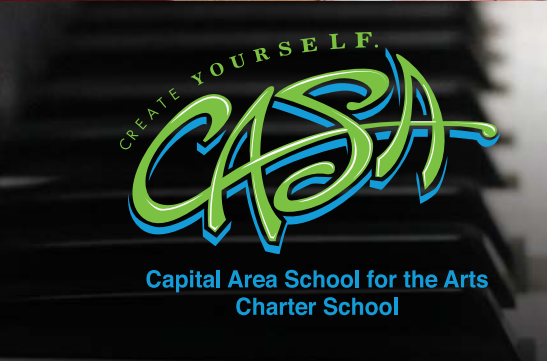




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CAPITAL REGION ARTS & EDUCATION



2014 ANNUAL REPORT



Capital Area School for the Arts
Charter School

The mission of Capital Area School for the Arts Charter School is to provide students with a rich, rigorous arts-infused high school program that enables them to succeed in college and careers.



The mission of Capital Region Arts and Education is to provide educational opportunities for students and adults in the Capital Region of Central Pennsylvania by offering high quality multi-disciplinary arts instruction, other educational instruction, professional development and related education activities. As the founding organization of Capital Area School for the Arts Charter School (CASA), CRAE conducts fundraising on behalf of CASA to close the gap between state funding and the budgetary requirements to operate the school.



On August 25, 2013, Capital Area School for the Arts Charter School (CASA Charter School) began its inaugural year as a full-time arts education charter high school. CASA Charter School welcomed 135 full-time accepted students to study one of six disciplines: creative writing, dance, film and video, music, theatre, and visual art. The excitement associated with opening the school gave parents, teachers and our community the opportunity to reflect on our past, where we are today and the promising future that was in front of us for CASA Charter School.

Capital Area School for the Arts (CASA) was founded in 2001 through a partnership between the Capital Area Intermediate Unit and Open Stage of Harrisburg. The school provided a part-time arts education program to students throughout central Pennsylvania. The original goal of the school was to provide a place where high school students could further their arts education by supplementing their high school day in their home school district.

In 2001 nearly all participating school districts provided financial support in the form of tuition for their students to attend CASA; however, by 2012 only three of the twenty-four school districts represented with students attending CASA covered full tuition for their students. As a result of students being unable to afford the tuition and their school districts inability to pay, the number of students attending CASA began to decrease.

With the needs of our talented youth in mind and recognizing the importance of student access to an arts education, in May 2013, Capital Region Arts and Education (CRAE) was formed as a 501(c)(3) to apply to become a full-time Charter School. As of July 16, 2013, the Pennsylvania Department of Education awarded charter school status to Capital Region Arts and Education allowing for Capital Area School for the Arts Charter School (CASA Charter School) to open. In addition to the success in receiving charter school status, CRAE is instrumental in developing the financial resources required to cover the gap of dollars received from the students' home school districts. These funds are used to supplement the academic, cultural and activity programs of CASA Charter School by underwriting experiences that enrich and enhance the lives of the young people in the twenty-eight Pennsylvania school districts represented by students attending CASA Charter School.



No other school in our region is able to offer the same education that CASA Charter School began offering in the 2013-2014 school year. Not only do students master and hone their artistic expertise, they also receive a well-rounded standards-based education. Only the best teachers with Pennsylvania teaching certificates have been hired in order to ensure that the students are prepared for the future as they continue their education upon graduation.



On June 5, 2014, nineteen students along with their families, teachers and friends celebrated the first graduating class of CASA Charter School. Graduates from our first graduating class have gone on to New York University, Otterbein University, Penn State University, Kutztown University, Harrisburg Area Community College, among many others.



CASA Charter School is a model of innovative and vibrant curriculum that engages students in learning and enhances their creative talents to determine a career path and future role in society. Using the city of Harrisburg and the capital area as a “classroom” for architectural, governmental and community resources, imaginative students can create great art. By inspiring an academic and artistic atmosphere, the region’s most talented students will thrive. Graduates will master defined skills that will enable them to be productive, self-directed lifelong learners who appreciate and respect diversity.



