

# SRAA Highlights

- National and State winner of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Schools of Distinction in Arts Education Award

- Nationally Distinguished Title One School

- Sixty-Three years of service to the community

- Received over \$200,000 in grants

- Forty-eight year Accreditation

- Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) Site

- Full-time 60 minute Art, Dance, Music, and Theatre standards-based classes

- Two National Board Certified Teachers

- Active Student Council and Jr. Beta Club

- After-School Arts and Archery Programs

- 5 Artists-in-Residencies each year

- West Columbia Police Department SRO On-Site

- Internship Sites for Columbia College and the University of South Carolina

- Multiple business and community partnerships

- 2018-2019 Superior Rating at State Theatre Arts Festival

- Archery team has made it to State 2 years running



## About our School

We have served West Columbia since 1955. Saluda River Academy for the Arts was established as a fully arts integrated and partial magnet school in 1999. We are a public school that offers educational excellence through innovative programs in the arts, academics, technology and physical development.

The arts focus at SRAA provides extensive opportunities for all students to learn through creative, engaging, and challenging instructional approaches, and to showcase their own creativity through the arts.



There are many opportunities for our school community, students, parents, faculty, and friends to work in unison as we strive towards our mission. You are

invited to partner with us in our quest! High expectations, coupled with hard work, enable us to work together to ensure our children achieve at great heights.

During the current school year, our faculty has participated in world class professional development in the area of reading workshop, conferring, and goal setting with Kate Bishop, who trained and serves with Lucy Calkins and Jennifer Serravallo.

## School Summary Report 2020-2021

### Saluda River Academy for the Arts

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West Columbia, SC 29169**

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**Mr. Jim LeBlanc, Principal**

**Ms. Laura Clark, Assistant Principal**

**Mr. Cameron Beeler, School Counselor**

*A John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts  
National Schools of Distinction in Arts Education*

**Award Recipient**



**Mission Statement ( What We Do)**

The mission of Saluda River Academy for the Arts is to inspire, empower, and advance every student to meet high academic standards, lead healthy, ethical lives, and be responsible and innovative global citizens.

**Vision Statement (Where We Want to Be)**

Saluda River Academy for the Arts will prepare all students for the world of the future by giving them a broad spectrum of opportunities to become college and career ready. All will be productive and responsible members of society, capable of competing in the global economy and motivated to pursue lifelong learning.

**Belief Statements (What Guides Us)**

- We believe high expectations inspire high performance.
- We believe, in order to advance every student, each staff member must contribute to the community of learning by doing whatever is necessary to ensure the welfare of the whole child (academic, social, physical, emotional).
- We believe learning in a healthy, safe, positive, nurturing environment where students are actively engaged in learning is our priority.
- We believe each of us is unique and we can learn from each other; therefore, diversity must be embraced and celebrated.
- We believe supported partnerships must be formed with all stakeholders (faculty, staff, parents, students, and the community) for optimal learning to occur and each partner shares in the responsibility for student success.
- We believe if we are to enable students to become self-confident and self-directed life-long learners, we must strive for continuous improvement and seek out strategies that will ensure achievement.
- We believe literacy is an essential life skill, and reading proficiency by third grade is critical for the academic success of all students.
- We believe a well-rounded education enables students to lead productive, fulfilling, creative, and culturally rich lives. Students need to appreciate and be able to express themselves through the arts.

The **Arts Education Mission** of Saluda River Academy for the Arts is to advance every student through quality arts education that develops caring, productive, lifelong learners.

South Carolina’s Education Accountability Act requires the administration of standardized achievement tests in the areas of English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. South Carolina used SC Ready and the Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS) to meet the mandate of the law. SC Ready was used to test English-Language Arts and Math. PASS was used to test Science and Social Studies.



The Following Tables show Saluda River Academy for the Arts’ 2020 achievement in comparison to other Lexington School District 2 elementary schools, as well as, other schools in South Carolina.

**SC Ready English      % Meets/Exceeds**

**Lexington 2                      SRAA**

35.10 %                              39.60 %

**SC Ready Math                  % Meets/Exceeds**

**Lexington 2                      SRAA**

41.5 %                                46.4%

**PASS Science                    % Meets/Exceeds**

**Lexington 2                      SRAA**

42.3 %                                38.8 %

**PASS Social Studies            % Meets/Exceeds**

**Lexington 2                      SRAA**

65.0 %                                72.5 %

Four pillars that make SRAA an amazing arts school include:

60 minute standards-based Art, Dance, Music, and



Theatre classes, after school arts opportunities, artists-in-residencies, and arts integration. The arts integration program includes regularly scheduled arts integration classes in the core academic subjects. The fine arts specialists tailor the classes to each subject and teach S.C. College and Career Readiness Standards through Art, Music, Theatre, and Dance.

Highlights

- Newly renovated classrooms and stage!!
- ABC (Arts in Basic Curriculum) Site School
- Recipient of numerous Arts funding grants
- Recognition for excellence in the arts by state arts organizations
- Performances at many community and state functions

