RICHARDSON WEST JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY MAGNET

EST. 1997

Visual Arts

Culinary Arts

Robotics

Communication Arts

Theatre Arts

Magnet Strand Course Sequences and Curriculum Highlights

Students will receive one high school elective credit after completing a two-year program:

Communication Arts

RHS MAGNET ALIGNMENT: COMMUNICATIONS

- Use iMovie and Final Cut Pro editing software.
- Learn camera angles, lighting and sound techniques.
- Create weekly news broadcasts with special features, interviews, and short films.
- Create film projects throughout the year.
- Hone public speaking and presentation skills.
- Learn scriptwriting and directing.

Grade 7: Elements of Arts, Audio/Visual Technology and Communications - CT7008

Grade 8: Principles of Arts, Audio/Visual Technology and Communications- CT7024

Culinary Arts

RHS MAGNET ALIGNMENT: CULINARY ARTS

- Acquire and utilize nutrition facts and science.
- Develop proven cooking techniques.
- Utilize and enhance seasoning and flavoring to invoke memory and culture.
- Learn and apply culinary law.
- Practice safety and sanitation.

Grade 7: Elements of Culinary Arts - CT7018

Grade 8: Principles of Hospitality, Tourism and Culinary Arts - CT7047

Theatre Arts

RHS MAGNET ALIGNMENT: TECH THEATRE OR THEATRE PERFORMANCE

- Perform multiple times per year.
- Guaranteed performance time.
- Learn high-level acting, playwriting, and analysis.
- Learn about sound, lights, sets and costumes.

Grade 7: Theatre Arts - 8323

Grade 8: Theatre Arts 1 - 8324

Robotics

RHS MAGNET ALIGNMENT: ROBOTICS ACCELERATED

- Design 2D and 3D with TinkerCAD.
- Be introduced to AutoCAD by designing blueprints.
- Focus on developing collaborative group projects and documenting process.
- Incorporate math and science concepts.
- Build machines using Vex IQ and Rokenbok.
- Understand the basics of engineering.
- Engage in rigorous programming with Scratch.
- Comprehend Modkit, CoderZ and Python.
- Participate in team competitions.

Grade 7: Elements of Engineering, Manufacturing and Robotics - CT7011

Grade 8: Principles of Engineering, Manufacturing and Robotics - CT7025

Visual Arts

RHS MAGNET ALIGNMENT: VISUAL ARTS AND PHOTOGRAPHY

- Participate in independent studies aligned with Pre-AP Art Studio.
- Learn skills and techniques with industry-grade materials.
- Learn *Studio Habits of the Mind.*
- Develop a digital portfolio.
- Create digital art with Adobe Creative Suite.
- Participate in authentic art world experiences, such as designing a magnet t-shirt and yearbook cover.
- Attend a live art auction (Art Phenomenon).
- Go on at least two field trips per year.
- Connect with our local art community.

Grade 7: Art - 8146

Grade 7: Drawing & Painting 7 - 8147

Grade 8: Advanced Art I - 8135

Application Process

Admissions Checklist

- ☐ **Create your online application.** The application opens November 1, 2026, at www.risd.org/magnetschools and will remain open until December 18. *You will need your student ID number and date of birth to create an application account. For applicants without a student ID number, the system will create a temporary ID.*

- ☐ **Select program(s) of interest and complete the application.** Students may apply for up to three magnet strands at West; however, course requirements may limit the number of magnet programs in which a student can be assigned.

- ☐ **Visual and Theatre Arts Applicants:** You must select visual arts or theatre arts to gain access to an additional section of the online application. Be sure to also select Richardson West Junior High as your first choice of schools in order to interview in January. Students who list Richardson West as their second choice will only be interviewed after February 1 if space remains. Don't forget to select your interview/audition date and time before submitting the application. Walk-in interviews will not be granted.

