



CLARK MONTESSORI SCHOOL

2015-2016 High School Profile

SCHOOL CODE : 360-958

WEBPAGE: <http://clark.cps-k12.org/>

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THE SCHOOL

Clark Montessori, the first public Montessori high school in the nation, graduated its first class of 22 students in the spring of 2001. Students are admitted on a first come, first serve basis from the public and private Montessori elementary schools in the area. Clark has been identified by the Center for School Change as one of 22 *Smaller, Safer, Saner, Successful Schools* in both its 2001 and 2007 reports. Clark was selected as one of three finalists among public high schools in the United States in the President's 2010 Race to the Top competition.

VISION

Montessori's essential priorities involve creating an environment, which enhances the adolescent's ability to: find one's place in society; understand the connection between finding one's place in society and the nobility of all types of work; experience and learn the lessons of living in community; believe in the dignity of humans and that the world is a place of hope and progression of the human spirit.

MISSION

To fulfill this vision, our school seeks the highest and most complete academic environment for each student and to form a human community that nurtures an atmosphere of caring and sets a thoughtful social climate. We strive to be a community of adults and teenagers who respect each other's deepest personal and human qualities.

GOALS

Through the Montessori Philosophy, we have come to have several goals:

LEARNING	We ask and expect commitment to learning in the broadest sense of the word.
COMMUNITY	We ask and expect commitment to the fostering and nurturing of relationships that builds community.
HARD WORK	We ask and expect commitment to the effort and willingness to meet difficult challenges, both personal and academic.
RESPECT	We ask and expect commitment to manners that show our respect and caring for others.
PEACE	We ask and expect commitment to building a community that values the complex global and personal aspects of peace.

COMMUNITY

The student population is representative of the socioeconomic and racial mix within the Greater Cincinnati area.

EDUCATION

Students learn to manage long-term projects including an intensive year-long research project in senior year. Students are coached in leadership skills such as group development, decision-making models, and conflict resolution. Students and teachers engage in an alternative assessment of the student's knowledge, such as self-evaluation of work based on clearly defined objectives, presentations, and cumulative portfolios. Clark's environment clearly acknowledges diversity and the adolescent need for greater autonomy. In this setting students succeed in learning and decision-making situations that minimize rote learning and encourage independence. This approach cultivates student ownership in his or her education. Clark's well-designed academic program challenges students to work responsibly and perform well on standardized tests.

ACCREDITATION

Ohio Department of Education and American Montessori Society Member

FACULTY

All teachers are certified by the state of Ohio, and depending on the specific position, have earned Montessori Certification or Montessori coursework as required by the school. There are 15 men and 16 women on the high school faculty and 80% have a master's degree or beyond.

ENROLLMENT The student population is representative of the socioeconomic and racial mix within the Greater Cincinnati area.

Clark currently has 712 students enrolled in grades 7-12. The high school population is 431 students of which 42% are white, 46% black and 12% a combination of Asian, Hispanic, and multi-racial. Typically, in each class 30-40% of the graduates are first generation in their families to attend college. In this year's class, 44% of the senior class is first generation.

Class of 2016 73
Class of 2017 116

Class of 2018 105
Class of 2019 137

THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The school year is comprised of two semesters, each lasting 18 weeks. The school day begins at 7:30 A.M. and ends at 2:30 P.M. Students attend seven periods a day which meet three times per week, and beginning in 2006-07, we began a block schedule two days a week. On block days, half of a student's schedule is covered each day, extending class periods from 50 minutes to 105 minutes.

Clark students need a minimum of 24 credits for graduation. Teachers clearly communicate objectives to students to more actively engage them in taking responsibility to achieve the grades they choose to receive in each class.

GRADING SYSTEM

A traditional (A, B, C, D, F) four point grade system is used.

A 90 - 100 B 80 - 89 C 70 - 79 D 60 - 69 F 0 - 59

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

All courses are averaged for GPA. Students are not ranked because the class has fewer than 100 students. Both the weighted and unweighted GPA are listed on the transcript and are cumulative from the first semester of ninth grade. The GPA weighting for the current class of 2014 is as follows:

1.0 for Academic	A=4.0	B=3.0	C=2.0	D=1.0	F=0
1.25 for AA (Honors)	A=5.0	B=3.75	C=2.5	D=1.25	F=0
1.5 for AP Courses, College Credit Plus/Dual Enrollment	A=6.0	B=4.5	C=3.0	D=1.5	F=0

COMMUNITY SERVICE

200 hours (50 hours per year) of service, preferably with a social service agency outside regular school hours is required.

