

Bak Middle School of the Arts

SY22

Admission & Audition Guidelines

Students applying for school year 2021-2022

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www.msoa.com

or

<https://msoa.palmbeachschools.org>

Bak Admission Requirements for SY22

Please read this entire packet completely.

Bak MSOA considers admission for students entering sixth, seventh, or eighth grade. The overwhelming majority of openings each year are for students entering sixth grade. The student applicant and parent(s)/guardian(s) must be full-time residents of Palm Beach County to be eligible to submit an online application. Please read below for the process, procedures, guidelines, and requirements for application/audition/admission.

Please follow the procedures described on the following pages carefully. File a Choice Application with The School District of Palm Beach County Department of Choice and Career Options by the District deadline:

Choice Program Applications will be available beginning November 2, 2020

1. **Submit an online application by Friday, December 18, 2020.** 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 at: www.palmbeachschools.org/choiceprograms
2. **Prepare for your virtual 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 11, 2021.**
3. **Approved applicants will be notified via e-mail** of the virtual audition procedures and date/time of student audition. Only students who have a verified application on file with the Department of Choice and Career Options will be assigned an audition. If an audition notification is not received by January 8, 2021 please contact the **Bak Magnet Office at 561-882-3819.**
4. **Applicants must audition on the date they are assigned.** Student's audition dates can only be rescheduled in the case of a documented family emergency or if the assigned date conflicts with a day of religious observance. **If a student becomes ill and is unable to audition on the scheduled audition date**, written verification from a doctor documenting the illness 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 Admission Selection Lottery will not be eligible for the initial lottery selection process.

The School District of Palm Beach County Department of Choice and Career Options establishes a date of notification for the release of placement results for all Choice Programs. Some students may be placed in an applicant wait pool based on available seats and the number of eligible applicants.

Appeals Process: The appeals process is governed by Policy 5.016 and is described in the District's Choice Schools and Programs Procedures Manual at:

www.palmbeachschools.org/choiceprograms

At Bak Middle School of the Arts Virtual Audition For 2020- 2021 School Year Admission

ESE / 504 /ELL Students:

Accommodations are given to students with special needs documented in an active IEP or 504 Plan. A parent/guardian **Must Upload** a copy of the child's current IEP or 504 Plan (public school students) or medical evaluation (private school students) with the Choice Program Application in order to ensure audition accommodations. If you are unable to locate the plan, contact your child's current school for assistance.

ELL students who have limited proficiency in the English language are encouraged to audition in their native language. Parents of students identified as LY may request language facilitators for their child's auditions by contacting the **Bak Magnet Office at 561-882-3819**.

If a parent/guardian indicates that no audition accommodations are needed for a child that has an IEP/504 plan, then no appeal will be granted base on accommodations not being provided during auditions.

Parents of students identified as Gifted do NOT need to submit their student's Educational Plan (EP) for the Audition Process.

For Online Choice Program Application Please access:

www.mypbchoiceapp.com

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

www.palmbeachschools.org/choiceprograms

For parent questions about the Choice Programs in Palm Beach County:

choicequestions@palmbeachschools.org

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 7th grade and 8th grade.

Virtual Audition Process for Admission SY22

- All auditions will be held using Google Meet and may include the use of a Google Classroom. If you are not a public-school student, please create a Gmail account (Gmail email) for the audition.
- “Bak Middle School of the Arts will not be recording auditions and does not provide consent for the audition process being recorded.”
- No person, including parent/guardian, is permitted in the room or in the Google Meet during the audition process.
- No professional studios may be used.
- If connection is lost during the audition, the student is to re-join the Google Meet and wait for further instructions.

All audition processes will require that applicants be present and ready to perform at any point during the virtual audition time block. Remember to bring anything needed for the audition, (pencil, paper, eraser, instrument, music, etc.) It is the parent's responsibility to ensure that all instruments, CDs, MP3 Players and/or cell phones are in good working order prior to the audition appointment time. By the student beginning or continuing with an audition, parents are accepting that their child is not ill or unable to perform. **Parents and students should be aware that the entire audition process may take upwards of two or more hours, including the orientation to the audition.** All requests for audition score sheets **MUST** be submitted with the 2021 Audition Score Sheet Request Form AND a self-addressed, stamped envelope. This form will be available in April at: <https://msoa.palmbeachschools.org/>. Requests for audition score sheets will only be accepted from Monday, April 5th - 19th, 2021.