- ☐ **Submit your application by December 18, 2026.**

- ☐ **Theatre Arts or Visual Arts applicants interview or audition between January 12-14 from 4-7 p.m.** *Only Visual Arts and Theatre Arts require an in-person interview/audition for admission.*

- ☐ **Watch for the notification email to arrive by January 31, 2027.** Admission is based on application scores and space availability. Students accepted to the magnet program will receive information about next steps, including an invitation to the 6th Grade Parent Meeting held in February to walk through course selection and finalizing enrollment.

- ☐ **Course registration begins in February.**

Application Opens
November 1, 2026

www.risd.org/magnetschools

Eligibility Requirements

All students applying for a magnet program must meet the following criteria:

- **Attendance:** At least 90%.
- **Academics:** At least an 80 average in core subjects; no failures in any subject.
- **Behavior:** No more than 3 referrals. No suspensions or expulsions.

Application Scoring

Magnet applicants are required to submit two written responses and one video response for each program of interest. **The maximum possible score is 4**, with points distributed as follows:

Written Response to Question 1	1 Point
Written Response to Question 2.	1 Point
Video Response*	2 Points

**Students should use the two questions as prompts for the content of their video response.*

Theatre Arts Acting Audition

Acting auditions are videotaped on-site and include a recited monologue, script reading, and an interview.

Tips for a successful acting audition:

- Be as prepared as possible, but if you mess up KEEP GOING in character.
- Be sure to use the three main actor tools: your voice, your body, and your imagination.
- Imagine the world around you, including where are you at and who are you talking to.
- The best place to look while performing is right above the director's head.
- HAVE FUN! Theatre is all about storytelling and having a blast doing it!

1 Monologue

Monologues must be memorized. Students must choose one of the eight monologues on the following page to recite. These monologues are also available for download at **s.risd.org/monologue**, and printed copies will be provided upon request.

Monologue will be scored on:

- **Voice: Projection, enunciation, articulation** (maximum 5 points)
- **Enthusiasm: Confidence, direct-ability, teamwork, positivity** (maximum 5 points)
- **Characterization: Acting, focus, thoughtfulness, creativity** (maximum 5 points)
- **Overall preparedness** (maximum 5 points)

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE SCORE: 20

2 Script Reading

Students will receive a script upon arrival at the interview and will be given time to prepare. Reading accommodations are available for those who need it.

Script reading will be scored on:

- **Voice: Projection, enunciation, articulation** (maximum 5 points)
- **Enthusiasm: Confidence, direct-ability, teamwork, positivity** (maximum 5 points)
- **Characterization: Acting, focus, thoughtfulness, creativity** (maximum 5 points)

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE SCORE: 15

3 Interview

Interview will be scored on:

- **Voice: Projection, enunciation, articulation** (maximum 5 points)
- **Enthusiasm: Confidence, direct-ability, teamwork, positivity** (maximum 5 points)

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE SCORE: 10

Monologues for Acting Audition

Available for download at **s.risd.org/monologue**

Anne - Anne of Green Gables

I'm Anne of Green Gables and I've come to confess. It was all my doing, Miss Barry. Diana would never think of such a thing as racing to a bed and jumping on it. She's far too lady-like, whereas I am merely an orphan who doesn't know any better. So I think you ought to forgive Diana and let her have her music lessons back. I don't know what it's like to be wakened from the few hours of precious sleep granted an old woman in a strange bed by two ferocious, wild girls landing on her head, but I can imagine it must have been terrifying in the extreme. And if you had any imagination you could have put yourself in our place. Don't you have any imagination, Miss Barry?

Lucy - The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe

It's all right. It's all right. I've come back. Why, haven't you all been wondering where I was? I've been away for hours and hours. It was just after breakfast when I went into the wardrobe, and I've been away for hours, and had tea, and all sorts of things have happened. No, Peter. I'm not just making up a story for fun. I was in the wardrobe. It's--it's a magic wardrobe. There's a wood inside it, and it's snowing, and there's a Faun and a Witch and it's called Narnia; come and see. There! Go in and see for yourselves. But--but where has it all gone? No. It wasn't a hoax, I promise. Really and truly. It was all different a moment ago. Honestly it was.

