

University
of the Arts
The Hague

Hogeschool
der Kunsten

Interfaculty
School for Young Talent

Dance
Music
Fine Arts and Design

S f Y T !

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Preface

Art and school. A sure-fire combination!

The Royal Academy of Art and the Royal Conservatoire offer a programme that is unique in the Netherlands: the Interfaculty School for Young Talent. The school prepares you for a career in dance, music or design, while at the same time you attend classes in the regular subjects taught at other schools in the Netherlands.

As diverse as their talents are, students with exceptional artistic ability have just as much in common with each other. They share a pleasure in and passion for exploring and stretching their creative boundaries and developing the 'tools' they need to deepen and express their own particular talents: craftsmanship, discipline, dedication and, not least, the ability to share their talent with others.

A good start is half the battle. Children who wish to become world-class footballers learn their craft in the youth teams of top clubs like Barcelona or Ajax. Well, for a top-class education in the arts the School for Young Talent in The Hague is the place to be. It affords a unique opportunity for young people with promising artistic talent to follow a course that combines regular education with training in dance or preparatory education in music or fine art and design – at the highest possible level and to an international standard – in the same school. Therefore, in order to enter the School for Young Talent, a student will always have to take an entrance exam.

If you possess that special talent, our school could well be a fantastic opportunity for you. This brochure contains a brief summary of the most important information about the School for Young Talent. Naturally, the information is also important for your parents, the dean of your school and your teachers.

If you have any more questions after reading this brochure, please visit our website svjt.nl or contact our School for Young Talent staff (see page 32). On the website you will find the School for Young Talent's study guide, which contains more detailed information. If you then still have any further questions, please feel free to call me. We will be happy to arrange a meeting with you and your parents at the school.

Jan van Bilsen

Director, Interfaculty School for Young Talent





Primary and Secondary Education

Programme

The course you will follow at the Interfaculty School for Young Talent is unique. You will attend regular school classes (primary or secondary education) but at the same time follow an intensive preparatory programme in dance, music or fine art and design. In other words, you will be taking a dual course and will spend a lot of time at school. Nevertheless, we have almost never found this to be a problem for our students who are, after all, devoting many hours every day to their passion. We therefore try to create as much room as possible in the regular timetable for the lessons in dance, music or fine art and design, which means you will spend less time attending regular lessons than your contemporaries at other schools. This will not only allow you to devote more time to your specialist training or preparatory course, but also give you the opportunity to become involved in the big range of master classes, competitions, performances, presentations, excursions, exhibitions and other activities that are organised within the University of the Arts The Hague.

The timetables are arranged in such a way that the classes in the art subjects and the regular classes are coordinated as closely as possible. All of the activities (such as performances, exhibitions and concerts) are also geared to the curriculum. Finally, we try to take account of each student's personal talents and consequently many students follow individual programmes.

'What about the diploma?' This is a question that is often asked, particularly by parents. The answer is perfectly straightforward. Students of the School for Young Talent earn a full HAVO or VWO diploma with which, if you later choose to study a totally different subject, you can proceed to secondary vocational education (MBO), higher professional education (HBO) or university. In 2020, our school was rated 'good' by the Education Inspectorate, and the school was also judged to be an 'excellent school'.

For students with a recommendation to follow VMBO-tl, we have devised a special programme designed to enable them to proceed to HAVO. In fact, the diploma could prove even more valuable if you proceed to another course at the University of the Arts The Hague, since you may have already studied parts of some of the subjects in the later course or might be allowed to follow a shorter learning path.

We offer you a lot, but we also demand a lot from you in return. For example, every year we will assess your progress in the field of dance, music or fine art and design and you will be required to leave the school if you receive a negative recommendation. However, we will always ensure that you can transfer to another school without any significant problems. If you are already preparing for the final exam, you will not have to switch schools and will be able to sit the exam at our school.

Course options

The Interfaculty School for Young Talent has a primary school comprising a Group 7 and a Group 8. In these classes you will be taught almost precisely the same curriculum as students at any other primary school, but because you will also be attending dance or music classes for a few hours every day we have shortened the regular curriculum and try to teach it as efficiently as possible. Most students proceed to the first year of secondary education at the School for Young Talent.

There are three streams in the secondary education at the School for Young Talent:

- HAVO prospects class (for students with a recommendation to follow VMBO-tl)
- HAVO
- VWO (Atheneum or Gymnasium)

At HAVO and VWO, students can choose any of the profiles: Culture & Society (CM), Economics & Society (EM), Nature & Technology (NT) or Nature & Health (NG). Students who want something extra can choose the Philosophy course.

