

# SVAPA

## SPECIALIST



# VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS



**Specialist  
Programs**

The Specialist Visual and Performing Arts (SVAPA) program is a unique program that promotes excellence across the Arts. It provides an educational journey that enriches students' learning through the development of Arts' ideas, skills, processes, creative and critical thinking. The Arts' culture offered in SVAPA is about learning based on contemporary practices of working in multiple art forms.

The SVAPA course at Mount Lawley Senior High School blends the four Art forms of Drama, Media, Music and Visual Arts. Students are able to specialize in their main Arts' interests during Year 10 and are encouraged to continue in the strong Senior School Arts Program in Years 11 and 12.

Our highly regarded program is sustained by our commanding industry links to an array of artists and companies – working closely and collaboratively with the students.

Our intent is to deliver a contemporary, innovative, playful, humanistic and holistic program that creates responsible young people.



## SPECIALIST VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAM @ MOUNT LAWLEY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

### BACKGROUND

The Specialist Program is an innovative, contemporary and industry focused course designed to nurture students as individuals. We believe in creating well rounded artists who have an awareness of self and the ability to be compassionate and passionate life-long learners.

The first students entered the program in 2001. Since the first graduating class in 2005, we have achieved a high rate of students leaving secondary education in search of an arts career in a tertiary institution or through internships.

### ALUMNI

We pride ourselves on ensuring the SVAPA course produces graduates who are creative, inspiring, flexible, well rounded and generous artists who are well prepared for today's arts industry. Our graduates have gone on to work in :

- film
- opera
- acting
- jazz
- directing
- visual arts
- television
- writing
- publications
- broadcasting
- experimental music
- arts administration
- stage management
- performance making

Many of them have achieved success and won awards in their chosen profession. Alumni connections are important to the program and we are keen to enhance the connections between current students and our graduates.

### SVAPA SCHOLARSHIPS

One student from each local primary school will be offered a scholarship toward their fees. This will be presented at the end of year primary school assembly.



### INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTS APPROACH

The program provides a broad-based arts course, that enables the students to participate in the four arts areas of Drama, Media, Music and Visual Art. Dance and Movement are offered as an extra-curricular activity.

The Arts teachers work closely with students to establish a differentiated curriculum that creates strong cross arts links, with a focus on interdisciplinary approaches.

All SVAPA projects have a cross-arts perspective, drawing in skills and knowledge from all arts areas. Extra-curricular workshops and events are often curated to support these school based projects.

### SVAPA CAMP

Year 7 & 8 SVAPA classes attend an annual camp at Point Walter. This is to allow the groups to work together and to introduce the new students into the 4Arts' flavour of the SVAPA course. The teachers and the students develop creative arts' practices and friendships.

### MUSIC CAMP

Students attend an annual camp which is comprised of rehearsals and other musical team building activities. Different ensembles are taken each year.

### EARLY MORNING ENRICHMENT CLASS

Enrichment classes allow students to extend their arts skills and practice with arts professionals across all art forms instructing the students before the school day begins. We work with a variety of professionals:

- improvisers
- singers
- dancers
- live artists
- visual artists
- puppeteers
- game makers
- musicians
- designers
- circus performers
- directors and
- philosophers

### WEEKEND ENRICHMENT CLASS

Once a term, SVAPA students attend a Saturday workshop to extend and support the program's contemporary arts focus. It is a chance for all year groups to mingle with each other as well as work across all four arts. In the past we have had Josh Hogan and Elise Reitze, Jake Steele, (Music), Rohan Harnett (Animation), Jodee Knowles and Tane Andrews (Illustration), Andy Quilty and Abdul Abdullah (Painting) present workshops

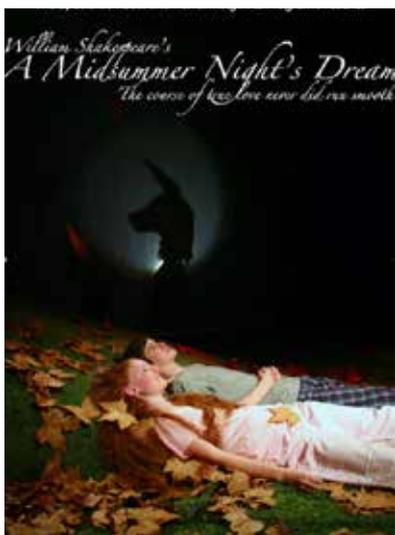
### PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

SVAPA students are privileged to work with leading theatre and dance companies as well as established and emerging artists. Events range from workshops and productions to provocations and guidance. SVAPA students have worked with Perth Institute of Contemporary Art, ECU, WAAPA, The Last Great Hunt, West Australian Youth Theatre Company, The Blue Room and Bell Shakespeare.



