



2023-2024 High School Profile

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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 through the Cincinnati Public Schools Lottery for School of choice and come 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, and 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

Clark Montessori High School has earned dual accreditation from both AdvanceED & the American Montessori Society.

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 738 students enrolled in grades 7-12. The high school population is 451 students of which 39% identify as white, 50% as black, 7.5% as multi-racial and less than 3% as Asian or Hispanic. Typically, in each class 30-40% of the graduates are first generation in their families to attend college.

Class of 2024 95

Class of 2025 110

Class of 2025 111

Class of 2026 130

THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The school year is comprised of two semesters, each lasting 18 weeks. The school day begins at 8:00 A.M. and ends at 3:00 P.M. Students attend seven periods a day which meet three times per week, we run a 4- Day Block Schedule. On block days, half of a student's schedule is covered each day, extending class periods from 50 minutes to 105 minutes. One day a week, students have a full bell schedule day. 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. After schools were shut down in March of 2020, our academic program moved to an online model. We spent the majority of the 20-21 school year remotely and students returned full time in person the first week of April 2021. The 21-22 school year is currently scheduled to be full-time, in-person, with a mask mandate for all students.

GRADING SYSTEM

A traditional (A, B, C, D, F) four point grade system is used. High school transcripts represent both weighted and unweighted GPA. WE DO NOT RANK.

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. We do not rank students. The GPA weighting for the current class of 2024 is as follows:

1.0 for Academic

1.25 for AA (Honors)

1.5 for AP Courses, College Credit Plus

A=4.0

B=3.0

C=2.0

D=1.0

F=0

A=5.0

B=3.75

C=2.5

D=1.25

F=0

A=6.0

B=4.5

C=3.0

D=1.5

F=0

INTERSESSION COURSES

In addition to traditional academic studies, each Clark student completes eight two-week intensive field study courses. Each "intersession" course includes rigorous academic requirements paired with hands-on learning experiences, often including travel and/or community service. Subjects range from marine biology to early American literature to Appalachian culture and hiking. Each grade level has one required intersession and one elective field study. A listing of elective field studies is below. Students receive .25 or .5 credits for each intersession, and participating in all eight is a required component of the Montessori Program. The required intersessions are: Freshman Orientation (9th grade), Community Service (10th), Post-secondary Options (11th), and Job Shadow (12th). **No intersession courses were offered during the 2020-21 school year.

ELECTIVE INTERSESSION COURSES (All courses are not available every year. This is a list of current and some past course offerings. The courses may appear as listed below, or as FALL/ SPRING/INTERSESSION on transcript.)

Underground Railroad: Cincinnati/N. Kentucky

Simple Gifts: Living a Simplified Life

National Treasures: Washington, D.C.

Explore the Dominican Republic

Appalachian Trail Backpacking

Peace & Inclusion Through Music

From Earth to Table: Scratch Cooking & Community

Exploring the Big Island: Hawaii

Woman/Man Versus Wild: How to Navigate without GPS

City Structure: Chicago/Cincinnati Architecture

Music Recording & Production

Costa Rica: Biodiversity

Needlecraft Art

Fitness & Health

Civil Rights March Tour

Coming to America

Creating a Short Film

France and Spain

The Red River Gorge

Creativity Boot Camp

Kiln Formed Glass

France: Paris in Depth

Outdoor Adventures

Creative Writing/Poetry

Simple Gifts

Rockets & Roller Coasters

Space Camp

Exploring Mind and Body

Intro to Engineering

Food/Sustainability

New Orleans: All That Jazz

Trail Blazing

Genealogy

Vegan

Ancient Greece

Art & Culture in NY

Explore Philippines

Eco Design

Meditation

Western Trails

Green Cincinnati

Ancient Greece

Finance

Cooking

Jazz in New York

Art History

Diversity: Mexico

Forensics

Ohio Islands

Organisms

SENIOR PROJECT

Senior Project is a yearlong course for seniors at Clark Montessori. All Clark Seniors are required to complete a Senior Project. 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 Projects 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.