There is a lot more you need to know about our secondary education and we therefore recommend that you read our school guide, which you will find on our website at svjt.nl.

Admission

Before you can enter the School for Young Talent, you will have to take an entrance exam in dance, music or fine art and design. Each department has its own admission procedure. If you pass the exam, you and your parents will have an intake interview with the director or one of the coordinators. The school may contact your previous school for further information.





Dance

Programme

Royal Conservatoire Dance trains dancers for a future career as creative and independent artists who combine an open mind with craftsmanship, passion and ambition. The global dance world is constantly evolving and calls for confident dancers with a broad training who practice dance with passion and discipline. Dancers who have mastered classical techniques and are capable of applying them to contemporary dance styles, techniques and influences.

To promote the professional development of its students, the Dance department works closely with Nederlands Dans Theater, a partnership that culminates every year in the joint annual production, the Young Talent Project. This project brings all the students into contact with the methods of the Nederlands Dans Theater and gives them an opportunity to learn a varied programme of works from the NDT repertoire and new works under the supervision of répétiteurs and dancers from the company.

Dance students at the School for Young Talent are prepared for the final phase of the Bachelor of Dance, when students will need to understand the styles and visions of leading choreographers and are taught to collaborate with choreographers. The work process therefore requires a combination of a proactive engagement, reflection and co-creation on the part of students, all based on a thorough grounding in academic theatre dance.

Courses

Students at the School for Young Talent combine the Dance programme with the regular school curriculum. In addition to the regular classes, every day the dance students receive lessons in classical ballet, pointe technique (for girls) and jump technique (for boys), physical training, modern dance, repertoire, pas de deux, world dance and flamenco. The annual programme also includes studio presentations and a series of end-of-year performances. The timetables for the dance lessons, regular classes and other activities are always carefully coordinated.

Admission

The Dance programme is a continuous learning path comprising four phases: Orientation programme, Young KC Dance, School for Young Talent Dance and Bachelor of Dance. All of the phases are devoted to training students for a career as a professional dancer. The School for Young Talent and Royal Conservatoire Dance offer a combination of regular education from Group 7 of primary school and dance training from primary school up to graduation with an HBO degree.

Children with the ambition of becoming professional dancers need to start receiving the right training from a young age. Royal Conservatoire Dance offers an introductory course for children in Groups 5 to 8 of primary school.

This Orientation Programme introduces children to the professional nature of the Dance programme. In addition to a preparatory course in classical ballet technique, the course focuses on aspects such as personal expression, discipline and coordination.

The children who will be admitted to the first year of the programme are selected at the final audition, which is held in March. The children who have been admitted then attend the Entree classes on Wednesdays and Saturdays in April, May and June.

Children in Groups 5 and 6 of primary school can enter Young KC Dance 1 until the end of December. Children in Group 7 or 8 or who are switching from another course can join Young KC Dance Extra in January.

Auditions are arranged in The Hague and at various locations in the Netherlands throughout the school year.

To gain admission to the Dance programme, you will first have to do an audition. You will find more information about auditions for the School for Young Talent Dance and how you can register to take part at koncon.nl/dance.

Jan Linkens

Director Royal Conservatoire Dance

Curriculum of the Dance programme

Classical Ballet: students learn the techniques of academic theatre dance.

Pointes: girls are taught the technique of pointes, including variations.

Pas de deux: the lessons focus on technique and coordination between dance partners. Students practice and learn pieces from classical and modern repertoire and expression.

Coaching: the focus is on the specific demands made on male dancers, particularly in terms of turns and leaps, and including variations.

Creative: students are taught the principles of modern dance by exploring the concept of space and the physical capabilities, while their creativity is stimulated.

Modern: throughout the course, students are taught various modern styles and improvisation.

Caractère/World dance: a stage form of traditional folk dance in which a sense of style, coordination and rhythm are essential parts.

Flamenco: the flamenco lessons unite rhythm, expression, control and experience with the musical accompaniment.

Classical Repertoire: students are taught pieces from the ballet repertoire, learn about different styles of ballet production and work in groups to learn about performing in the *corps de ballet*.

Repertoire of Nederlands Dans Theater: during these lessons works from the repertoire of contemporary choreographers working with Nederlands Dans Theater are used to practice and gain experience with different styles and to expand the movement idiom.

Guest lecturers/choreographers: Contact with individuals from the professional practice is essential. Guest lecturers and choreographers teach various styles of classical ballet and modern dance technique and teach the students how to use the techniques and improvisation and to work with choreographers.

