DA VINCI
design

School Profile 2015-2016

Da Vinci Design High School
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CEEB Code: 051216

School Opened: 2009

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"Da Vinci Schools are among the very finest I've seen."

Dr. David Brown
Former Executive Director
WASC Accrediting
Commission for Schools

DA VINCI SCHOOLS – AN OVERVIEW

Da Vinci Design and Da Vinci Science -- known collectively as Da Vinci Schools -- opened in August 2009 as independent, college-preparatory public charter high schools serving grades 9-12. Located two miles south of Los Angeles International Airport, Da Vinci Schools are in close proximity to leading aerospace and engineering corporations, design studios, and major universities.

Da Vinci Schools combine a project-based, college preparatory curriculum with a real-world "learn by doing" philosophy, early college classes (at no cost to families), industry-based seminars, a work experience program, comprehensive college counseling, partnerships with industry and educational leaders, a small and personalized school culture, and much more. The curriculum exceeds California's "a-g" university admissions requirements, and ensures that students acquire the 21st century skills and competencies needed for college and career success. Students practice and demonstrate thoughtful learning through exhibitions and digital portfolios. At the end of each semester, all students must present a Portfolio Defense to a panel of faculty and community partners in which they use their work as evidence of their learning.

Students enrolled in Da Vinci Design are preparing for college and 21st century careers in advertising, architecture, digital media, industrial design, product design, engineering, user experience design, and other jobs that call for skills in art, design, science and technology.

Students at Da Vinci Design have received awards and recognition from Ryman Arts Scholars, El Segundo Museum of Art, UCLA Riordan Scholars, UCLA Riordan Saturday Business Institute, Minds Matter, Telluride Association, and the POSSE Scholarship Foundation. For three consecutive years, Da Vinci Design has been a semi-finalist in the Vans Custom Culture Shoe Design Competition, a national contest attracting a pool of over 400 entrants per year from all 50 states.

Currently, Da Vinci Design's 513 students come from 55 different zip codes and 108 middle and high schools.

Da Vinci Design received a six year re-accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) in 2013.

Enrollment

Our student body is ethnically and socioeconomically diverse:

- 75% of the Da Vinci student body is from underrepresented groups (63% Hispanic/Latino, 15% African-American, 11% White, 4% Asian, 7% Multi-Race/Other)
- 47% of Da Vinci Design students qualify for free or reduced lunch (2015)
- About 65% of our students are first generation college bound

Da Vinci Design has graduated three classes (2013, 2014, 2015). A list of college acceptances is incorporated.

School Schedule

The Da Vinci Design school year includes two semesters of approximately 18 weeks. Each day is divided into three 100 minute periods (block schedule) and a 55 minute seminar. In addition, Da Vinci Design's math and foreign language classes (or the College Writing for most seniors) meet every day for approximately 50 minutes. The school day begins at 9am and ends at 4pm.

Faculty

- 2 Administrators
- 28 Teachers, 18 of whom have Master's degrees
- 2 College counselors, 1 school counselor (all with Master's degrees)
- Teachers receive 22 days per year (23 days for new teachers) plus 6 1/2 hours per week for ongoing professional development and collaborative planning.

Community Partners

The following is a partial list of community organizations that offer students and faculty access to expert knowledge, industry-specific curriculum, internships, mentoring, job shadows and more.

72andSunny
Aerospace Corp.
Antioch University L.A.
Art Center College of Design
Belkin International
Boeing Co.
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
Chevron
Deutsch Inc.
DIRECT TV
El Camino College
Gensler
Industrial Designers Society of America
Karten Design
Loyola Marymount University
Mattel
Northrop Grumman
Otis College of Art & Design
Raytheon
Riordan Scholars
SpaceX
UCLA/UCLA Extension
USC
Vistamar School
West Los Angeles College

Seminars offered (partial list)

Toy and Product Design
Game Theory
Vehicle Design
Sustainable Design & Green Living
Sketching & Illustration
Woodshop & Design Experiments
3-D Design
Web Design
Installation Art
Comic Book Illustration
Journalism & Media Literacy
Film & Documentary
The Flow-Spoken Word
Anime & Manga

Accreditation/Membership

Western Association of Schools and Colleges
National Association for College Admission Counseling
California Charter Schools Association
Coalition of Essential Schools
California Scholarship Federation
National Honor Society

HONORS, AP AND EARLY COLLEGE COURSES

Da Vinci Design offers an Honors Program that provides highly motivated students with the opportunity to work closely with teachers and other motivated students in academically rigorous classes. The Honors program offers a differentiated curriculum which includes advanced levels of critical thinking, analysis and research. Honors classes are offered in select grade 10-12 courses.

Da Vinci Design has a strong Early College Program with dual enrollment college courses taught by Da Vinci teachers certified as adjunct professors through Antioch University Los Angeles, CA. Currently, the following Early College courses are offered at Da Vinci Design: History 101, History 102, and Art History 101.

