

*inspiring • creativity*



VICTORIA  
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS



**The heart of Victoria School of the Arts lies in the joy to learn, the passion to create and the wonder of discovery.**

## **VICTORIA SCHOOL OF THE ARTS**

Victoria School of the Arts is an Edmonton Public Schools Alternative Arts Program serving a community of students from K–12. For over a quarter of a century, the school has been a centre for excellence where students achieve high academic and artistic success while immersed in engaging learning experiences.

At Victoria School students learn in the arts, about the arts and through the arts.

- We believe the arts are an inseparable part of the school's culture and therefore are viewed as an inseparable part of the learning experience
- We believe the arts motivate the cognitive, social, civic, personal and aesthetic growth and development of students
- We believe the arts open avenues for innovation and invention, as well as fostering respect for individual, cultural and aesthetic diversity
- We believe the arts provide students with a variety of approaches to learning methods of building connections between thinking, learning and knowing

Victoria School celebrates a solid literacy foundation, where the arts and academics are interconnected. Students think as critically in their arts classes as they think creatively in their academic ones. The International Baccalaureate Programme aligns the arts and academics within a framework of inquiry. Students are invited to demonstrate a commitment to all learning. They are encouraged to develop the ability, confidence and imagination to pursue their dreams and contribute to their community both locally and globally.

Victoria students develop empathetic relationships which serve as the foundation for a community where staff and students share a passion for learning and the pursuit of excellence. This welcoming, positive, supportive and dynamic community environment creates a kaleidoscope of learning from kindergarten to grade twelve known as Victoria School of the Arts.



*create • confidence*



# VICTORIA SCHOOL LEARNER PROFILE

The International Baccalaureate (IB) learner profile describes ten attributes valued by IB World Schools that we foster at Victoria School. We believe these attributes and others like them help our students become responsible members of our local, national and global communities. As a school, we want to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

## AS LEARNERS VICTORIA SCHOOL STUDENTS STRIVE TO BE:

### INQUIRERS

We nurture our curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research. We know how to learn independently and with others. We learn with enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning throughout life.

### KNOWLEDGEABLE

We develop and use conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.

### THINKERS

We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyze and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.

### COMMUNICATORS

We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.

### PRINCIPLED

We act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.

### OPEN-MINDED

We critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience.

### CARING

We show empathy, compassion and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.

### RISK-TAKERS

We approach uncertainty with forethought and determination; we work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. We are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.

### BALANCED

We understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives—intellectual, physical, and emotional—to achieve well-being for ourselves and others. We recognize our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live.

### REFLECTIVE

We thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.



*explore • passions*

## ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Victoria School of the Arts is known for the enthusiastic risk-taking and artistic discipline of its students who have embraced the power of the arts to transform lives. In an environment of celebration, our students continue to challenge themselves beyond their current limits. They are encouraged to question, express and pursue their artistic interests.

### ELEMENTARY ARTS

Elementary students' classroom experiences are enriched through art, dance, drama and music. Workshops, guest artists, hands-on experiences, integrated projects and performance opportunities allow all students to learn through and develop an appreciation for the arts. All students have the opportunity to create and perform work in a variety of settings both in school and in the community.

### SECONDARY ARTS

Junior high students continue to explore the arts by selecting options that include choral music, dance, drama, instrumental music, visual art and media. As the arts are an integral part of our work, they are integrated into all subjects. Students will continue to have the opportunity to share work with an audience through class projects and select auditioned performances.

The ability to further specialize in each artistic discipline continues in senior high school as more courses in each of the five disciplines of dance, media, music, theatre and visual arts are available. Increased opportunity for auditioned projects and performances, as well as creative art installations and exhibits enhance and showcase class work. Senior high students are encouraged to further their artistic risk-taking through the creation of their own works of art. This may include choreography, musical composition, theatre direction, art installation or exhibits and media projects. Students are also invited to audition for one or more of the many opportunities that are available to all students in our performance season.

### VICTORIA'S ARTS SEASON

The Victoria School arts season features one of the busiest production calendars in the city of Edmonton. The events on stage and in galleries showcase student performance and visual art work from across the K–12 curriculum. From showcases of class work and auditioned performance ensembles to full scale theatre, dance and music productions, the students' work is always challenging, diverse, highly focused and of an exceptionally high standard.