Health & Wellbeing: supporting courses include strength training, body conditioning, yoga and pilates.



Music

Programme

You started playing an instrument at an early age and have become increasingly convinced that you want to make a career out of your passion for music. But you have to understand what it takes to become a professional musician: to meet the demanding standards that are required will take long hours of intensive practice to master the necessary technical and musical skills. You have two important advantages, however. You are starting young and making music is one of your greatest pleasures!

The department of the School for Young Talent responsible for young musicians is Young KC, where we provide students with a solid foundation for studying later at the Royal Conservatoire. Some students even make sufficient progress during their time at Young KC to follow their own individual programme at the Royal Conservatoire. Most music students receive two lessons a week in their main instrument, piano coaching (where you will study recital pieces with a pianist assigned to you), lessons in piano or harmony at the piano and lessons in music theory. You will also play in ensembles such as the Atheneum Chamber Orchestra or the Young KC Big Band, perform chamber music with other students or play in a combo and sing in the chamber choir and small ensembles. Naturally, the syllabus will differ if your interest lies in other directions, such as composition or jazz. In every case, we try to design a programme that is fun, challenging and of high quality!

You will also gain stage experience, since every year the musicians in Young KC take part in an extensive programme of concerts organised by the school. Students perform on stages in Amsterdam, Utrecht and Eindhoven and at various venues in and around The Hague. All of the activities come together in the Summer Festival, an annual week of projects in the last week of the school year.

Twice a year, in November and April, you will have to demonstrate that you are making good progress in technical and musical terms. We occasionally advise a student to continue their training elsewhere, but the majority of students complete the course.

Course options

You will follow the regular school curriculum at the School for Young Talent. Your music activities and music lessons are carefully coordinated with the regular school lessons. Every music student has his or her own timetable, since the programme for a jazz percussionist is not the same as for a violinist. There are also special arrangements for taking leave and for missing classes to make it easier for you to participate in concerts, master classes or competitions. We call this option Young KC internal.

In exceptional cases, you will have the option of attending a school near where you live. However, this can cause complications because it can be more difficult to coordinate timetables and you might have to spend a lot of time travelling. It will also depend on the flexibility of your other school. We call this programme Young KC external. Students in Young KC have lessons, concerts and activities in ensembles on weekdays, but also on Saturdays.

Admission

There are three steps in the admission procedure:

1. You will first have to give an informal recital. You can do this from the age of eight. You can apply even if you are not sure and want to know more about the options available to you. The informal recital is not an exam. A small committee consisting of one or two teachers and the head of Young KC will decide whether you possess sufficient technical and musical ability to take the entrance exam. You will be informed immediately after the recital about the best way to proceed to prepare for the entrance exam.
2. The second step is the entrance exam. For classical music, the entrance exam consists of a practical element and a theoretical element. You will be assessed on the technical standard of your performance and your musical qualities. For this exam you will play studies (etudes) and recital pieces. The theoretical component will test your ear for music, imagination and knowledge of music theory. The criteria will depend on your age.
3. If you are admitted, you will have an interview with the director about whether there is a place for you in the School for Young Talent. The director will discuss your possible transfer to the School for Young Talent with special emphasis on your regular school curriculum.

Naturally, the entrance requirements differ according to the course you wish to follow (such as jazz, vocal studies, teaching music, art of sound or composition). For more information about the entrance requirements for the different streams, contact the coordinator of Young KC or visit svjt.nl.

Annick van Gennip

Head of Young KC

Curriculum of Young KC Classical

If you enrol for Young KC Classical you will study the following subjects in the School for Young Talent, insofar as they are applicable for you and your instrument:

Main subject: technical and musical mastery of your instrument/voice (individual).

Piano coaching: you will be assigned a pianist who will teach you ensemble playing (for string instruments, wind instruments and vocalists).

Minor in piano: weekly individual lessons to learn to play the piano to a reasonable standard (for all non-pianists).

Aural training: you will learn to identify the notes you hear; intensive training in consciously listening to music.

Solfège: you will learn to sing or play what you read; intensive training of your musical imagination.

Music theory: you will gain a knowledge and understanding of the theoretical background of music.

Harmony at the piano and Piano class: students whose main subject is piano will have additional lessons to increase their understanding of harmony and to learn to improvise and play with transposing instruments, as well as improving their prima vista playing.

History of music: lessons to increase students' knowledge and understanding of the different stylistic periods in music history (in the last three years of secondary school).

Chamber music: a weekly lesson playing with your peers in small ensembles, with regular concerts outside the Conservatoire.