INTERSESSION COURSES

Clark student must complete eight 2-week intensive field study courses or intersessions, one in the fall and one in the spring of each year. Each intersession course includes rigorous academic requirements paired with hands-on learning experiences, community service, and often travel. Students receive .5 credits for each intersession, and passing all eight is a graduation requirement. The fall intersessions are organized by grade level, and students have a choice of intersession courses for spring. The required grade level fall intersessions are: Freshman Orientation (9th grade), Community Service (10th), Post-Secondary/College Prep & Tour (11th), and Job Shadow (12th). Spring intersession courses range from marine biology to early American literature to Appalachian culture and hiking. More on spring intersession below.

SPRING INTERSESSION COURSES All students are required to enroll in and pass a Spring Intersession course each year. Students choose a course and receive .50 credit. The courses appear on the transcript in 2nd semester as *SPRING INTERSESSION*. The courses below are a sampling of current and past course offerings.

Underground Railroad: Cincinnati/N.Kentucky	Needlecraft Art	France: Paris in Depth	Trail Blazing	Sign Language
Simple Gifts: Living a Simplified Life	Caving and Climbing	Creative Writing/Poetry	Genealogy	Cincinnati History
National Treasures: Washington, D.C.	Media Bridges: Film	Keep Cincinnati Beautiful	Vegan	Space Camp
Explore the Dominican Republic	Habitat for Humanity	Roller Coaster Physics	Basic Astronomy	Diversity: Mexico
Southwest Ecology & the Culture of the Hopi	Coming to America	Intro to Engineering	Batik and Clay	Forensics
From Earth to Table: Scratch Cooking & Community	Discovering Morocco	New Orleans: All That Jazz	Meditation	Ohio Islands
City Structure: Chicago/Cincinnati Architecture	Diversity: New York	Iron Person Training	Art: Sculpture	El Salvador
Computer Graphics/Black & White Photography	The Red River Gorge	Vermont/Bread of Life	Beginning Golf	Art in New York
Exploring the Big Island: Hawaii	Creativity Boot Camp	Appalachian Trail Backpacking	Woodworking	Sports Statistics
Woman/Man Versus Wild: How to Navigate without GPS	Kiln Formed Glass	Peace & Inclusion Through Music	Broadcast News	Drama Workshop
Costa Rica: The Tropical Rainforest in Peril	Civil Rights March Tour	CD Recording & Production	Art: Mosaics	Zoology
Urban Gardening/Sustainable Planet	Cincinnati Sports History	New England Literary Tour	Art History	Silk Painting
From Earth to Table: Scratch Cooking & Community	Costa Rica: Biodiversity	Outdoor Adventures	Ethnic Cooking	Explore Kentucky
City Structure: Chicago/Cincinnati Architecture	Fitness & Health	Intro to Engineering	Voices of Art	Sports Statistics
Clark Follies: A Musical Production	France & Spain	Film Critique and Production	Acting	Finance
It's a Zoo Out There: Organisms	Computer Literacy	Exploring Mind and Body	Ghost Hunters	Eco Living
On Your Own: An Independence Bootcamp	Broadcast News	On on the Move	Eco Design	Food/Sustainability
Who Do You Think You Are? Exploring Your Roots	Creating Vegan Meals	Fashion: Care What You Wear	Cooking Love	All That Jazz

SENIOR PROJECT

Senior Project is a yearlong course for seniors. Students must pass Senior Project in order to graduate from Clark. They complete research on a topic and write the Senior Paper (typically 15-20 pages typed) by the end of the first semester of senior year. They spend the third quarter editing the paper and the first part of the fourth quarter formally defending the project before Clark teachers and parent-student community. Previous Senior Products include portfolios of photographs, paintings, sculpture, dance performance, and scientific experiments. During Senior Project students become proficient in using a college library for research, organizing research information, evaluating different sources for accuracy and bias, developing a formal research paper to support a single thesis, incorporating non-written presentation aids into a research paper, and making an oral defense of one's research. The courses *Theory of Knowledge AA* and *Extended Essay AA* combine for the senior project.