Charlotte - Charlotte's Web

Good night, Wilbur. (pause) What to do. What to do. I promised to save his life, and I am determined to keep that promise. But how? (pause) Wait a minute. The way to save Wilbur is to play a trick on Zuckerman. If I can fool a bug, I can surely fool a man. People are not as smart as bugs. (pause) Of course, that's it. This will not be easy, but it must be done. First, I tear a section out of the web and leave an open space in the middle. Now, I shall weave new threads to take the place of the ones I removed. (She chants slightly) Swing spinnerets. Let out the thread. The longer it gets, the better it's read. (She begins to "write" with elaborate movements) Atta girl. Attach. Pay out line. Descend. Complete the curve. Easy now. That's it. Back up. Take your time. Now tie it off. Good. (She chants) The message is spun. I've come to the end. The job that I've done is all for my friend. "Some Pig" Not bad, old girl, for the first time around.

Jane - Jane Eyre

I am glad you are no relation of mine: I will never call you aunt again as long as I live. I will never come to see you when I am grown up; and if any one asks me how I liked you, and how you treated me, I will say the very thought of you makes me sick, and that you treated me with miserable cruelty – because it is the TRUTH. You think I have no feelings, and that I can do without one bit of love or kindness; but I cannot live so: and you have no pity. I shall remember how you thrust me back – roughly and violently thrust me back – into the red- room, and locked me up there, to my dying day; though I was in agony; though I cried out, while suffocating with distress, "Have mercy! Have mercy, Aunt Reed!" And that punishment you made me suffer because your wicked boy struck me – knocked me down for nothing. I will tell anybody who asks me questions, this exact tale. People think you a good woman, but you are bad, hard-hearted. You are deceitful!

Charlie - Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Mom! Dad! Grandpa Joe! Grandfolks! You'll never believe it! You'll never believe what happened! Well... I was walking home... and the wind was so cold... and the snow was blowing so hard... and I couldn't see where I was going... and I was looking down to protect my face... and... and... And there it was...just laying there in the snow... kind of buried... and I looked around... and no one seemed to look as if they had lost anything... and... and... and so I picked it up and wiped if off... and i couldn't believe my eyes- I found fifty cents. (ALL look down and sad.) But, but... but...then I thought it wouldn't hurt if I bought a Wonka Whipple-Scrumptious Fudgemallow Delight since it was... my fifty cents... and I was just sooo hungry for one. Well... I took off the wrapper slowly... and... I ate the candy. There wasn't any Golden Ticket. (ALL groan and sigh, acting very sad again.) But then... I still had forty-five cents left and well... you know how I love chocolate... I bought another Whipple-Scrumptious Fudgemallow Delight... and... and... and I found the fifth Golden Ticket! I did! I did! I really did! I found the fifth Golden Ticket!

Zero - Holes

I'm not stupid. Everyone just thinks I am. I just don't like to answer their stupid questions. I remember when my Mom used to take me for ice cream. Whenever she had extra money, which was not often, we'd go out and get a banana split, with hot fudge on top. She'd buy one and we'd split it. She said that was why it was called a banana split. We weren't always homeless. I remember we lived a lot of different places and then...we didn't live anywhere. When she left she couldn't take me with her, said I had to be brave because she was trying to make a better life for us. I waited for her at Laney Park. I don't know what happened to her. That's the hardest part. There's no way to find out.

Boy - Peter and the Starcatcher

Tell you what: You say "sorry" so easy, like the rough patch's smoothed over, no hard feelings and everything's fixed. Well, no. There's dark ... a mass of darkness in the world, and if you get trapped in the cave like us, it beats you down. "Sorry" can't fix it. Better to say nothing than sorry. When it's night, and I'm too scared to sleep, I look through the cracks–y'know?–between the wood nailed over the window, and I see all those little stars that I can't reach, and I think that in a hundred years, or two or three hundred maybe, boys'll be free and life'll be so beautiful that nobody'll ever say "sorry" again–'cuz nobody'll have to. I think about that a lot.