To be part of the March Choice Program Bak MSOA Admission Selection Lottery Process all applicants must meet the District's and school's eligibility criteria. This includes meeting the qualification requirements of Bak MSOA's virtual audition process. Students not initially selected in the March lottery will be placed in a wait pool for all choice programs where they were deemed eligible. Higher audition eligibility scores are **required for 7th grade and 8th grade.**

On the following pages are the **specific audition requirements** for each art area. Please carefully read the requirements, so you and your child will know the expectations of the audition. Auditions are scored using a rubric.

Applicants will be disqualified for admittance into Bak MSOA if documents required during the audition are not submitted OR if it is determined that interference occurred during the audition process.

The following pages contain important details about the virtual audition process for each art area.

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 Virtual Audition, on Google Meet, students will complete the following tasks:

1. **Writing-** Students will have fifteen minutes to compose a front-page article, in the style of a newspaper, based on the content of a photo that will be provided during the audition. Paper and pencil(s) will be needed.

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-** Students will verbally present a memorized one-minute, original speech, using the topic, **“Describe a time when you learned a valuable lesson.”**

Note: Adjudicators will assess the prepared speech/public speaking based on organization; vocal expression- including speech clarity, volume and well-defined delivery style; gestures; facial expression; body language; enthusiasm; and recovery.

3. **Media Analysis and Critical Review –** During the audition, students will talk about a short video excerpt that is shown at the audition. After viewing, students will then individually share their observations with adjudicators.

Note: Adjudicators will assess the Media Analysis based on the student’s 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 (e.g., lighting, music, sound effects, camera angles, and character behavior).

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

All applicants must adhere to the following: Submission of the original work at the virtual audition attests that the applicant was the only person to work on the assignment submitted for scoring. Honesty and integrity are expected of all applicants.

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 Virtual Audition, on Google Meet, students will complete the following tasks:

1. Participate in a Google Meet dance class that will include ballet and modern. Come warmed up and ready to do center work. Make sure the camera is angled so that you are in the frame from head to toe (for the entire audition) and have room to move. If you are on a phone; the camera must be positioned horizontally (landscape). Judging is based on technical ability, alignment, movement quality, flexibility, focus, ability to apply corrections, and overall potential. Though prior training is not required, an aptitude for dance and physicality is needed.
2. **Perform a prepared solo dance** that is not longer than one minute. No costumes, accessories, or props are allowed. The solo should focus on the dancer's strongest qualities. Consider including turns, jumps, and level changes. Judging is based on technique, quality of movement, and expressiveness. Please do not lip sync. As you choreograph your dance, practice in the space at your home where you will perform for us. When practicing your prepared dance solo, we recommend you record yourself to make sure you are still in the frame. **We cannot accept pre-recorded pieces. You will perform live at the audition from home.** For the solo, instrumental music is preferred. Please make sure any lyrics are appropriate. Remember to make sure the camera is angled so that you are in the frame from head to toe (for the entire audition) and have room to move. If you are using a phone, the camera must be positioned horizontally (landscape). Your entire body must be seen throughout the dance.

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 shirts, jeans, or jewelry.**

Music Auditions

Band, Strings, Vocal & Piano

Students must provide their own instruments for band and strings auditions. For vocal auditions, students may sing with or without accompaniment. Bak MSOA does not offer instruction 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 will be judged on pitch accuracy, tone quality, rhythmic accuracy, expressiveness, technique, tone matching, musical effect, and ability to produce a major scale.

Students may audition with the following concert band instruments:

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

At the Virtual Audition, on Google Meet, 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 upload in Google Classroom one **(1)** copy of their sheet music for the judges. Please note that judges may not listen to the entire solo due to time constraint.

* **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 provide their own snare drum, sticks, mallets, and mallet instrument.

2. Audition requirements will also include:

- responding orally to questions about note recognition for their own clef, notes, rhythm values, rest values, and music symbol recognition;
- hearing a series of 3-4 pitches on the piano and singing them back and;
- performing a major scale of their choice;

Strings

Violin, Viola, Cello, & Bass

Students may audition with the following orchestra string instruments:

Violin

Viola

Cello

Upright Bass

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.

At the Virtual Audition, on Google Meet, students will complete the following tasks:

1. **Perform a solo** that demonstrates their highest level of ability. An accompanist is not permitted. Students will need to upload in Google Classroom **one (1)** copy of their sheet music for the judges. Please note the judges may not listen to the entire solo due to time constraint.
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:** sheet music will be provided to the student at the audition.