Students may enroll in college classes at local community colleges (El Camino College, Southwest College, Santa Monica College) while enrolled in high school. Da Vinci does not record these classes on our high school transcripts.

DA VINCI DESIGN GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

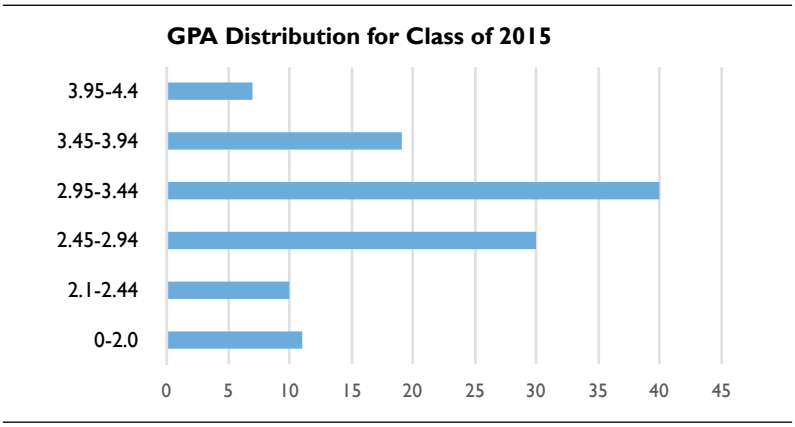
English - 4 years required
Science - 3 years required
Mathematics - 3 years required
History/Social Science - 3 years required
Foreign Language - 2 years required
Art - 1 years required

GPA AND GRADING SYSTEM

Grading Scale

A+ = 4	B+ = 3.333	C+ = 2.333	F = 0
A = 4	B = 3.0	C = 2.0	
A- = 3.667	B- = 2.667	C- = 1.667	

A C- is our lowest passing grade. If a student fails a class, s/he may recover the credit via summer school and it will appear on their transcript. The cumulative GPA is based on all course work completed between 9th through 12th grades. One additional point is awarded to classes designated as honors. Da Vinci Design does not rank its students.



Academic Distinctions

Da Vinci Design received membership in the California Scholarship Federation in the winter of 2013 and Da Vinci students were eligible to become members in the fall semester of 2014. A new chapter of the National Honor Society was inducted in spring of 2014. Students are eligible to become members based on their grade point average and commitment to community service.

Da Vinci Design has an academic honor roll system as distinguished by:
Superior Achievement – GPA of 4.0 or above
Principal's List – GPA of 3.5-3.9
Honor Roll – GPA of 3.0-3.49

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COUNSELING PHILOSOPHY

Da Vinci Schools is committed to a holistic approach to counseling. With a low student/college counselor ratio (average of 65:1 per grade level), we are able to personalize the counseling experience and provide a variety of counseling tools including Naviance Family Connection, senior year college prep/college writing class, yearly local college visits for each grade level, and student/parent workshops on a variety of college readiness topics. Students have numerous opportunities to attend college presentations by admissions representatives beginning in their junior year of high school.

PARTNERSHIPS

At Da Vinci, partnerships are a distinguishing feature in our quest to be on the frontline of educational innovationwith a a "real-world" curriculum. Professors from Art Center College of Design in Pasadena have taught college-level seminars. on campus for the past three years, including: Design 360, Illustration, Industrial Design, and Photography. Karten Design, an innovative product design firm, recently teamed up with Da Vinci teachers and students to develop and construct working headphones to promote a social justice issue or cause. Students then presented their work at the Los Angeles Architecture and Design Museum (also known as the A+D Museum) in front of artists, college and design industry professionals.

ACTIVITIES (partial list)

Archery, Ambassadors Club, Leadership, National Honors Society, California Scholarship Federation, Jewish Culture Club, Gay-Straight Alliance, Junior Committee, Senior Committee, Multi-Cultural Club, Classic Car Club, Operation Salma, Spanish Club.

WORK EXPERIENCE AND INTERNSHIPS

Da Vinci juniors and seniors have the opportunity to participate in the Work Experience Program, where they spend a semester working after school at a local business two or more days per week (unpaid). Over 35 businesses, corporations and non-profits participate in this program, including: Belkin, Northrop Grumman, Mattel, Boeing, SpaceX, Hilton Hotels, Best Buy, Barnes and Noble, Toyota Sports Center, Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic Clinic, and many more. Students receive on-the-job training and work experience in various corporate functions (IT, Marketing, HR, Purchasing, etc.).

COLLEGE

Da Vinci Design students are college-ready with 98% of graduates having completed the necessary A-G coursework for admission to a 4-year university. Seventy five percent (75%) of the Class of 2015 graduates were accepted to 4-year universities.