Charlie - You're a Good Man Charlie Brown

There's that cute little red-headed girl eating her lunch over there. I wonder what she would do if I went over and asked her if I could sit and have lunch with her?...She'd probably laugh right in my face...it's hard on a face when it gets laughed in. There's an empty place next to her on the bench. There's no reason why I couldn't just go over and sit there. All I have to do is stand up...I'm standing up ...I'm sitting down. I'm a coward. I'm so much of a coward, she wouldn't even think of looking at me. She hardly ever does look at me. In fact, I can't remember her ever looking at me. Why shouldn't she look at me? Is there any reason in the world why she shouldn't look at me? Is she so great, and I'm so small, that she can't spare one little moment?...SHE'S LOOKING AT ME SHE'S LOOKING AT ME (he puts his lunch bag over his head).

Theatre Arts Technical Audition

Students applying to the Technical Theatre Arts program must prepare a design ahead of time from the prompts below as well as complete an on-site design during the interview.

Tips for a successful technical theatre audition:

- Be UNIQUE! Think outside of the box. Make the designs your own.
- Tell a story with your design. Technical theatre artists are storytellers as well as actors.
- Be PROUD of your creative work that you are sharing!

1 Prepared Design

Select ONE of the prompts below. Bring a PHYSICAL copy of your designs.

Costume Design: Draw or digitally design a costume for three different characters in *Alice in Wonderland*. Make the designs unique and not a copy of an already-made costume. Write three complete sentences for each costume design about your creative vision.

Set Design: Draw or digitally design a set for three different scenes in *Alice in Wonderland*. Make these designs unique and not a copy of an already-made set. Write three complete sentences for each set design about your creative vision.

Prepared Design will be scored on:

- **Creativity: Unique, imaginative, expression** (maximum 5 points)
- **Enthusiasm: Confidence, direct-ability, positivity** (maximum 5 points)
- **Storytelling: How the design helps to tell the story** (maximum 5 points)
- **Overall preparedness** (maximum 5 points)

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE SCORE: 20

2 On-Site Design

On-Site Design will be scored on:

- **Creativity: Unique, imaginative, expression** (maximum 5 points)
- **Enthusiasm: Confidence, direct-ability, positivity** (maximum 5 points)
- **Storytelling: How the design helps to tell the story** (maximum 5 points)

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE SCORE: 15

3 Interview

Interview will be scored on:

- **Creativity: Unique, imaginative, expression** (maximum 5 points)
- **Enthusiasm: Confidence, direct-ability, positivity** (maximum 5 points)

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE SCORE: 10

Visual Arts Portfolio

Students applying to the Visual Arts program must submit a portfolio containing the three pieces listed below. The "Portrait of a Family Member" and "Creativity Project" must be completed ahead of time and brought to the interview. The "On-Site Drawing" will be completed during the interview.

1 Portrait of a Family Member

Materials: white paper, pencil, eraser, family member to observe or a photograph of the family member to reference.
Directions: Draw a head-to-shoulder portrait of a human family member by observing them. Draw the lines and shapes you see. Finally, add other elements and principles to your work.

Portrait of a Family Member will be scored on:

- **Use of elements of art and principles of composition** (maximum 5 points)
- **Craftsmanship and effort** (maximum 5 points)
- **Accuracy of observation** (maximum 5 points)

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE SCORE: 15

2 Creativity Project

RISD art teachers will provide materials and instruction to complete this project. *Students not enrolled in RISD may contact Savannah.Flores@risd.org for information on completing this project.*

Creativity Project will be scored on:

- **Use of elements of art and principles of composition** (maximum 5 points)
- **Creativity** (maximum 5 points)
- **Craftsmanship and effort** (maximum 5 points)

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE SCORE: 15

3 On-Site Drawing

This drawing will be completed during the interview.