CASA Charter School has a bright future. Student enrollment increased to 180 students for the 2014-2015 school year representing twenty-eight different school districts. With the growth in enrollment, CASA Charter School also added additional Mathematics and English teachers. In addition to engaged students, faculty and administration, our parents have formed a parent teacher organization. The partnership between students, parents, faculty, administration and our Board of Trustees is assisting our school in

achieving our mission – to provide students with a rich, rigorous arts-infused high school program that enables them to succeed in college and careers.

The end of year performance, recently renamed *CASA Live!*, is an exciting tradition that began with CASA and is continuing at CASA Charter School. The performance is scheduled for May 21, 2015 at Whitaker Center. *CASA Live!* is a one-night, all-original performance that is a shining example of the benefit of a CASA Charter School education.

Work begins on the end of year performance during the first week of school followed by weekly integrated arts sessions. Six art forms collaborate to discover a theme and in the process develop an appreciation for the various disciplines: dance, theatre, music, film and video, visual art, and creative writing. Over the course of nine months, 180 students break into small groups consisting of a mix of these disciplines to discuss and create scenes that later develop into fully-realized components of the performance.

The result? An artistic rendering of a theme more closely related to performance art than a high school musical or narrative play. More importantly, students learn the art of working together – all the highs and lows of collaboration – that culminates in an original, crowd-pleasing performance.

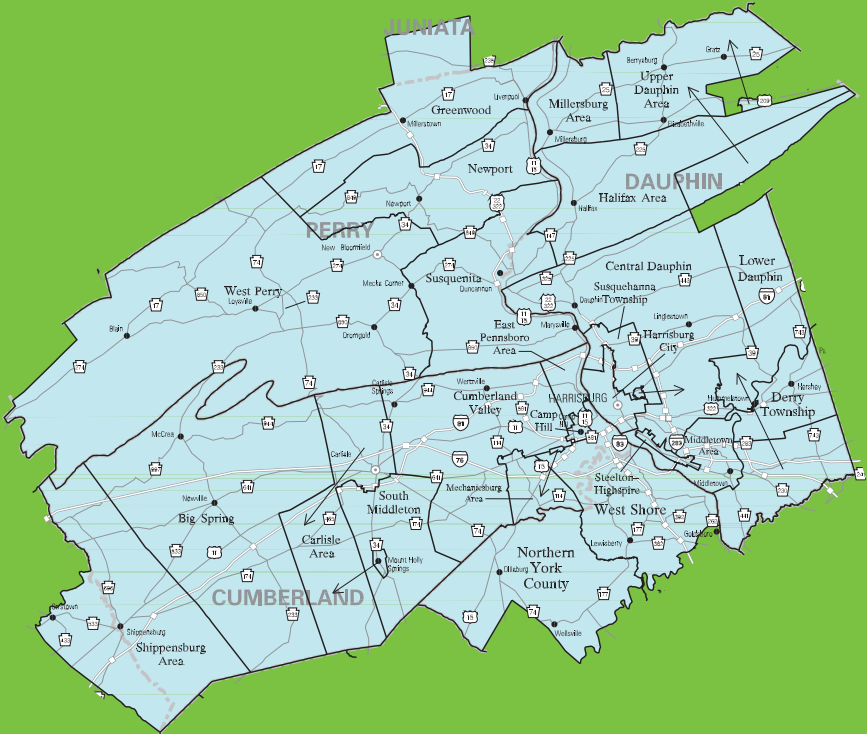
Thanks to community leaders, engaged parents, dedicated teachers and administrators and most importantly talented, passionate students, Capital Area School for the Arts Charter School will be the significant and innovative provider of multidisciplinary arts and academic education to creative students, will attract the most talented and motivated students and be a model for 21st century learning.

Audrey Sanders
Chair, Board of Directors
CRAE

David B. Skerpon
President, Board of Trustees
CASA Charter School

Timothy R. Wendling
CEO/Principal
CASA Charter School

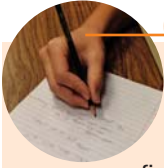




Talented youth come from all over the region to attend CASA!