Chamber choir: weekly rehearsals, occasional performances.

Atheneum Chamber Orchestra: weekly rehearsals on Saturday morning. Three or four projects each year, some with wind instruments (for all string instruments).

Atheneum Wind Consort: weekly rehearsals on Saturday morning. Three or four projects each year, some with string instruments (for all wind instruments).

Young KC Big Band: students of wind instruments in the classical stream perform with the Big Band (see 'Jazz').

Curriculum of Young KC Jazz

If you enrol for Young KC Jazz you will take the following subjects in the School for Young Talent insofar as they apply to you and your instrument:

Main subject: musical and stylistic mastery of your instrument/voice (weekly, individual).

Combo: weekly lesson playing with your peers in combos, with occasional concerts outside the Conservatoire.

Classical minor: musical notation and the technique of the instrument/voice (weekly, individual).

Piano minor: weekly individual lessons to learn to play the piano to a reasonable standard (for all non-pianists).

Aural training: intensive training of your ear for music; learning to play what you hear (for non-pianists, in combination with the piano minor).

Solfège: intensive training of the musical imagination; learning to sing or play what you read (musical notation).

Music theory: you will gain a knowledge and understanding of the theoretical background of jazz music and the history of jazz.

Chamber choir: weekly rehearsals, occasional performances.

Young KC Big Band: there are one or two projects a year, with rehearsals planned to coincide with each project.



Fine Art and Design

Programme

If you are full of innovative, crazy, exciting, remarkable and surprising ideas and want to flesh them out and give them shape, the Royal Academy of Art The Hague's preparatory programme is the course for you. If you are admitted to the fine art and design programme, you will attend classes at the Royal Academy of Art in The Hague (just ten minutes' walk from Amare). The curriculum in the first three years of secondary school includes subjects designed to give you an introduction to different materials and techniques, but above all, you will learn how to formulate and develop your ideas. This will provide a good foundation for making informed decisions and pursuing a more personal learning path in the later years of secondary school in preparation for a higher education in the arts. In the exam year, you will compile a broad portfolio geared to admission to one of the specialisations in the Royal Academy of Art.

You will have lessons in 2d, 3d and theory (lower secondary education) and photography, interdisciplinary studies, concept development/3d, drawing/painting/portfolio guidance and theory (upper grades), as well as additional modules and project weeks as an orientation to the various graduation courses in the Royal Academy of Art, techniques and the professional world of the arts. You will also be able to work independently in the Academy and use its facilities such as the library and the sixteen workplaces (subject to the safety rules that apply in connection with your age). The timetable is arranged in such a way that students spend three half-days during the week and Saturday morning (from 10.00 a.m. until 1.00 p.m) at the Academy. You will be supervised by teachers who are familiar with both further education and the teaching at the Academy itself. The teachers are all practising artists.

Like the dance and music students, you will be assessed every year. Twice a year there is an assessment for all the students. For these Christmas and Summer assessments you will create a display of the work you have done in the previous semester in a space within the school building. All of the teachers will



view the presentation, ask questions about it and give their assessment. In lower secondary education there are no grades, but we work with a traffic light system. Each assessment and each part of it is coloured green, orange or red. You can see at a glance how things are going. For the upper grades, only the summer and Christmas assessments are graded. For them, the parts and the interim assessment are also in colour. In addition to the colours there are extensive written texts. These written texts are the most valuable part of an assessment. Students who fail the assessment at Christmas are given the opportunity to improve the presentation for the next assessment. Students who fail the final assessment at the end of the school year will generally not be allowed to continue the course, but in exceptional cases may be allowed to repeat that component of the course or be assigned a task or granted a conditional pass for that component.

The curriculum includes numerous excursions, cultural trips and visits to exhibitions. Students also take part in many projects. The programme has its own area in the Academy for the exclusive use of the students of the School for Young Talent. Since the 2014/15 school year, the Academy has had a large studio for students of the School for Young Talent. More information about it can be found on the website and in the newsletters for the art & design students of the School for Young Talent at kabk.nl/opleidingen/voortrajecten/school-voor-jong-talent.

Course options

You can follow the Academy's preparatory programme in combination with the School for Young Talent from the first year of secondary school. If you are still too young, you can still take some subjects at the Academy, but then in combination with the school you are currently attending. Students can also enter the programme after the first year. Students with a VMBO-tl diploma from another secondary school can apply to study for a HAVO diploma at the School for Young Talent in combination with the fine art course. Students who have completed the HAS programme and taken the State exam at VMBO-tl level can follow some subjects at HAVO level for one year under a special contract-education construction. However, this only applies for students who are unable to secure a regular HAVO diploma. The contract must show that the student has attained an adequate level of preparatory education to be admitted to the Royal Academy's Bachelor programmes.

