



Eastbourne College

Creative arts  
awards

## Eastbourne College and creative arts awards

Eastbourne College offers creative arts awards in each of the following areas: art, drama and music. In line with most top independent schools, the great majority of creative arts awards given at Eastbourne College are between 5% and 20% of the day or boarding fee but more may be offered in exceptional circumstances (up to a maximum of 50%).

Creative arts awards may be supplemented on a **means-tested** basis and in exceptional circumstances this means-tested funding may extend to 100% of the fee.





## Creative arts awards

Art

Drama

Music

Eastbourne College has an enviable reputation in the region for creative arts. Candidates may apply for scholarships in any of the three creative arts subjects, full details of which are included in this booklet.

The three heads of department are always happy to hold informal discussions with potential candidates and their parents.



*"Pupils think critically  
and creatively"*

**ISI Inspection Report  
November 2008**



## Art awards

The art department has a reputation that is second to none in Sussex and this excellence is based on a number of key factors.

### A special programme of support and tutoring for art scholars

Carefully structured courses allow each scholar to play to their strengths and to develop their personal interest in art and design. The courses are planned to enhance the pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding of artists and art issues.

### Top practising artists

The art staff are all experts in their fields, both as practising artists and as trained teachers, and have wide experience from a variety of backgrounds. They are supported by two art technicians.

### Dedicated time, support and equipment to develop, practise and improve their skills

- Art scholars receive additional tuition and free art materials for scholarly activities. They also benefit from a programme of support, monitoring and encouragement
- The art school is open every afternoon and often in the evenings for pupils to continue with their art or to join in recreational art activities
- A varied extra-curricular activities programme includes mural painting, ceramic modelling, life drawing, printmaking, landscape painting and photography
- Regular trips to London galleries and sculpture parks are also complemented by guided overseas tours to Rome, Paris and Venice





## Superb facilities include

- the purpose-built Casson Art School on two floors
- separate ceramics and plaster studios with a large industrial kiln, test kilns, a raku kiln, a glaze spray booth and industrial glaze spraying facilities
- two large painting and drawing studios and one black-out studio
- an IT suite within the art department and printing facilities for polymer etching and silkscreen printing
- the Donald Perrens Foyer in the Birley Centre and the Casson Art Gallery are used to display work by pupils and a variety of visiting artists, ranging from traditional landscape to contemporary installations
- a photographic studio with professional lighting equipment

## Excellent results

- 100% of A level pupils gained grade A\*, A or B in 2011. 83% of GCSE art pupils achieved A\*/A in 2011.
- Pupils regularly win gold and silver awards at the annual Young Craftsman of the Year, South of England Show

## Drama awards

The College enjoys a long and distinguished reputation for dramatic endeavour. Drama at the College is an inclusive discipline, both in and out of the classroom. As well as the practical experience of bringing text to life on stage through acting and directing, expertise is developed in a number of other areas, including script-writing, set-design, lighting, sound and costume. The drama department's reputation is based on a number of factors.

## Superb academic results

- At both A level and GCSE, pupils consistently gain the top grades and further details can be found on the website

## Extensive facilities

- A fully-equipped 280-seater theatre with a raked auditorium and an adaptable space
- A purpose-built 120-seater studio theatre
- An acoustically-designed, 160-seater auditorium with sprung floor





## Staff and support

- Teaching expertise covers a broad spectrum and is complemented by regular workshops from visiting practitioners and lecturers
- A full-time technician facilitates the pupils' hands-on experience of the technical aspects of theatre and supervises the design teams on all productions
- College theatre supports a wide-ranging programme of professional companies who are part of the touring circuit. Many run workshops to accompany their performances. The termly arts brochure listing events taking place at the College can be found at [www.eastbourne-college.co.uk/TheArts/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.eastbourne-college.co.uk/TheArts/Pages/default.aspx)
- Drama scholars receive free tickets to all professional drama events
- Individual LAMDA classes are available

## Dramatic opportunities abound

- Recent major school productions include *Evita* (2010) and *The Three Musketeers* (2009) in which every year group was represented
- All new Year 9 pupils take part in a production in their first term, directed by Lower Sixth pupils
- Informal house revues, open-air productions, mini plays
- Participation in the Eastbourne Schools Shakespeare Festival at the Globe Theatre, London
- GCSE, A/S and A2 drama coursework presentations
- Extensive programme of evening theatre trips
- College Arts Festival Week