Big Spring	2	Line Mountain	1
Camp Hill	4	Lower Dauphin	14
Central Dauphin	29	Mechanicburg	14
Cumberland Valley	6	Middletown	7
Dallastown	1	Northern Lebanon	3
Derry Township	5	Northern York	1
Donegal	1	Palmyra	3
East Pennsboro	5	South Middleton	6
Elizabethtown	3	Steelton-Highspire	8
Greenwood	1	Susquehanna	11
Halifax	3	Susquenita	2
Harrisburg	31	Upper Adams	1
Juniata	1	West Perry	4
Lancaster	1	West Shore	12

CASA Student Insights...

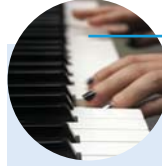


creative writing

"The Creative Writing Program assists us with finding our inner voice.

Imagination, creativity and hard work leads us to success. The publishing opportunities and screenplay writing are some of the highlights of the program."

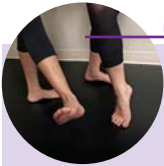
-CASA authors



music

"The Music Program at CASA is unique because of its collaborative workshops

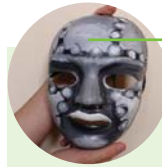
and theory lessons in preparation for a strong career in the music business. We also grasp musical concepts that enhance improvisation and spark creativity. This program distinctly follows CASA's motto "Create Yourself" because it helps you grow immensely, not only as a musician but as a person." *-CASA musicians*



dance

"The CASA Dance Program sparks the quest for knowledge of dance history,

personal self-expression and the study of dance technique. It instills us with timeless experiences that will prepare us for college and other future endeavors." *-CASA dancers*



theatre

"The Theatre Program thrives with an exceedingly creative and vibrant

atmosphere that fosters imagination, out of the box thinking, diversity, innovation and artistic expression. Everyone adds an idiosyncratic mark to the message that we are trying to convey. To us, CASA is not just a school; it's a family." *-CASA actors*



film & video

"The Film and Video Program at CASA allows us to explore our passion daily.

There is no other place where we can work with high quality video equipment, be taught the skills and techniques used to develop great films and be able to use the city of Harrisburg as our classroom. Students are able to express themselves freely while studying their passion. That kind of opportunity is priceless."

-CASA filmmakers



visual art

"The Visual Art Program at CASA provides us with a safe environment

where we can learn new techniques and hone our skills. At CASA, we are provided with opportunities that expand our repertoire, strengthen us as artists and assist us in thinking outside the box." *-CASA artists*

CASA Colleges & Universities

One of the most important goals of the CASA curriculum is to help students develop their talents and prepare for further education through coursework, portfolios and performances.

More than 90% of CASA graduates are accepted into some of the most prestigious colleges, universities and conservatories in the nation. Many graduates receive generous talent scholarships and grants to help them reach their educational and artistic goals.

Schools CASA graduates have attended since 2002

American Academy of Dramatic Arts,
New York and Los Angeles
American Musical and Dramatic Academy,
Los Angeles
American University
Arcadia University
Art Institute of Chicago
Art Institute of Pittsburgh
Berklee College of Music
Boston Conservatory
Boston University
Brigham Young University
Carnegie Mellon University
DeSales University
Drexel University
Duquesne University
Eastern University
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania
Elon University
Fashion Institute of Technology
Fordham University
Grove City College
Harrisburg Area Community College
Hartwick College
Harvard University
Hollins University
Houghton University
Juniata College
Kutztown University
Lebanon Valley College
Manhattanville College
Maryland Institute College of Art

Marymount Manhattan
Messiah College
Millersville University
Montclair State University
Moore College of Art and Design
Muhlenburg College
Musicians Institute College of
Contemporary Music
New York University, Tisch School of the
Arts/Steinhardt School
North Carolina School of the Arts
Oberlin College
Oral Roberts University
Penn State University, Main Campus/
Altoona Campus
Pennsylvania College of Art and Design
Philadelphia Art Institute
Point Park University
Pratt Institute
Rutgers University, Mason Gross School of
the Arts
Savannah School of Art and Design
Seton Hill University
Shippensburg University
Susquehanna University
Syracuse University
Temple University, Tyler School of Art/
School of Media and Communications/
Division of Theater, Film and Media Arts
University of Pittsburgh
University of St. Andrews (Scotland)
University of the Arts