Vocal

At the Virtual Audition, on Google Meet, students will complete the following tasks:

1. **Perform a memorized solo***. Students will sing a prepared solo by memory. Students will need to upload in Google Classroom **one (1)** copy of the sheet music during the audition for the judges in Google Classroom.
 - Solo will be judged on pitch accuracy, rhythmic accuracy, tone quality, expressiveness, and musical effect. Please note the judges may not listen to the entire solo due to time constraints.
 - **Accompaniment: Students may sing with or without accompaniment.** If accompaniment is used, the volume level should be balanced with the singer and played on a separate device
2. **Vocalization:** The student will vocalize along with an audio recording which will be provided prior to the audition. The student will need to use another device (smart phone, speaker, etc.) to play the recording as they are vocalizing.
3. **Tone Matching:** The student will hear a series of 3-5 pitches on the piano. After they are played, the student will sing them back. This will be done live during the Google Meet and requires no prior action.

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 the following (the selections below are 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.

STUDENTS APPLYING FOR GRADE 6

At the Virtual Audition, on Google Meet, students will complete the following tasks:

1. **Technical requirements:** two scales and two arpeggios
 - a. Prepare all the scales and arpeggios up to five sharps and five flats with their relative harmonic minors. For example, G Major and E minor. The judges will choose two major scales from the scales reference above. The scale and the corresponding arpeggio need to be hands together and at least two octaves.
 - b. Recommended: Practice scales as in the Hanon Exercise 39.
2. **Repertoire requirements:** two contrasting works, one Baroque and one classical, no repeats are to be used during the audition. Please note the judges may not listen to the entire solo due to time constraints.
 - 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 will be provided to the student at the audition.

STUDENTS APPLYING FOR GRADE 7TH or 8TH

At the Virtual Audition, on Google Meet, 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. Please note the judges may not listen to the entire solo due to time constraints.
 - 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 will be provided to the student at 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 activities designed to workshop both prepared and new material.

Preparation for the Theatre Audition

To prepare for the Theatre Audition, please see the workshop activities listed below and choose whether you will present the monologue or song. Students should be dressed to move freely: flat-sole, closed-toed shoes; and loose-fitting clothing such as t-shirts, gym shorts, modest or conservative dance wear, yoga or exercise clothing are appropriate. No jeans or jewelry. Adjudicators must be able to see students entire body throughout the entire audition.

At the Virtual Audition, on Google Meet, students will participate in the following:

- 1. COLD READING:** Students will be given a brief monologue and will be asked to read it making character choices. Students will have 5 minutes to create a believable character based on the short script. The monologue will be presented and an adjudicator will give an adjustment, coaching or redirection for the scene and may side-coach during the second presentation.
- 2. Prepared Monologue or Song:**

OPTION A – MONOLOGUE: Students may choose from the following monologues:

#1 Dad, I'm sick of this. The mosquitoes are eating me alive. Can't we go inside now? I don't really have to learn to play baseball. It's OK. I think I get it now. Eyes on the ball. Right.

Maybe I'm just not any good at this. Maybe I never will be. But a person can only be hit in the head with a baseball so many times. I'm kinda sick of this game. I don't think I want to play anymore. I'll just quit the team. Can't I just quit, Dad?

#2 No, I'm sorry, Mrs. Jones, I don't eat that. I only eat hot dogs. You don't have hot dogs? Oh. Well, maybe I should go home then. That's all I eat. Hot dogs for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Sometimes I eat two or three instead of just one. My mom says I'll grow out of it someday. I doubt it. I love hot dogs. My little sister is worse. She only eats chicken soup. She sticks her pigtails in the soup and sucks it out of her hair. It's disgusting. Well, tell Jack I'll see him later. I've got to go home and have a few hot dogs. I think it's a three-hot-dog day. See you later, Mrs. Jones!

#3 Mom, it's not my fault my room's a mess! Me and Anthony were playing with his new race cars. Only four of them. And we heard a weird noise out- side, so we opened the window. This huge spaceship landed and a slimy, green alien with three heads came out and jumped in the window. Anthony tried to shoot him with my zapper gun, but it didn't even hurt him — he just got real mad. So he knocked all the books off my shelf and picked up my toy box with his long, purple antennas and dumped it all over my room. So I threw a Frisbee at him and it bonked him on his third head and he slimed out the window and the spaceship disappeared into the sky. Geez, Mom, you should be happy I'm still alive!

#4 Why do you watch the news every night, Dad? It's booooooring. It's always the same. The news is just a bunch of guys talking. It's JUST SO BORING! Can't we watch the cartoon channel? Don't you like to laugh? I feel like my head is going to explode all over this room. I'm so bored—Pow! Splat! Smush! Here, I'll be the news guy: "Tonight everyone is very boring in the whole world. The whole world is boring and a bunch of other guys said boring things and the weather is boring. Have a boring night. I'm bored. Good night." That's it! I just did the news for you. Now you don't have to watch it! Let's watch cartoons!

