

Mississippi School of the Arts (MSA) 2002-2003

I. Overview and Mission	
Overview	<p>*Public, residential high school that will provide advanced programs of study in music, theatre, visual arts, dance, literary arts, and media arts for artistically gifted and talented eleventh and twelfth grade students.</p> <p>*Located on the historic Whitworth College Campus in Brookhaven, Mississippi.</p> <p>*Created to provide a challenging arts education for artistically gifted and talented Mississippi students in a residential learning environment that promotes honor, integrity, service, and life-long learning.</p>
Legislation	House Bill 706 created MSA during the 1999 regular Legislative Session.
Opening Date	August 3, 2003—Only juniors will be admitted in compliance with authorizing legislation.
II. Community Partnerships	
City of Brookhaven	<p>*Collaborated with Brookhaven Trust to renovate Mary Jane Lampton Auditorium, dedicated in Spring 1999.</p> <p>*Transferred the Whitworth College Campus to the State of Mississippi in Spring 2000.</p> <p>*Donated \$3,000,000 in bond proceeds.</p> <p>*\$1,500,000 HUD grant for campus improvements.</p>
Brookhaven School District	MSA students will take some non-arts courses at Brookhaven High School, located approximately one-half mile from MSA. Shared arts facilities at Brookhaven High School will accommodate dance, music, and theatre performances until a performing arts center is built on the Whitworth Campus.
III. Program Implementation	
Program Implementation	Phased in over four years (Dependent on funding and facility completion).
Programs of Study - School year	<p>*2003-2004 Visual arts, vocal music, theatre (juniors only).</p> <p>*2004-2005 Visual arts, vocal music, theatre (juniors and seniors)</p> <p>*2005-2006 Visual arts, vocal music, theatre (juniors and seniors)</p> <p>*2006-2007 Visual arts, vocal music, theatre, instrumental music, dance, literary arts, media arts.</p>

IV. Student Selection	
Admissions Process	<p>*Students are selected from across the state of Mississippi through a competitive application process during their sophomore year.</p> <p>*The applicant's artistic aptitude and achievement are considered and assessed through portfolio review, audition, written assessment, and interview.</p> <p>*Recommendations from the referring school, artistic résumé, essays, and transcripts are also used to develop a comprehensive assessment.</p>
Adjudication Process	High school visual and performing arts teachers, higher education faculty, and artists were trained to score student work that was submitted in print and electronic form. Assessors scored student performance live on-site during the second phase of the admissions process.
Acceptance	At the end of their tenth grade year, pending compliance with all admissions criteria, 68 students accepted invitations to attend MSA for the 2003-2004 school year.
V. Campus Restoration and New Construction	
<p><i>Restoration and new construction is occurring in three phases.</i></p> <p>Phase I</p> <p>*Completed restoration of doors, windows, roofs, and exterior structures for historic Johnson Institute, Cooper Hall, and Enochs Hall. (June 2000—July 2001)</p> <p>* Construction of the Student Life Center, March 2001—July 2003. The Student Life Center houses a library, dining hall, commons area, infirmary, dorm parent's apartment, computer room, laundry, exercise center, security, and student residential suites.</p> <p>Phase II</p> <p>*Interior renovations of Johnston Institute for use as instructional and office spaces.</p> <p>*Interior renovation of the Y-Hut for use as interim administrative offices.</p> <p>*Johnson Institute and the Y-Hut were completed in July 2003</p> <p>*By special legislation, the Y-Hut was renamed as the Helen Furlow Scruggs Y-Hut to commemorate the mother of Richard Scruggs who donated \$500,000 to the MSA Foundation.</p> <p>*Replacement of the roof of Mary Jane Lampton Auditorium.</p> <p>Future Construction (Dependent upon Funding)</p> <p>*Expansion of the Student Life Center to accommodate 300 residential students.</p> <p>*Interior restoration of Cooper and Enochs Halls for classrooms, administrative and faculty offices.</p> <p>*An addition to Enochs Hall to increase studio space.</p> <p>*Renovation of Elizabeth Cottage for instructional, administrative and archival use.</p> <p>*Renovations to Lampton Auditorium, including acoustical treatment and additional accommodations for handicapped accessibility.</p> <p>*Additional construction is dependent on legislative appropriations and private funding.</p> <p>*Construction of the proposed performing arts center. Public and private funding and in-kind resources are being sought to help supplement Legislative appropriations and to raise monies to construct the performing arts center.</p>	

Administrative Offices	Lampton Auditorium was the only functional building on site and housed the temporary administrative offices of the MSA until September 2003.
Restoration and New Construction	Albert and Associates Architects, P.A. of Hattiesburg, working with the Department of Archives and History and the Bureau of Building, Grounds, and Real Property Management.
Grants Funding for Campus Improvements	The MSA Foundation received an Archives and History grant (\$106,250) to restore and preserve the exterior of Elizabeth Cottage in the center of the campus. An Urban and Community Forestry grant from the MS Forestry Commission funded the design of an Urban Forestry Plan to renew trees on the historic campus (\$29,700).
New Property Acquisition	The MSA Foundation purchased two adjacent properties southwest of the Student Life Center; a third lot was donated to MSA by a community business partnership.