CORE COURSE CURRICULUM GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (Grades 9-12)

MATHEMATICS*	8 Semesters
SCIENCE	8 Semesters
SOCIAL STUDIES	8 Semesters
ENGLISH	8 Semesters
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	4 Semesters
FINE ARTS	2 semesters
HEALTH	1 Semesters
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	2 Semesters
INTERSESSION ELECTIVES	8 Semesters
200 COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS	
*2 semesters of Math are required each year in grades 9 through 12 even if math credits earned in 7 th or 8 th grade	

Clark MONTESSORI HIGH SCHOOL 2023 – 2024

CURRICULUM

All core courses are honors level, denoted by “AA” on transcript. College Credit Plus Courses are labeled on the transcript with “COLLEGE” prior to the course title.

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. Any course below in **blue** and/or with an asterisk before the name designates the core courses required for a Clark Montessori diploma. For math, the 4th year of required math may vary. However, even if a student earns a high school math in 7th or 8th grades, a math course is 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:

Speech	Film Tech & Analysis (Film Production)	Creative Writing
AP Literature & Composition		AP Language & Composition

MATHEMATICS – 4 credits or 8 semesters required in 9-12

The 3rd & 4th year of required math can vary and could be Precalculus AA, Functions and Statistics, AP Calculus AB or BC, AP Statistics, or the College Credit Plus Courses College Algebra/Trigonometry, College Probability & Statistics, or College Calculus. In accordance with ODE,

*Functions & Statistics is equivalent to Algebra 2.

*Algebra 1 AA & Algebra 1	Precalculus AA	College Algebra/Trigonometry DY
*Geometry AA	AP Calculus AB or BC	AP Statistics
*Algebra 2AA	College Probability & Statistics	Probability & Statistics or Functions & Statistics

SCIENCE – 4 credits or 8 semesters required

*Physical Science AA	Anatomy & Physiology	Forensics
*Biology AA	Zoology	Environmental Science
*Chemistry AA	College Chemistry	
Physics AA	AP Biology	

SOCIAL STUDIES – 4 credits or 8 semesters required

*Modern History AA	AP Psychology	Current Events
*American History AA	Senior Project	Public Issues
AP Human Geography		Business Law
*Government AA		

FOREIGN LANGUAGE – *2 credits or a minimum of 4 semesters required

French I, II, III, IV	Spanish I, II, III, IV
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FINE ARTS – *1 credit or a minimum of 2 semesters required

Digital Media	Art 1, 2, 3	Jazz Ensemble	Percussion Survey
Ceramics 1, 2	Art Survey(collaborative art)	Digital Imaging	Concert Band
Photography	Art X (intro appreciation)	Steel Drum	Beg Band
Print Making 1,2	Independent Study		AP Music Theory

ACT CLASS OF 2023 (79 students)

Average Scores: Composite: 17.2 English: 15.9 Math: 17.1 Reading: 17.5 Science: 17.6

AP Results for 2019-2023: 179 Enrolled AP students have completed 227 exams with 45.3% receiving a score of 3 or higher.

PSAT DATA:

2001, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2011, 2012 (5), 2013, 2014, 2017	NATIONAL MERIT COMMENDED STUDENTS
2009, 2011, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019	NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT OUTSTANDING PARTICIPANT
2013, 2017, 2018, 2019	NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT FINALIST
2002, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2016	NATIONAL MERIT FINALISTS

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES FOR THE CLASSES 2001-2022