Monologues must be memorized and will be performed live during the audition for the adjudicators. 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 may choose approximately 16 bars (less than one minute) from the following songs:

"Castle on a Cloud", *Les Miserables*

"Always True to You in My Fashion", *Kiss Me, Kate*

"Dancing Through Life", *Wicked*

"Close Every Door", *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*

The performance can be acapella or accompanied by a recorded track. If accompaniment is used, the volume level should be balanced with the singer and played on a separate device

(No vocals should be included in the recorded track.) 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.

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 encourages its students to explore their personal voice and sharpen their artistic skills through a variety of mediums and classes offered which currently include ceramics, drawing, painting, sculpture, digital photography, digital design and printmaking.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Students will need a pencil, eraser, and white, unlined paper for the audition.
- All artwork at the audition will be created with the following materials: a pencil and eraser on white, unlined paper.
- Students should prepare for their audition by practicing with the above cited materials.

At the Virtual Audition, on Google Meet, students will complete the following tasks:

1. **Creative Exercise:** At the beginning of the audition, students will be given a series of items and phrases in which to include into their drawing. The style and technique in which the students complete their drawings will be up to them. The emphasis for this section of the audition will be placed on the student's creative process and final design choices made by the student. Applicants will be assessed on originality, creative vision, and personal expression. The emphasis of this exercise is to measure creativity as opposed to observational drawing skills.
2. **Still Life Drawing:** Students will participate in an art class where they will be given a photo of a group of objects prearranged in a still life. Students will then complete a 2-D observational drawing of the still life. Applicants will be 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/shading to create volume. We expect students to have a basic understanding of drawing. The assessment of the drawing will include the student's ability to work for the amount of time given, the accuracy of their image, and the quality of the work.

All students must adhere to the following: Submission of the original work at the virtual audition attests that the applicant was the only person to work on the artwork submitted for scoring. Honesty and integrity are expected of all applicants.

Facts About Bak Middle School of the Arts

- Bak MSOA is a public school serving 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 provides the required core academic curriculum per the SDPBC and numerous high school courses in math and world languages.

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 and academic instruction and experiences. Additionally, Bak Middle School of the Arts offers a full slate of sports, clubs, and after-school programs.

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)
Software and Web Design
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
Curtain Calls (afterschool program)

Frequently 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 the application and admission process?

- A. Per the School District of Palm Beach County, the parent and the applicant must be full time residents of Palm Beach County when the application is submitted. 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 18, 2020 deadline, the application will not be processed.

Bak Middle School of the Arts considers students for sixth, seventh, and eighth grade admission. For the year applied, applicants must participate in a virtual audition in at least one of the art areas that was reflected on their application. The virtual 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.

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 School District of Palm Beach County from November 2, 2020 through December 18, 2020. Only one application may be submitted per student. For online applications, one application selection change will be allowed prior to December 18, 2020. No changes will be allowed after submission of a hard copy application.

Approved applicants will be notified via e-mail of the virtual audition procedures and/or date/time of student audition. Only students who have a verified application on file with the Department of Choice and Career Options will be assigned an audition. If an audition notification is not received by January 8, 2021 please contact the Bak Magnet Office at 561-882-3819. Students should be prepared to audition as early as January 11, 2021. Virtual auditions will be held in January and early February.

Families/students who move to Palm Beach County after the application deadline should contact the SDPBC's Department of Choice and Career Options about the late application process and the possibility of alternate audition opportunity. Only students who apply with on-time applications qualify to 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.

Frequently Asked Questions

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

A. Students are given an equal opportunity to be successful in the audition process whether their talent is trained and/or they have natural ability.

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

A. No. Grades (in academics or the arts) are not reviewed or considered as part of the admission process.

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

A. Yes. A parent/guardian **Must Upload** a copy of the child's current IEP or 504 Plan (public school students) or medical evaluation (private school students) with the Choice Program Application in order to ensure audition accommodations. If you are unable to locate the plan, contact your child's current school for assistance.

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 **Bak Magnet Office at (561) 882-3819**.

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

A. Yes, Bak MSOA offers, gifted, advanced and general education courses, as well as high school level courses in math and world languages. In addition, support facilitation in the general education curriculum is offered for students with disabilities.

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

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

https://www.palmbeachschools.org/students_parents – Find My Bus

To learn more about Bak MSOA and the audition process, please visit our school website at:

<https://msoa.palmbeachschools.org>

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