### SVAPA EXCURSIONS & INCURSIONS

Exposure to plays, concerts, performances, exhibitions and films are tremendously important to a well-rounded arts student. Each year we begin with the Perth Festival, then we meander through The Blue Room, Black Swan State Theatre, Yirra Yaakin, CO3, Bell Shakespeare and PICA seasons. Art exhibitions at PICA,



Art Gallery of Western Australia and Art on the Move. All four arts are covered with our annual excursion to the Awesome Festival.



#### SVAPA INTERNATIONAL TOUR

Every three years we offer an international tour to SVAPA students. Previously visiting London, Paris and Berlin exposed students to Opera in Paris, plays 'Oh What a Lovely War' in Brighton, 'The Tempest' in Stratford upon Avon. Tours of the British Film Institute, National Theatre, Monet's Garden and The Globe Theatre plus exhibitions at White Cube, Saatchi and Saatchi, The Louvre, National Portrait Gallery and the Musée d'Orsay.

#### 10 SVAPA PROJECT CLASS

All SVAPA students are encouraged to take a semester of the Project Class. The students are treated to a series of TED Style talks from leading professionals in their fields - Linguists, chemists, engineers, biologists, historians etc. Students aim to create art works in a transdisciplinary approach.

#### SENIOR SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

We offer visual and performing arts' courses in Year 11 & 12; and Certificate courses at TAFE level. These programs give students some very exciting options. Success in Senior School arises from interest, development of excellence and the joy of learning that is nurtured by the SVAPA program.

#### WACE

Mount Lawley Senior High School offers WACE courses in Drama, Music, Art and Media.

#### CERTIFICATE COURSES

Mount Lawley SHS offers a Certificate II in Creative Industries and Certificate III in Music. The courses are immensely popular with Senior School SVAPA students, who will get a chance to work with their Middle School counterparts on all their productions and exhibitions. The course offers students a chance to become more disciplined and knowledgeable in all aspects of the industry.

#### SVAPA SUCCESS

Students in SVAPA enjoy the enrichment workshops and being in classes of creative, keen peers who respond enthusiastically to the heightened expectations of their specialist teachers. SVAPA students are ready to do more and to be more involved, interested, experimental and explorative within the culture of success that is encouraged in SVAPA.

#### EVENTS

During the year a variety of events are held including drama productions, festivals, visits to theatres, camps and workshops delivered by professionals. Each year a committee is formed to run the annual Lawley Art Auction. This prestigious event features a range of professional art works that are auctioned to raise funds for the SVAPA and Music students. More information can be found at [lawleyevents.com](http://lawleyevents.com)

#### ENTRY

Entry is at Year 7 with a 3-year commitment to the program. This is subject to the regular review of satisfactory academic progress and a high standard of attitude, behaviour and effort across the curriculum.

#### SELECTION PROCESS FOR SVAPA

##### PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS

1. An A4 portfolio
2. A cover page with name, photo, address, phone number and attending primary school.
3. A hand written letter, by the student, explaining why they would like to be part of the SVAPA program.
4. Copy of the most recent school report.
5. Two to four pages of creative work: photographs of visual art, dance performance, musical experience, creative writing.

*The Portfolio is to be submitted to the Middle School Office by the due date as indicated on the Application Form.*

##### AUDITION WORKSHOP

1. Drama Workshop (group work only).
2. Art Workshop
3. Music Test

##### GENERAL INFORMATION

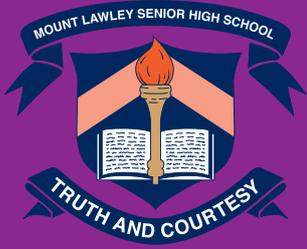
Students will be notified of the selection workshop dates and times by letter.

##### PRIMARY SCHOOL SUPPORT DOCUMENT

A 'tick box' reference (downloaded from school website) from the class teacher to be emailed to

[mountlawley.shs.svapa@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:mountlawley.shs.svapa@education.wa.edu.au)

Students will be notified of the selection workshop dates and times by letter.



### For further information contact

Mount Lawley Senior High School,  
65 Woodsome Street, Mount Lawley, Western Australia 6050  
(PH) 9471 0300 (FAX) 9271 1126  
Email: [mountlawley.shs.enquiries@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:mountlawley.shs.enquiries@education.wa.edu.au)

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Website: [www.lawley.wa.edu.au](http://www.lawley.wa.edu.au)