

Seals – Fine & Performing Arts Department (FPA)

The Newton North Fine & Performing Arts Department offers 4 Seals:

1. Seal in recognition of Excellence in Art
2. Seal in recognition of Excellence in Music
3. Seal in recognition of Excellence in Theatre
4. Seal in recognition of Interdisciplinary Excellence in Fine & Performing Arts

A student receiving a Seal within Fine & Performing Arts must demonstrate and reflect upon their experience within the following categories [the 5 Experiences]:

** See below for explanations of the 5 Experiences*

1. Excellence in the Discipline
2. Significant Growth Over Time
3. Commitment to Personal Study
4. Commitment to Arts Citizenship
5. Commitment to the North Art, Music and/or Theatre Programs

In addition to demonstrating the 5 Experiences, a student applying to receive a Seal must engage in a large-scale project related to the area in which they are applying. Examples of projects include:

** Note – All examples are related to the Seal area to which you are applying*

- Leadership within Community Ink or like ‘community Arts support group’
- Teaching lessons / classes
- Participating in after school programs in a leadership role
- Peer tutoring in one of the subject areas
- Organizing community events / performances / exhibits
- Organizing service opportunities
- Preparing and executing a recital, show or exhibit beyond that of school or private studio organized event

A culminating presentation that summarizes and reflects upon engagement in the ‘5 Experiences’ and the ‘Project’ work must be submitted as part of the application. Presentations can be submitted in a variety of formats, including:

- Portfolio of works including an Artist Statement and accompanying reflection
- Recordings including an Artist Statement and accompanying reflection
- Podcast or video presentation & reflection

Please note that where the pathways to applying for a Seal in Fine & Performing Arts may be varied, the work needs to be significant with a focus on one’s personal reflections at each stage.

Calendar

- Students may apply for a Seal within FPA starting in April of their Junior year.
- All Seal applications must be submitted by September 15.
- Recipients of a Seal within FPA will be notified by October 15

Review Board

- The Fine & Performing arts Department (Art, Music, Theatre) will read and review applications and make decisions as a collective group.

Explanations of the 5 Experiences:

- Excellence in the Discipline –
 - Applicants should be able to demonstrate significant competence in their artistic area. This can be showcased by submitting audio / video recordings, a portfolio of art works (original or photographed reproductions), or via appropriate media for your Seal area. Regardless of the area of discipline, students should be able to demonstrate a wide variety of techniques, styles, and skill sets appropriate to their applied area.
- Significant Growth Over Time –
 - Applicants should be able to reflect upon their growth over their years prior to, but most specifically during their time at Newton North. Where and how has the applicant nurtured personal improvement in their skill, knowledge, and commitment?
- Commitment to Their Own Study –
 - Applicants should be able to share examples of their work and diligence in perfecting their craft, as well as widening their experience and scholarship within the Arts area. Beyond having a significant connection to the North Arts Program(s) – what outside study, experiences has the applicant participated in to further their own learning?
- Commitment to Their Arts Citizenship –
 - Applicants should be leaders in their surroundings. This can be demonstrated in large and small scale. Larger scale examples could include: Theatre director, classroom aide, club leader, music section leader, etc. Smaller scale leadership can be witnessed via putting what's 'best for the ensemble or classroom' first before one's own aspirations, supporting peers of all ability levels, helping to encourage growth of the community/ensemble, care for the space and materials for which they work, having a 'first to arrive / last to leave' mentality, etc.
- Commitment to the North Art, Music and/or Theatre Programs –
 - Applicants must have a significant connection to the FPA Department through taking yearly classes in their area, participating in concerts, exhibits, and performances. A recipient is someone for whom has immersed themselves in the curriculum at North.
 - All applicants must commit to continuing their Artistic study and endeavors throughout their Senior year. The committee reserves the right to revoke a Seal if

a recipient fails to 'practice the value of the Seal' during their complete time at Newton North.

Questions about the Seals in Fine & Performing Arts should be addressed to:

*Todd Young, music / dept. chair, fpa
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Mr. Young is happy to work with students throughout the process. Please feel free to reach out with questions or feedback on ideas, etc.