Aberystwyth University
 Agnes Scott College
 Alabama A & M University
 Alabama State University
 Allegheny College
 American University
 Anderson University
 Antioch College
 Appalachian State University
 Arcadia University
 Art Institute of Cincinnati
 Art Institute of Pittsburgh
 Auburn University
 Augsburg College
 Aurora University
 Aveda Frederic's Institute
 Baldwin-Wallace College
 Baldwin-Wallace College, Conserv. of Music
 Ball State University
 Bard College
 Barry University
 Bellarmine University
 Belmont University
 Beloit College
 Benedict College
 Bennett College
 Berea College
 Birmingham-Southern College
 Bluffton University
 Boston University
 Bowie State University
 Bowling Green State University
 Brown University
 Bryn Mawr College
 Butler University
 Calvin College
 Canisius College
 Capital University
 Cardiff University
 Carleton College
 Carnegie Mellon University
 Case Western Reserve University
 Cedarville University
 Central State University
 Centre College
 Chatham University
 Cheyney University
 Chicago State University
 Cincinnati Christian University
 City College of New York
 CUNY – Brooklyn
 CUNY – Hunter College
 Clark University
 Clark Atlanta University
 Clarkson University
 Clemson University
 Cleveland Institute of Art
 Cleveland Institute of Music
 Cleveland State University
 Coastal Carolina University
 Colby-Sawyer College
 College of the Atlantic
 College of Charleston
 College of William and Mary
 College of Wooster
 College for Creative Studies
 Colorado College
 Columbia College Chicago
 Columbus College of Art & Design
 Cornell College
 Cornell University
 Covenant College
 Cumberland University
 Curry College
 Dartmouth College
 Defiance College
 Denison University
 DePaul University
 DePauw University
 Drew University
 Drexel University
 Drury University
 Duke University
 Earlham College
 Eastern Kentucky University
 Eastern Michigan University
 Eckerd College
 Elmhurst College
 Elmira College
 Elon University
 Emory & Henry College
 Eugene Lang College, New School University
 Evergreen State College

Fairfield University
 Fashion Institute of Technology
 Fayetteville State University
 Fisk University
 Flagler College
 Florida A&M University
 Florida Southern College
 Florida State University
 Fordham University
 Franciscan University
 Freiburg Hochschule für Music
 Georgetown College
 George Washington University
 Georgia Institute of Technology
 Georgia State University
 Goldsmiths University of London
 Goucher College
 Grace College
 Grambling State University
 Green Mountain College
 Grinnell College
 Guilford College
 Hampshire College
 Hampton University
 Hanover College
 Harris Stowe State University
 Hartwick College
 Heidelberg University
 Hiram College
 Hocking College
 Hofstra College
 Hope College
 Howard University
 Illinois College
 Illinois Institute of Technology
 Illinois Wesleyan University
 Indiana University Bloomington
 Iona College
 Iowan Central University
 Ithaca College
 Jackson State University
 James Madison University
 John Carroll University
 Johnson & Wales University
 Johnson C. Smith University
 Juniata College
 Kalamazoo College
 Kent State University
 Kentucky State University
 Kentucky Wesleyan College
 Kenyon College
 Knox College
 The Kubert School
 Lake Erie College
 Lake Forest College
 Lakeland Community College
 Lane College
 La Salle University
 Lawrence University
 Lewis & Clark College
 Limestone College
 Lincoln Memorial University
 Louisiana State University
 Loyola College Maryland
 Loyola University Chicago
 Loyola University New Orleans
 Macalester College
 Manchester University
 Marietta College
 Marion College
 Marquette University
 Marshall University
 Mary Baldwin College
 McGill University
 McDaniel College
 Meredith College
 Miami University, Oxford
 Michigan State University
 Middlebury College
 Millikin University
 Mills College
 Monmouth University
 Morehead State University
 Morehouse College
 Morgan State University
 Mount Aloysius
 Mount Holyoke College
 Mount St. Joseph University
 Mount St. Mary's College
 Muskingum College
 Naropa University
 New England College
 New England Conservatory of Music
 North Carolina A&T University

