

"May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth your saving power among all nations. Let the people praise you O God, let all peoples praise you. Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth."

PSALM 67: 1-4

On With the Show

The SHSM program in Arts and Culture at St. Thomas Aquinas is a wonderful introduction to career opportunities and possibilities in the creative arts. For students who want to explore the many avenues that the arts and culture field offers, learn more by speaking with a guidance counsellor or discussing options directly with the program coordinator. For more information, please contact the program coordinator.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL

260 Angeline Street South
Lindsay, Ontario K9V 4R2

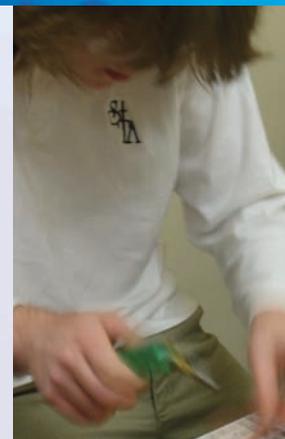
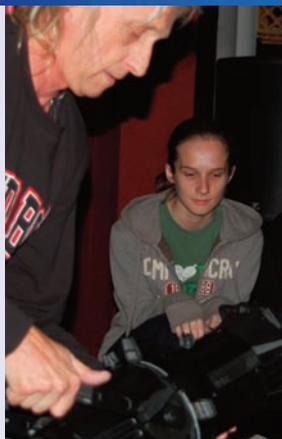
Phone: (705) 878-4117 • Fax: (705) 878-4059

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Peterborough Victoria
Northumberland and Clarington
Catholic District School Board

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Pathways to Success

Specialist High Skills Major programs are designed to give students choices depending on how they want to pursue their career interests. Four distinct pathways – university, college, workplace and apprenticeship training – all pose slightly different course calendar formats.

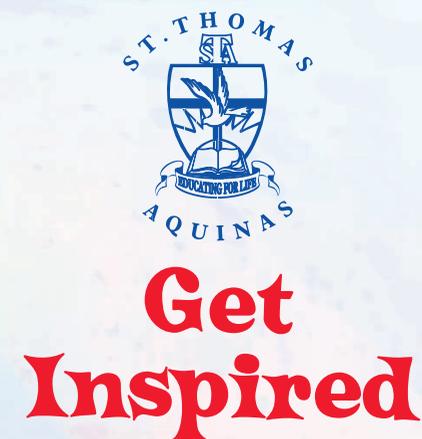
The goal is to ensure students acquire the proper secondary school credits to ease their transition through the stages that follow.

For the SHSM program in Arts and Culture at St. Thomas Aquinas, the course breakdown is as follows:

CREDITS	APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING		COLLEGE		UNIVERSITY		WORKPLACE	
	Gr. 11	Gr. 12	Gr. 11	Gr. 12	Gr. 11	Gr. 12	Gr. 11	Gr. 12
Arts and Culture Major*	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Other required credits (with CLAs**)	English			1		1		1
	Business Studies/ Canadian and World Studies		1		1		1	
Cooperative Education	2		2		2		2	
Total Number of Credits	8		8		8		8	

* Multiple credits in the Ontario technological education curriculum allow additional instruction time for the practice and refinement of skills needed to develop student performance to the levels required for certification, entry into apprenticeship programs, or participation in school-work transition programs.

** A Contextualized Learning Activity (CLA) is a learning activity focused on the skills and knowledge applications that are relevant to a particular SHSM. A CLA is intended to offer a contextualization of one of the 2, 3 or 4 other required credits in the Major.



SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS
MAJOR PROGRAM IN
ARTS & CULTURE



**ST. THOMAS AQUINAS
CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL**
LINDSAY, ONTARIO



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The Stage is Set

For those who think the arts and culture field is limited to just the visual and performing arts, times have changed. Today, the 'creative economy' is a vital industry that thrives on innovative thinking and originality. Consider fields like advertising, design, marketing and digital arts, to education, arts administration, business, communications and music production – all these fields are possible pathways for students interested in pursuing a creative stream in their education. Visual arts and technical production are the specific focus of the SHSM in Arts and Culture at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School.

Those students with creative or applied technical talent should strongly consider the Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) in Arts and Culture program at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School in Lindsay. With an emphasis on formal training in traditional vocations such as drama, vocal music, visual arts, technical production and instrumental music, the program serves as an excellent foundation for further studies at the post-secondary level or as a springboard to a career in any number of fields.

Customize Your Education

Specialist High Skills Majors (SHSM) programs are dedicated to offering students the opportunity to pursue career-oriented studies while fulfilling their Ontario Secondary School Diploma credit obligations. Broken down into industry-specific courses, SHSM programs are designed to give students the knowledge and insight required to prepare them for a career path that proposes a range of possibilities.

These programs are structured to give students specific skills, techniques and even hands-on experience within the community. With SHSM programs, students are better able to determine the steps that follow secondary school, from college or university-related programs to improved workforce prospects. Whatever the choice, students of SHSM programs emerge with an excellent base of skills and a clearer understanding of what comes next.

Enhanced Instruction

As part of the SHSM mandate, students are given the tools necessary to make the transition to the next stage of their education or career. The SHSM program offers compulsory certification and training in a number of areas while giving students elective options that will give them a distinct advantage as they take those next steps. Working mainly with community agencies and industry partners the course features the following options:

- CPR Level A* (Canadian Red Cross)
- Standard First Aid* (Canadian Red Cross)
- Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System [WHMIS]*
- Ontario Skills Passport
- Lighting Workshop (Academy Theatre)
- Live Sound Set Up and Production (Van Haltern Music)
- Training in an Art Form or Technique (Haliburton School of Fine Arts)
- Fall Arrest Certification (Employers First)

* DENOTES COMPULSORY COURSE

Learning in Lindsay

Located at St. Thomas Catholic Aquinas Secondary School in Lindsay, this program takes advantage of the active arts scene throughout the Kawarthas. Community partnerships are a vital component within this program and let students get involved with local organizations and enjoy Reach Ahead opportunities as part of the course. As well, the program combines formal training and crossover opportunities between disciplines in school, while teaming with local arts organizations to give students a clear idea of the possible professions, prospects and career directions that they may consider.

Professional Partnerships

The strength of many SHSM programs is found in the connections established with community partners. It is through these relationships that students are able to receive hands-on training and in some cases partake in job shadowing to better understand the day-to-day workings of their particular specialty. The Arts and Culture program at St. Thomas Aquinas has developed connections with a range of arts-oriented businesses and organizations in the area, including:

- Academy Theatre
- Lindsay Art Gallery
- Bob FM
- COGECO
- Cosmo Music
- Van Haltern's Music

The program also has strong ties to the Haliburton School of the Arts, Fleming College and Trent University, who provide students with a better sense of post-secondary education options, as well as employment options, training and future trends in this sector.

Explore Your Options

Arts and Culture is a remarkably varied field, and the opportunities available to those who have the skills and determination to pursue a career in this realm will find a world of possibilities open to them. The St. Thomas Aquinas SHSM in Arts and Culture program prepares students to pursue creative, artistic careers. To give a sense of the breadth of career directions, consider for example:

- Cultural Events Planner
- Video Game Developer
- Media Consultant
- Public Relations
- Photographer
- Music and Program Direction
- Music Editing, Production, and Composing
- Sound Mixing
- Audio Technician
- Digital Media
- Stage Manager
- Stage Lighting Technician
- Set Designer
- Recording Engineer
- Marketing
- Education
- Graphic Design or Illustration
- Interior Design