## Excellence in drama beyond the College

- Ben Deery studied English at Cambridge, trained at LAMDA and made his West End debut in 2008. He has recently appeared in *La Cage aux Folles* in London, *The Importance of Being Earnest* in Edinburgh and *Anne Boleyn* at The Globe
- Hugh Skinner won a top LAMDA scholarship and recently appeared in the BBC drama of *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*
- Ed Speleers took the title role in the Hollywood film *Eragon*
- Pupil productions have been and are being performed in London theatres eg *Pete & Me*, Landor Theatre, 2009 and *The Selfish Gene*, *The Musical*, Edinburgh 2011
- Lucy Skinner won a place at the National Youth Theatre 2011



## Music awards

Music is an important part of everyday life at the College. There are numerous opportunities for involvement from formal lessons to a wide range of extra-curricular musical activities.

The department's success is based on

### Highly-trained staff and support

- The department has four full-time and 20 part-time music staff offering tuition on all orchestral instruments, piano, percussion, organ and singing
- Music scholars receive free music tuition on two instruments (which can include singing) and benefit from a programme of support, monitoring and encouragement under a specialist music tutor
- Music technology was introduced over five years ago and has become a popular academic subject. Provision includes an electronic workshop, music computers and digital recording facilities





## Musical opportunities abound

- The Chapel Choir meets regularly each week, has recorded two CDs and broadcast on local and national radio
- The Chamber Choir for advanced singers explores sacred and secular repertoires
- Chamber groups tackle some challenging repertoires and frequently perform in competitions
- The College Symphony Orchestra comprises instrumentalists of grade 6 and above
- Euphonix – an informal singing group of staff and pupils meets weekly
- The Swing Band explores the world of jazz and often stages concerts at outdoor venues
- For the rock and pop musicians, the annual Battle of the Bands is a highlight in the calendar
- Biennially, a full-scale musical is staged with the drama department
- Services in churches and concerts at external locations give the department opportunities to take music out into the wider community
- Formal concerts, informal concerts, house concerts and house music festivals all give performers the opportunity to gain further experience
- The College runs a series of professional concerts in which internationally recognised artists such as John York run workshops and master-classes before performances. Events covering the whole arts programme can be found in the Arts brochure: [www.eastbourne-college.co.uk/TheArts/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.eastbourne-college.co.uk/TheArts/Pages/default.aspx)



## Extensive facilities

In September 2011, the music department moved to the Birley Centre which includes

- a superb auditorium for assemblies, concerts, master classes and workshops
- a state-of-the-art music school
- a recording studio
- specialised teaching rooms and rehearsal space
- gallery and exhibition space

With a revamped Steinway grand, 17 other pianos, a well-stocked library and many practice rooms, the music department is superbly equipped.









## Opportunities for musical endeavour at the highest level

Recent examples of musical excellence include

- James Wicks, a grade 8 violinist, secured a place in the National Youth Orchestra for two years in succession and now reads music at Selwyn College, Cambridge
- finalists in the National Chamber Music Competition for Schools
- Ollie Clarke, who won scholarships at the Royal College of Music, Trinity and Guildhall and is now studying at the Royal College of Music, specialising in singing
- William Kunhardt-Sutton also received offers of a place at all three Colleges and is now at the Royal College of Music
- Nick Atkinson and Luke Potashnick, members of the pop group 'Rooster'
- Jules Knight, a member of classical quartet Blake who won the Classical Brits Album of the Year 2008
- Natasha Davies, who is in negotiation with a number of record companies

## Superb results

- Excellent results are gained at A level and GCSE in music and music technology



## Recognition and responsibility

Creative arts scholars are recognised as key individuals within year groups but with this recognition comes an expectation that they will set high standards in the way they conduct themselves both in their specialist subject and around the school.

The example they set will make them natural leaders among their peer group and we hope that they will both enjoy and make the most of this responsibility.



We expect our creative arts scholars to

pursue  
excellence

you try to do the best you can  
we help you to achieve more  
than you believed you could

participate

you enter fully into the life of  
the school  
you encourage, enable and  
enrich others in the classroom  
and in the wider community

display  
integrity

you keep going when the  
going is tough  
we help you learn to take  
responsibility for your  
decisions



An Eastbourne College creative arts scholar will be challenged, inspired and engaged, whether it is in the art school, a drama rehearsal, a musical workshop or beyond

For further information visit  
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