North Carolina Central University North
 Park University
 Northern Kentucky University
 Northeastern University Northland
 College Northwestern University Notre
 Dame College
 Oberlin College
 Oberlin College, Conservatory of Music
 Oglethorpe University
 Ohio Northern University Ohio
 State University
 Ohio State University, College of Engineering Ohio
 University
 Ohio Wesleyan University Otis College
 of Art and Design Otterbein University
 Pace University Paine
 College
 Pennsylvania State University
 Pepperdine University Philadelphia
 University Philander Smith College
 Pitzer College
 Point Park College, Conserv. of Performing Arts Pratt
 Institute
 Prescott College Purdue
 University
 Queen's University, Belfast Radford
 University Randolph-Macon College
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Rhode
 Island School of Design Rhodes College
 Roanoke College Robert Morris
 University
 Rochester Institute of Technology
 Rockhurst University
 Rollins College
 Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
 Roosevelt University
 Saint Louis University Saint
 Mary's College Saint Xavier
 University Salem College
 Sarah Lawrence College
 Savannah College of Art and Design
 Savannah State University
 School of the Art Institute of Chicago School of the
 Museum of Fine Arts Boston School of Visual Arts
 Scripps College
 Sewanee, The University of the South
 Shawnee State University
 Shaw University Skidmore
 College Smith College
 South Carolina State University
 Southern Illinois University Southern
 University A&M Southwestern University
 Spelman College
 Spring Arbor University St.
 John's University St. Lawrence
 University St. Olaf College
 Stanford University
 SUNY – College of Environ Science and Forestry
 Syracuse University
 Taylor University Temple
 University
 Tennessee State University
 The American Musical and Dramatic Academy, New
 York
 The College of Santa Fe The
 College of Wooster
 The School of Advertising Art Thiel
 College
 Thomas More College Tiffin
 University Tougaloo College
 Transylvania University Trine
 University
 Trinity Washington University Tufts
 University
 Tulane University Tusculum
 College Tuskegee University
 Union College
 Unity University University of
 Aberdeen

University of Akron
 University of Alabama at Birmingham
 University of Arizona
 University of California, Berkeley
 University of California Davis
 University of California Los Angeles
 University of California Riverside
 University of California Santa Barbara
 University of California Santa Cruz
 University of Charleston
 University of Chicago
 University of Cincinnati
 Univ. of Cincinnati Business Scholars Program
 University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
 University of Dayton
 University of Delaware
 University of Denver
 University of the District of Columbia
 University of Evansville
 University of Findlay
 University of Florida
 University of Georgia
 University of Hartford
 University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
 University of Indianapolis
 University of Kansas
 University of Kentucky
 University of Louisville
 University of Maine
 University of Maryland
 University of Miami
 University of Michigan
 University of Missouri, Columbia
 University of Montana Davidson Honors College
 University of Nevada: Las Vegas
 University of New England
 University of New Orleans
 University of North Carolina Asheville
 University of North Carolina Chapel Hill
 University of North Carolina Charlotte
 University of North Texas
 University of Oklahoma
 University of Oregon
 University of Pennsylvania
 University of Pittsburgh
 University of Puget Sound
 University of Richmond
 Univ. of Rochester, Eastman School of Music
 University of South Carolina Honors
 University of South Florida
 University of St. Andrews
 University of Tampa
 University of Tennessee
 University of Toledo University of the Arts
 University of the Cumberland
 University of Vermont
 University of Virginia
 University of Washington
 University of West Virginia
 University of Wisconsin
 Urbana University Ursuline
 College Valparaiso University
 Vanderbilt University
 Villanova University
 Warren Wilson College
 Washington State University
 Washington University in St. Louis
 Waynesburg University
 Webster University
 Wellesley College
 Western Kentucky University
 Westminster College
 West Virginia University Institute of Technology
 West Virginia
 Wesleyan University
 Western Michigan Wheaton
 College Wheeling Jesuit
 University Wilberforce
 University Williams College
 William Peace University
 Wilmington College
 Winston-Salem University
 Winthrop University
 Wittenberg University
 Worcester Polytechnic
 Institute
 Wright State University
 Xavier University
 Yale University
 Youngstown State University

Since Clark's first graduating class of 2001, 90 % of the graduates have chosen to attend a post- secondary educational institution