**CORE COURSE CURRICULUM
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

CREDITS

MATHEMATICS*	4 credits or 4 years
SCIENCE	4 credits or 4 years
SOCIAL STUDIES	4 credits or 4 years
ENGLISH	4 credits or 4 years
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	2 credits or 2 years
FINE ARTS	1 credit or 1 year
HEALTH	½ credit or 1 sem.
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	½ credit or 1 year
INTERSESSION ELECTIVES	4 credits or 4 years
160 COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS	
*one-credit course required each year in grades 9 through 12 even if math credits are earned in 7 th and/or 8 th grade	

**CLARK MONTESSORI HIGH SCHOOL
2015 - 2016 CURRICULUM**

All core courses are honors level, denoted by "AA" on transcript. Below, "DY/CCP" after a course denotes year-long College Credit Plus courses (dual enrollment credit at Ohio public universities) beginning 2014-15.

For some courses below, the actual course content is in parentheses, but the course is listed below as it appears on the transcript.

We have a required Core Course Curriculum. A course with an asterisk before the name and/or bolded in blue designates core courses required for a diploma. Any course outside the required core course curriculum that is **underlined and bolded in black** was offered this year. The 3rd and/or 4th year of required math may vary by student depending on teacher recommendation. However, even if a student earns math credits in 7th and/or 8th grades, a math course is still required all four years of high school.

ENGLISH – 4 CREDITS OR 8 SEMESTERS REQUIRED

*English AA - 9, 10, 11, 12 - integrated with Social Studies for a blocked schedule Humanities course to create greater depth in the curriculum.

Literary analysis and writing skills are emphasized. Also:

<u>Speech</u>	<u>Journalism Production (Yearbook)</u>
<u>AP Language & Composition</u>	<u>Film Tech & Analysis (Film Production)</u>

MATHEMATICS – 4 CREDITS OR 8 SEMESTERS REQUIRED IN 9-12 The 3rd and/or 4th year of required math can vary and could be Precalculus AA, Functions and Statistics, AP Calculus AB, AP Statistics, or the College Credit Plus course College Algebra/Trigonometry DY. Students must take a math course each year of high school.

Note: Beginning in 2013-14, our 8th graders were required to take Algebra I, not an honors level course. Students receive credit for the math courses in 7th and 8th grade, but the grade is not calculated in the GPA. If a student fails 8th grade Algebra I, they retake the course as Algebra I AA (Honors) in 9th grade.

*Algebra 1 AA	<u>College Algebra/Trigonometry DY/CCP</u>	<u>Functions and Statistics</u>	Geometry in Art
*Geometry AA	<u>AP Calculus AB</u>	<u>Computer Literacy (Robotics)</u>	Precalculus AA
*Algebra 2 AA	<u>AP Statistics</u>	<u>Intro to Computer Programming</u>	

SCIENCE – 4 CREDITS OR 8 SEMESTERS REQUIRED

*Physical Science AA	<u>Anatomy & Physiology</u>	<u>Forensics</u>	
*Biology AA	<u>Zoology</u>	Environmental Science: Man/Env	
*Chemistry AA	<u>General Chemistry/Lab 1, 2 DY</u>	(INTRO CMP PR on transcript)	
*Physics			

SOCIAL STUDIES – 4 CREDITS OR 8 SEMESTERS REQUIRED

*Modern History AA	*Economics AA	<u>AP Psychology</u>	Sociology
*American History AA or AP U.S. History	*Extended Essay AA **	<u>Business Law</u>	
*American Government AA	*Theory of Knowledge AA **	<u>Current Events</u>	

** Extended Essay AA and Theory of Knowledge AA combine for the Senior Project curriculum.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE – *2 CREDITS OR A MINIMUM OF 4 SEMESTERS REQUIRED

