program. CGA students in grades 6 through 8 will spend part of their time on the Everett campus and part of their time off site applying their learning to real world situations in partnership with organizations such as COSI, the Columbus Museum of Art, the Ohio History Connection, and Columbus Zoo and Aquarium.

Eligibility Criteria

CGA is an all-day, all-subject gifted program. Therefore, it is a suitable placement option for select students with multiple areas of giftedness or talent.

To be eligible for CGA, students must meet either of the following criteria:

- Identified as gifted in superior cognitive ability
- Identified as gifted in both reading AND math

Students who do not meet the above criteria may participate in other district gifted service options more appropriate to their academic needs. Please contact the Gifted & Talented office for more information.

Placement Process

All eligible students may apply. Once students apply, placement points are awarded for each area of identification (8 for superior cognitive ability, 4 each for reading and/or math, 1 for each remaining area). Students are then ranked based on total points and then by nationally-normed test scores. Students are placed beginning with the top of the list until the program is full or everyone is placed.

Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. Does this program use the same curriculum as the regular 3rd through 8th grade curriculum?*
CGA classrooms provide instructional services qualitatively different from those normally provided in the regular classroom. Since CGA students often exceed the regular curriculum standards, differentiation strategies and advanced learning materials are utilized to provide challenge to students. Ohio Learning Standards guide instruction and are supplemented with appropriate and challenging resources.
- 2. Do students in the program participate in all school activities?*
Absolutely. Students will have art, music, and physical education on site. Additionally, special education services will be available to students as needed. Middle school students may participate in sports programs at their home school. Extracurricular programs may be added based on student interest and available resources.
- 3. How do I enroll my child in the program?*
Gifted identification is the first requirement in the application process. Students must be identified as described elsewhere in this brochure. Service selection forms are mailed home to eligible students. Parents must return the completed service selection form to the Gifted and Talented division by the deadline. Parents are notified of their child's placement in mid-April.
- 4. Is transportation provided?*
Transportation is provided in accordance with district policy. Please call the Transportation Office at 365-5074 for additional information.
- 5. Could a child who is currently enrolled in the program be allowed to return to their primary enrollment school?*
Yes. Students technically remain enrolled in their home or lottery school while a part of the CGA program. If the program is not a good fit, students may return to their home school if space is available.