On-Site Drawing will be scored on:

- **Use of elements of art and principles of composition** (maximum 5 points)
- **Craftsmanship and effort** (maximum 5 points)
- **Accuracy of observation** (maximum 5 points)

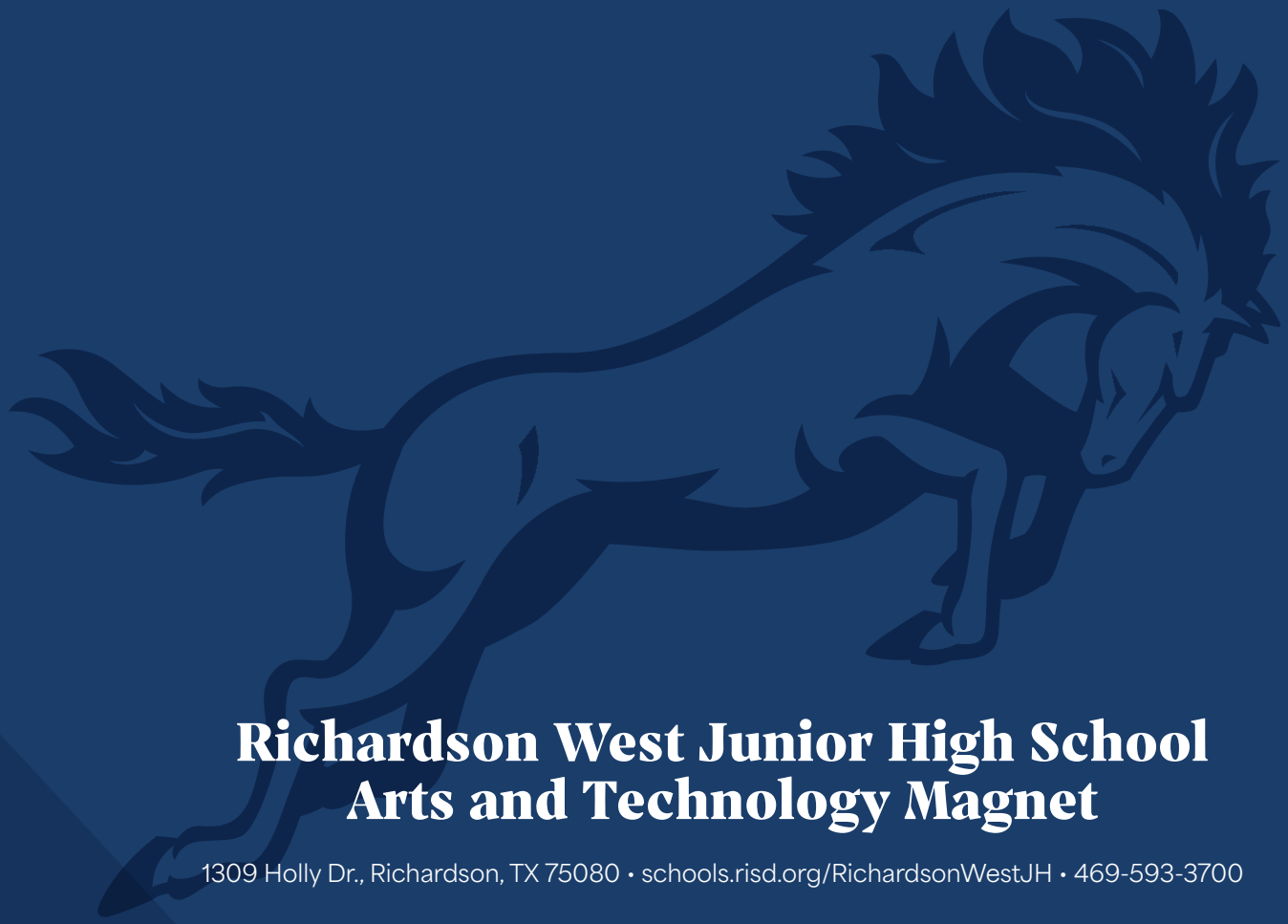
MAXIMUM POSSIBLE SCORE: 15

4 Interview

Interview will be scored on:

- **Enthusiasm** (maximum 3 points)
- **Professionalism** (maximum 3 points)
- **Growth mindset** (maximum 3 points)

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE SCORE: 9



Richardson West Junior High School
Arts and Technology Magnet

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