French I, II, III, IV Spanish I, II, III, IV

FINE ARTS – *1 CREDIT OR A MINIMUM OF 2 SEMESTERS REQUIRED

<u>Sculpture</u>	<u>Drawing/Painting 1, 2</u>	<u>Jazz Ensemble</u>	<u>Percussion Survey</u> (Drumline)
<u>Ceramics 1, 2</u>	<u>ArtSurvey</u> (collaborative art)	<u>Montessori:Peace/Community</u>	<u>Concert Band</u>
<u>Photography</u>	<u>Art X</u> (intro appreciation)	(Steel Band II, III, IV,V beginning in 2011-12)	<u>Beg Band</u>
Print Making 1,2	<u>Visual Arts: Independent Study 1</u>		<u>Int. Band</u>

Legend:

AA = Honors Level Courses

DY/CCP = College Credit Plus course (Dual Enrollment Ohio public universities)

Underlined bolded course names = courses available for optioning 2015-16

*Courses with a single asterisk before the course name and/or bolded in blue = core courses required for a diploma. Note that for math, the 3rd and/or 4th year of required math may vary as mentioned above in the Mathematics section.

** The two courses with a double asterisk after the course name (Extended Essay AA and Theory of Knowledge AA), combine for senior project.

COLLEGE TEST SCORES

CLASS OF 2015 (80 STUDENTS)

Average scores: **SAT** (Critical Reading) 540 **SAT** (Math) 553 **SAT** (Total Mean) 1113
ACT (75th percentile) 26 **ACT** (25th percentile) 18 **ACT** (Median) 23
AP Results for 2005-2014 (2004-2005 was pilot year)

273 students completed 320 exams with 58% receiving a score of 3 or higher

2001, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2011, 2012 (5), 2013, 2014

2003

2009, 2011, 2014

2013

2002, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013

NATIONAL MERIT COMMENDED STUDENTS

NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT SEMIFINALIST

NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT OUTSTANDING PARTICIPANT

NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT FINALIST

NATIONAL MERIT FINALISTS

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES FOR THE CLASSES 2001-2015