#### ARTS EXPLORATION MAY INCLUDE:

acting • animation • art history • ballet • ceramics • choral music • concert choir • creative writing  
contemporary dance • directing • drama • drawing • graphic arts • guitar • improvisation • instrumental music  
instrumental jazz • jazz dance • media studies • photography • sculpture • tap dance  
theatre performance • painting • vocal jazz choir • visual art





*achieve • excellence*

# THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMME

IB offers four programmes of international education, the Primary Years Programme (PYP: Gr. K–6), the Middle Years Programme (MYP: Gr. 7–10), the Diploma Programme (DP: Gr. 11–12) as well as a new addition, the Career Related Certificate Programme (IBCP: Gr.11–12).

## IB MISSION STATEMENT

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

IB programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

## HOW DO THE FOUR IB PROGRAMMES WORK TOGETHER?

The continuum of programmes forms a coherent sequence of education by promoting the education of the whole person through an emphasis on intellectual, personal, emotional and social growth. In all IB programmes, the education of the whole person is manifested through all domains of knowledge, involving learning in languages, humanities, sciences, mathematics and especially the arts.

## ALL FOUR PROGRAMMES:

- Require study across a broad range of subjects drawing on content from educational cultures across the world
- Give special emphasis to language acquisition and development
- Encourage learning across disciplines
- Focus on developing the skills of learning
- Include, to a varying extent, the study of individual subjects and of transdisciplinary skills
- Provide students with opportunities for individual and collaborative planning and research
- Include a community service component requiring action and reflection

## WHAT IS INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION?

The International Baccalaureate defines an international education according to the following criteria:

- Developing citizens of the world in relation to culture, language and learning to live together
- Building and reinforcing students' sense of identity and cultural awareness
- Fostering students' recognition and development of universal human values
- Stimulating curiosity and inquiry in order to foster a spirit of discovery and enjoyment of learning
- Equipping students with the skills to learn and acquire knowledge, individually or collaboratively, and to apply these skills and knowledge accordingly across a broad range of areas
- Providing international content while responding to local requirements and interests
- Encouraging diversity and flexibility in teaching methods
- Providing appropriate forms of assessment and international benchmarking



**Victoria School of the Arts is an  
authorized IB World School.**





*discover • community*

## ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVOLVEMENT

### STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Students will find many ways to become involved in the Victoria School culture and to pursue interests both inside and outside the classroom.

#### *BE INSPIRED TO ADVOCATE*

Victoria School is committed to helping students become effective, competent, concerned citizens dedicated to making a positive contribution in life and to serving the needs of others. Victoria students share a love for the arts and a genuine concern for their peers and greater community by becoming involved in student leadership.

#### *EXPLORE ATHLETICS*

Victoria School values the health and wellbeing of all our students. We encourage all students to get involved in our outstanding physical education and athletics programs.

#### *CREATE IN THE ARTS*

There are many opportunities to indulge in the activities that fuel your passion for creativity.

#### *MASTER CLASSES*

Victoria students are fortunate to have the support of the Victoria School Foundation for the Arts. Students have the opportunity to experience arts enrichment from both local and world renowned artists through workshops, demonstrations and/or mentoring.

#### *AUDITIONED PROJECTS AND ENSEMBLES*

Information and/or audition sessions will be held at the beginning of the year with ongoing information posted on our callboard located in Victoria Square. Students are invited to audition and encouraged to get involved!

#### *COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS*

Victoria students have the opportunity to develop an awareness of understanding and commitment to being engaged and involved within the greater community.

### PARENT INVOLVEMENT

The Victoria School Cheer Parents Association, School Council, The Victoria Arts Society and The Victoria School Foundation for the Arts offer parents the opportunity to support the school in a variety of ways. Volunteer opportunities for parents include classroom assistance, field trips, special events, the library, framing and hanging art, and so much more.

#### *SCHOOL COUNCIL*

Victoria School Council is a collective association of parents, teachers, principal and community representatives who work together to effectively support and enhance student learning.