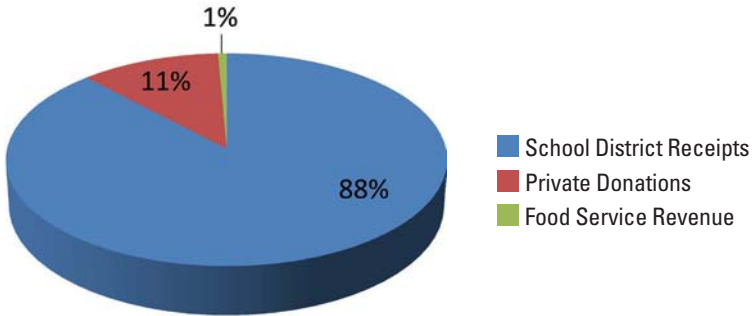
CASA Charter School

2014-2015 Approved Operating Budget

(July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015)

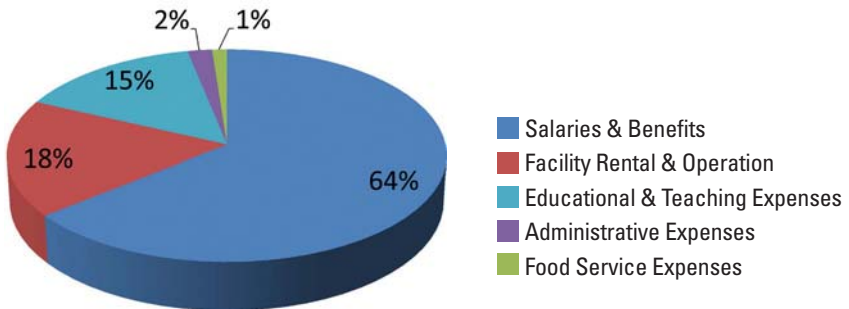
Income

School District Receipts	\$1,785,494
Private Donations.	\$229,717
Food Service Revenue	\$14,500
Total Income	\$2,029,711



Expenses

Salaries & Benefits	\$1,301,787
Facility Rental & Operation.	\$360,648
Educational & Teaching Expenses	\$302,596
Administrative Expenses	\$40,280
Food Service Expenses	\$24,400
Total Expenses.	\$2,029,711



CASA Donors

A special thanks to the donors who supported CASA Charter School during its inaugural year!

\$100,000 & Above

Alexander Grass Foundation

\$20,000 - \$99,999

William & Virginia Brody Fund
Lois Lehrman Grass Foundation

\$10,000 - \$19,999

Mid Penn Bank
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\$1,000 - \$9,999

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The donors on this page represent gifts to CASA from July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014. Every effort was made to correctly recognize all our generous donors. If there are any inaccuracies or omissions, please call the CASA Charter School office at 717.732.8450.

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Capital Area School for the Arts
Charter School

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CEO and Principal
Sue Hill
Assistant to the Principal
Lynda Hess-Moore
Administrative Assistant
Christine Baker
School Counselor
Barbara Bradigan
School Nurse
Elizabeth Gnazzo
Cafeteria Aide

CASA Faculty

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Rosemary Battista, *Dance*
T. J. Boyer, *Music*
Jessica Christ, *Mathematics*
Diana Cole, *Science*
Kimberly Frey, *Mathematics*
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Ann Stewart, *Creative Writing Guest Artist*
Lisa Weitzman, *Theatre*



Donations to support CASA Charter School may be made to Capital Region Arts and Education (CRAE) and sent to the address listed below. Capital Region Arts and Education (CRAE) is a non-profit entity created to provide consistent funding through philanthropy to the school. Your gift is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law and will help our students realize their full potential during the academic year.

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CAPITAL REGION ARTS & EDUCATION

Capital Region Arts & Education
The Foundation for
Enhancing Communities
200 North Third Street, Eighth Floor
Post Office Box 678
Harrisburg, PA 17108



Capital Area School for the Arts
Charter School

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