Agnes Scott College	Emory & Henry College	Northwestern University	University of Arizona
Alabama A & M University	Eugene Lang College, New School University	Notre Dame College	University of California, Berkeley
Alabama State University	Fashion Institute of Technology	Oberlin College	University of California Davis
Allegheny College	Fayetteville State University	Oglethorpe University	University of California Los Angeles
American University	Fisk University	Ohio Northern University	University of California Santa Barbara
Anderson University	Flagler College	Ohio State University	University of California Santa Cruz
Antioch University	Florida A&M University	Ohio State University, College of Engineering	University of Charleston
Appalachian State University	Florida Southern College	Ohio University	University of Chicago
Arcadia University	Florida State University	Ohio Wesleyan University	University of Cincinnati
Auburn University	Fordham University	Otterbein College	Univ. of Cincinnati Business Scholars Prog.
Augsburg College	Freiburg Hochschule für Music	Pace University	University of Dayton
Aurora University	Georgetown College	Pennsylvania State University	University of Delaware
Baldwin-Wallace College	George Washington University	Pepperdine University	University of Denver
Baldwin-Wallace College, Conserv. of Music	Georgia Institute of Technology	Philadelphia University	University of the District of Columbia
Ball State University	Goucher College	Philander Smith College	University of Evansville
Bard College	Grambling State University	Pitzer College	University of Findlay
Barry University	Green Mountain College	Point Park College, Cons..of Performing Arts	University of Florida
Bellarmine University	Grinnell College	Pratt Institute	University of Georgia
Belmont University	Guilford College	Prescott College	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champagne
Beloit College	Hampshire College	Purdue University	University of Kansas
Benedict College	Hampton University	Radford University	University of Kentucky
Bennett College	Hanover College	Randolph-Macon College	University of Louisville
Berea College	Harris Stowe State University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Maryland
Birmingham-Southern College	Heidelberg University	Rhode Island School of Design	University of Miami
Bluffton University	Hiram College	Rhodes College	University of Michigan
Boston University	Hofstra College	Roanoke College	University of Missouri, Columbia
Bowling Green State University	Hope College	Robert Morris University	University of Montana Davidson Honors Coll.
Brown University	Howard University	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of Nevada: Las Vegas
Bryn Mawr College	Illinois College	Rockhurst University	University of New Orleans
Butler University	Illinois Institute of Technology	Rollins College	University of North Carolina Asheville
Calvin College	Illinois Wesleyan University	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology	University of North Carolina Chapel Hill
Canisius College	Indiana University Bloomington	Roosevelt University	University of North Carolina Charlotte
Capital University	Iona College	Saint Louis University	University of North Texas
Carleton College	Iowan Central University	Saint Mary's College	University of Oklahoma
Carnegie Mellon University	Ithaca College	Saint Xavier University	University of Oregon
Case Western Reserve University	Jackson State University	Salem College	University of Pennsylvania
Cedarville University	John Carroll University	Sarah Lawrence College	University of Puget Sound
Centre College	Johnson & Wales University	Savannah College of Art and Design	University of Richmond
Chatham University	Johnson C. Smith University	Savannah State University	Univ. of Rochester, Eastman School of Music
Chicago State University	Juniata College	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	University of South Carolina Honors
Cincinnati Christian University	Kalamazoo College	School of the Museum of Fine Arts Boston	University of South Florida
City College of New York	Kent State University	Scripps College	University of St. Andrews
CUNY – Brooklyn	Kentucky State University	Sewanee, The University of the South	University of Tampa
CUNY – Hunter College	Kenyon College	Shawnee State University	University of Tennessee
Clark University	Knox College	Skidmore College	University of Toledo
Clark Atlanta University	Lake Erie College	Smith College	University of the Arts
Clarkson University	Lake Forest College	South Carolina State University	University of the Cumberlands
Clemson University	Lakeland Community College	Southern Illinois University	University of Vermont
Cleveland Institute of Art	La Salle University	Southern University A&M	University of Virginia
Cleveland Institute of Music	Lawrence University	Southwestern University	University of Washington
Cleveland State University	Lewis & Clark College	Spelman College	University of West Virginia
Coastal Carolina University	Lincoln Memorial University	Spring Arbor University	University of Wisconsin
Colby-Sawyer College	Loyola College Maryland	St. John's University	Urbana University
College of the Atlantic	Loyola University Chicago	St. Lawrence University	Utruline College
College of Charleston	Loyola University New Orleans	St. Olaf College	Valparaiso University
College of William and Mary	Macalester College	Stanford University	Vanderbilt University
College of Wooster	Marietta College	SUNY – College of Env Science and Forestry	Villanova University
College for Creative Studies	Marion College	Syracuse University	Warren Wilson College
Colorado College	Marquette University	Taylor University	Washington State University
Columbia College Chicago	Marshall University	Temple University	Washington University in St. Louis
Columbus College of Art & Design	Mary Baldwin College	Tennessee State University	Webster University
Cornell College	McGill University	The American Musical and Dramatic	Wellesley College
Cornell University	McDaniel College	Academy, New York	Western Kentucky University
Cumberland University	Meredith College	The College of Santa Fe	West Virginia Univ Institute of Technology
Curry College	Miami University, Oxford	The College of Wooster	West Virginia Wesleyan University
Dartmouth College	Michigan State University	The School of Advertising Art	Western Michigan
Defiance College	Middlebury College	Thiel College	Wheaton College
Denison University	Millikin University	Thomas More College	Wheeling Jesuit University
DePaul University	Mount Holyoke College	Tiffin University	Wilberforce University
DePauw University	Mount St. Joseph University	Tougaloo College	Williams College
Drew University	Muskingum College	Transylvania University	William Peace University
Drexel University	New England College	Trine University	Wilmington College
Drury University	New England Conservatory of Music	Trinity Washington University	Winston-Salem University
Duke University	North Carolina A&T University	Tulane University	Winthrop University
Earlham College	North Carolina Central University	Tusculum College	Wittenberg University
Eastern Kentucky University	North Park University	Tuskegee University	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Eastern Michigan University	Northern Kentucky University	Union College	Wright State University
Eckerd College	Northeastern University	University of Akron	Xavier University
Elon University	Northland College	University of Alabama at Birmingham	Youngstown State University

CLARK GRADUATED 100 % OF THE SENIORS IN 2015

SINCE CLARK'S FIRST GRADUATING CLASS OF 2001, 93 % OF THE GRADUATES HAVE CHOSEN TO

ATTEND A POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