#### *VICTORIA FOUNDATION OF THE ARTS*

To dream the possible dream...that's the Foundation's vision for all talented Victoria School students. Their goal is to ensure that no student is denied the opportunity to achieve their artistic dreams. With two million dollars endowed with the Edmonton Community Foundation, they are able to sponsor both master classes and scholarships for our students.

#### *COMMUNITY AND ARTS PARTNERSHIPS*

Victoria School students have the opportunity to work with both local and international artists in collaborative projects and master classes, to deepen their understanding of, and passion for, the arts.





*inspire • possibilities*



# VICTORIA SCHOOL RESOURCES

## STUDENT SERVICES

Student Services at Victoria School of the Arts offers a proactive program focused on the needs, goals and concerns of all our students. Through the resources available, students become better informed and able to make appropriate decisions for themselves now and into the future.

### *EDUCATIONAL COUNSELING*

- Course selection and goal setting
- Developing study skills
- Educational planning beyond senior high

### *INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICES*

- Information related to financial resources including: loans, scholarships and bursaries
- Referrals to community agencies and institutions

### *LEARNING SUPPORTS AND COUNSELING*

- Support related to learning needs, decision making and relationships

## TRANSPORTATION

Students come from all over Edmonton and the surrounding area to attend Victoria School of the Arts. Though many students get rides from their parents or car pool, yellow busing is available for elementary students within the boundaries and guidelines set by Edmonton Public School's Student Transportation. Options for Yellow School busing can be discussed at the time of application. Secondary students are eligible for an Edmonton Transit System (ETS) bus pass which is valid for use 7 days per week, including statutory holidays.

Victoria School is situated on The Metro Line (North LRT to NAIT) which can be accessed from the Churchill LRT station in downtown Edmonton. Our central downtown location provides access to our school from approximately a dozen ETS bus routes.

## FACILITIES AND RESOURCES

- Eva O. Howard Theatre: a 690 seat professional theatre complete with fly gallery, light and audio systems, and orchestra pit
- Drama, design, make-up, rehearsal and performance labs
- Costume and prop shops
- Fully equipped dressing rooms
- Technology supported studios and classrooms
- Spacious band and choral rooms
- Professional dance studios
- Media studios with green screen and editing suites
- Visual arts studios
- Ceramics studio with kiln
- Art gallery
- Two fully-equipped gymnasiums
- Large field sports area and tennis courts
- Courtyard playground
- Sculpture garden
- Marguerite Trussler Library
- Cafeteria services

## APPLICATION PROCESS

### ARE YOU READY TO BEGIN YOUR STORY AT VICTORIA SCHOOL?

#### SUCCESSFUL VICTORIA STUDENTS ARE:

- Interested in inquiry based, arts engaged learning within the framework of the International Baccalaureate Programme
- Engaged in the rigor of artistic and academic inquiry
- Internationally minded and committed to community engagement and involvement
- Respectful and responsible citizens who embrace a K-12 culture
- Willing to interact effectively and constructively in ensemble through collaboration
- Passionate about celebrating creativity
- Critical and creative thinkers
- Confident and principled
- Open minded and caring
- Resourceful and resilient
- Reflective and thoughtful

#### DOES THIS DESCRIBE YOU?

#### IF YES, THEN PLEASE SUBMIT AN APPLICATION (K-9) OR REGISTRATION PACKAGE (10-12)

An application process is in place for students wishing to enter Victoria School from Grades K-9. Placement is based on requirements having been met and availability of space. A registration process is in place for students Grades 10-12. Forms are available on our website [www.victoria-school.ca](http://www.victoria-school.ca) or from our General Office.

Victoria School has an optimal enrolment limit for all grades. An optimal enrolment limit is a pre-determined maximum student enrolment number set jointly by the school and the District's Planning Department to ensure excellent teaching and learning conditions exist for all students in the school. In the event that demand for our program exceeds the optimal enrolment limit, a random selection will be conducted. The random selection process ensures an equal chance of admission of all eligible new students and is administered through the District.

For students registering from outside Edmonton Public Schools you will also need to complete an Edmonton Public School Registration Form available at [www.epsb.ca](http://www.epsb.ca).

Please contact the Victoria School General Office at 780.426.3010 if you have any questions.