Da Vinci graduates have been accepted into the following colleges and universities:

*Bold denotes students attending

Academy of Art University
The University of Akron
Alabama A&M University
Alaska Pacific University
Allegheny College
American University
Antelope Valley College
Arcadia University
Arizona State University
The University of Arizona
Art Center College of Design
Azusa Pacific University
Babson College
Barnard College
Benedict College
Bennington College
Berklee College of Music
Bethany Lutheran College
Biola University
Boston College
Boston University
Bowling Green State University
Bradley University
University of Bridgeport
Brown University
Bryant University
Bucknell University
Cabrillo College
California Baptist University
California Lutheran University
California Polytechnic, Pomona
California Polytechnic, San Luis Obispo
California State University - Bakersfield
California State University - Channel Islands
California State University – Chico
California State University - Dominguez Hills
California State University - East Bay
California State University - Fresno
California State University – Fullerton
California State University - Long Beach
California State University - Los Angeles
California State University - Monterey Bay
California State University – Northridge
California State University - Sacramento
California State University - San Bernardino
California State University - San Marcos
California State University - Stanislaus
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Merced
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of California, Santa Cruz
Canisius College
Central Washington University
Cerritos College
Chapman University
Clark University
Colby-Sawyer College
University of Colorado at Boulder
University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
University of Colorado at Denver
Columbia College Chicago
Concordia University - Irvine
Dartmouth College
Denison University
DePaul University
Dickinson College
Dillard University
Dominican University of California
Doncaster College
Drew University

COLLEGE cont.

*Bold denotes students attending

Da Vinci graduates have been accepted into the following colleges and universities:

Drexel University
Earlham College
Eastern Oregon University
El Camino College
Elon University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Emerson College
Emmanuel College
Fairfield University
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Fashion Institute of Technology
The University of Findlay
Fisk University
Fordham University
The George Washington University
Gonzaga University
Goucher College
Grand Canyon University
Hampshire College
Hampton University
University of Hartford
Hartwick College
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Hawaii Pacific University
Hobart William Smith College
Hofstra University
Howard University
Humboldt State University
Imperial Valley College
Indiana University Bloomington
Iowa State University
Ithaca College
James Madison University
Johnson & Wales University (Denver)
Johnson & Wales University (Providence)
Juniata College
Kalamazoo College
The King's College
University of La Verne
Langston University
Lake Forest College
Lawrence University
Lewis & Clark College
LIM College
Lincoln University
London Metropolitan University
Long Beach City College
Los Angeles Harbor College
Los Angeles Southwest College
Los Angeles Trade-Technical College
Louisiana State University
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University Chicago
Manhattanville College
Marinello Schools of Beauty
Marymount California University
Marymount Manhattan
The University of Memphis
Miami University, Oxford
University of Miami
Michigan State University
Miles College
Mills College
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Mount Holyoke College
Mount St. Mary's College (Chalon)
Mount St. Mary's College (Doheny)
Mt. San Antonio College
Nebraska Wesleyan University
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
University of Nevada, Reno
University of New Haven
University of New Mexico
New York University
Northern Arizona University
University of New Haven
Notre Dame de Namur University
Occidental College
Ohio University
Oregon College of Art & Craft
Oregon State University
University of Oregon
Otis College of Art and Design
Pace University-New York
Pacific Lutheran
Pacific Northwest College of Art
Pacific University
University of the Pacific
The Paul Mitchell School - San Diego
Pennsylvania State University - World Campus
Pennsylvania State University, Beaver
Pennsylvania State University, University Park
Pepperdine University
Philadelphia University
Pierce College
University of Pittsburgh
Pitzer College
Pomona College
Portland State University
Pratt University
University of Puget Sound
Purchase College State University of New York
University of Redlands
Reed College
University of Richmond
Ringling College of Art and Design
University of Rochester
Rochester Institute of Technology
University of Rochester
Rocky Mountain College
Roger Williams University
Sacramento City College
Saint Joseph's University
San Bernardino Valley College
San Diego Christian College
San Diego State University
San Francisco State University
University of San Francisco
San Jose State University
Santa Clara University
Santa Monica College
Sarah Lawrence College
Seattle Pacific
Skidmore College
Smith College
Sonoma State University
Southampton Solent University
Southeastern Louisiana University
University of Southern California
Southern Oregon University
Southwestern University
St. John's University - Queens Campus
St. Lawrence University
Stonehill College
Suffolk University
SUNY College at Cobleskill
SUNY College at Potsdam
Syracuse University
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Texas A&M University
Texas Christian University
Tulane University
Tuskegee University
Union College
Virginia Union University
Washington State University
Washington State University Vancouver
University of Washington
Wellesley College
Wells College
West Los Angeles College
Western Washington University
Whittier College
University of Wisconsin Madison
University of Wisconsin Stevens Point
Woodbury University
Xavier University of Louisiana
Yale University