One other option is what we refer to as the 'special combined learning path'. This is for students who are at another secondary school and wish to follow the preparatory course at the Academy. In this case, the student will usually follow a customised course since the timetables will not always correspond and you will be dependent on the willingness of your other school to cooperate. In principle, you will then follow part of the same programme that the Academy provides for the students of the School for Young Talent.

Admission

Students can enter the School for Young Talent in practically any year of the course, but there is always an admission procedure. The first step is to make an appointment for an interview via voortraject@kabk.nl. You will be asked to bring a portfolio of your work to this meeting, containing as many examples as possible of (even unfinished) recent work that you have produced, including drawings, sketches, designs, models, images, photos, films, clothing, textiles, constructions, paintings, etc. We would also be interested in seeing a visual diary in which you explain your sources of inspiration, ideas, plans, experiences and views. You can also bring a laptop to show any films, photos or other digital products you have made. At the interview we will be assessing aspects such as your creative ability, motivation, aptitude, ideas, uniqueness/originality and potential for growth, as well as the variety of materials and techniques that you use. All of these aspects will be discussed during the interview. Afterwards, you may be directly admitted to the course or you may be asked to perform an assignment and return later for a second interview.

If it is decided that you can be admitted, you will be interviewed by the director of the School for Young Talent and will then usually be offered a place immediately.

For further information about the admission procedures for the various courses, see kabk.nl.

Zanne Zwart

Head of Preparatory Courses, Fine Art and Design

Curriculum of Fine Art and Design

If you intend to combine regular lessons with the fine art and design programme at the School for Young Talent, you will have lessons at the Royal Academy of Art four times a week. The course is divided into two groups: the first three years of secondary school and the last three years. In the first three years, you will lay the foundations for making informed decisions and pursuing a more personal learning pathway in the later years of secondary school in preparation for a higher education in the arts. There are three trimesters in the school year. In the first three years, each trimester comprises three months. The first two months are devoted to subjects on a specific theme. In the third month you will work on a single end product representing your personal view of the theme, which will be displayed at the 'trimester exhibition'. You will choose the materials and technique on the basis of systematic research and experimentation. You will find solutions for problems with visualisation in the world around you and in the world of the arts.

Students in the last three years also take part in the trimester exhibition with works based on their personal observation, concept and fascination.

All students attend the Academy on Saturday to work on their assignments in the studio under the supervision of a coach.

During the week, there are weekly lessons in the following subjects:

First three years

2D: practical lessons with theoretical underpinning on everything connected with two-dimensionality.

3D: practical lessons with theoretical underpinning on everything connected with three-dimensionality.

Theorie: practical lessons with theoretical underpinning and background information on topics covered by the following key terms: conceptual, choice between 2D and 3D, a short written assignment, expansion of vocabulary, broadening horizons, cultural visits.

Final three years

Photography 1 semester: practical lessons with theoretical underpinning on everything connected with photography and the photo as the carrier of an image.

Interdisciplinary 1 semester: relationships between different disciplines are explored and tested, investigated and challenged, with the focus on questioning and investigating and using different media and different senses: video/film, installation, 3D prints.

Drawing /painting: practical lessons about observation in the widest sense of the term at the two-dimensional level. The course also involves keeping a personal archive, making reports of cultural visits and creating a portfolio.

Concept development/3D: practical lessons in spatial work with theoretical underpinning about the content, concept and significance of your own work.

Theory: only in group 5. Theoretical lessons about the world of the arts and ideas about it. This course includes written assignments.

In the last three years of the course, students start creating a portfolio of their own work. Every week they will have an opportunity to discuss it in person with their mentor after the lesson. In consultation with the mentor and provided they have written a good plan, students in the exam year may be allowed to take individual fine art lessons and work on a portfolio for the admission procedure to one of the Academy's undergraduate courses, or any other art course.

The regular courses are supplemented with projects, excursions and workshops in partnership with De Besturing, Filmhuis Den Haag, Het Nationaal Theater, Movies That Matter, Rewire Festival, exchange partner in Vittorio Veneto. Final exam students put on their own exhibition in the Academy. There are three Trimester exhibitions every year. The details of these exhibitions, as well as the dates of excursions, exhibitions and other activities can be found in the (pink) Academic Calendar on the website kabk.nl/opleidingen/voortrajecten/school-voor-jong-talent.



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Lay-out

Roos Laan

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