



duPont Manual Comprehensive School Improvement Planning duPont Manual Executive Summary

Description of School

Vision: duPont Manual provides a dynamic, interdisciplinary, diverse learning community that focuses on rigorous academic, technical, and artistic college-preparatory magnet programs. At duPont Manual, we are proud of our continuing excellence, diversity, and tradition.

Mission: duPont Manual, in a cooperative effort among faculty, staff, parents, students and the greater community will:

- Nurture and sustain academic excellence for all students
- Provide diversified instruction to meet the needs of all learning styles
- Recognize multiple-giftedness
- Educate beyond the classroom walls through foreign/ domestic travel, project-driven research activities, community leadership, career pathways, performance and service.

Motto:

Excellence (Empower the Present)

Diversity (Ensure the Future)

Tradition (Honor the Past)

duPont Manual High School/YPAS is located adjacent to the University of Louisville in the heart of Louisville, Kentucky, the city that is home to the Kentucky Derby and known for its southern charm. Louisville is situated on the south side of the Ohio River and is a metropolitan area that offers its residents a choice of lush rural surroundings, eclectic urban neighborhoods and old world Victorian communities. Rich in history, the Louisville area offers both small town benefits and big city amenities. World renowned medical facilities and corporate headquarters have attracted a diverse population to this industrial city creating one of the nation's largest public school districts with over 100,000 students representing at least 95 different languages.

The historic duPont Manual High School first opened its doors in 1892 through the generous support of Victor duPont of the duPont Chemical Company. 102 years later, in 1984, Manual became a Magnet High School and was recognized as a National School of Excellence in 1991. Manual is housed in a traditional grand-Victorian building built in 1938. The building has had

several updates made over the years and has recently undergone a complete renovation of all facilities. The renovated facilities include new HVAC systems, new lighting, state of the art computer and science labs, as well as improved wifi and technological capabilities.

In 1978, the Youth Performing Arts School was constructed on campus. Performing arts students from several district high schools specialized in performing arts training at the YPAS campus, including students from duPont Manual High School. In 1984, YPAS merged with DuPont Manual High School as one of the five original magnet programs. In an audit by Magnet Schools of America, the president of the organization stated that this is the only Magnet School in the country that has a successful STEM magnet program and a successful performing arts magnet working together to provide an enrichment experience for students like no other. The school has consistently performed at the top of the state rankings in all academic achievement areas for over 20 years, and was presented in the Fall of 2020 with the distinguished honor of being a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence by the US Department of Education.

Together, more than 1,900 gifted and talented students from the Louisville Metropolitan area are enrolled in five highly-selective magnet programs (Descriptions Below): Journalism & Communications (J&C), High School University (HSU), Mathematics/ Science/Technology (MST), Visual Arts (VA), and the Youth Performing Arts School (YPAS including 9 unique departments). Students are selected to attend Manual via a competitive admissions process that evaluates student achievement, personal essays, teacher recommendations, visual art portfolios, and performing arts auditions. The range of student interests and skills add to the uniqueness of the school and to why students at duPont Manual High School are among the most successful in the state and the country.

duPont Manual High School's curriculum is distinctive in that each magnet provides specialized courses that meet or exceed state and/or national standards for each content area, in depth of knowledge and student performance expectation. With 99% of Manual's graduates attending college, the rigorous college-preparatory curriculum provides students with the opportunity to achieve in all disciplines, with an emphasis on the magnet program in which each student is enrolled. We offer three levels of curriculum programming: Honors, Advanced, and the highest level of Advanced Placement. Additionally, the school offers several college dual credit opportunities, as well as a partnership with the University of Louisville through our Louisville Academy and the Crimson Scholars programs. These programs allow students to attend classes at the university. Finally, we also offer the Advance Program, the most challenging high school program available in Jefferson County Public Schools. Students are selected for this program based on national test scores, academic achievement, and teacher recommendations. Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA and must be enrolled in three Advance Program or higher level classes each year for a total of 12 credits.

In short, duPont Manual High School is a learning community where motivated students thrive off of the positive energy and inspiration of their teachers and peers. The symbiotic relationship between magnets, allowing students to “cross-pollinate” their interests, develops well-rounded, highly-visionary, solution-oriented students. This culture of excellence, diversity, and tradition is also why our students are sought after by colleges from across the state and country.

Please see the [2023-24 School Profile](#) for additional information including: Student and Teacher Population, Grading Scale, Graduation Requirements, Advanced Placement Courses Offered, Dual Credit Course Offered through Partnering Colleges, Academic Achievement Summary, and Additional Recognitions.

MAGNET PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Journalism & Communications Journalism & Communication (J&C) offers sophisticated training in communication technology while fostering students’ intellectual growth, producing media-literate thinkers and doers who possess a deeper understanding of current events, ethical practices, and civil rights and responsibilities. With a focus on both print and digital storytelling, J&C classes include graphic design, videography, photojournalism, motion graphics and editorial leadership. The J&C magnet produces five award-winning, student-run publications where students participate in hands-on learning and gain leadership experience. Students in this department compete in national journalism competitions and are consistently awarded national honors.

High School University High School University (HSU) provides a rigorous liberal arts centered high school university experience, which allows students to explore various disciplines beyond the core graduation requirements. Flexibility in the students’ elective course selection provides students with the opportunity to participate in dual credit coursework through local university partners such as University of Louisville, Campbellsville University, and Jefferson Community & Technical College. Additionally, students can specialize in any number of interests including: performing arts, language studies, and newly added CTE pathways.

High School University (HSU) provides a rigorous liberal arts-centered high school experience, which allows students to explore various disciplines beyond the core magnet requirements. Flexibility in the students’ elective courses provides students with the opportunity to attend University of Louisville classes and specialize in any number of interests, including performing arts or language studies, and newly added CTE pathways, as examples.

Mathematics, Science, and Technology Mathematics, Science, and Technology (MST) follows a research-based curriculum for gifted students. The biology, chemistry, and physics laboratories are computer-enhanced and contain specialized equipment that allows advanced studies in life sciences, biotechnology, microbiology, optics, modern physics, robotics,

computer programming, electronics, and computer-assisted design. MST students complete college-level research, mentored by university scientists and engineers. Many research projects have been used as catalysts for progress in several fields of medicine and science. MST students compete nationally and are among the recipients of the nation's highest science awards each year. Some students receiving national awards are also recognized at the international level.

Visual Arts (VA) is a unique program that provides artistically talented students with the opportunity to work in an exhibition gallery and nine professional equipped studio areas. Facilities for design, drawing/painting, computer graphics, ceramics/sculpture, textiles, photography, drafting, and printmaking provide an excellent and diverse environment for outstanding experiences and instruction. Students experience visiting artists, teacher mentoring, and community internships. Students in this magnet compete and receive national recognition in visual arts each year.

Youth Performing Arts School (YPAS) is the most comprehensive performing arts high school in Kentucky. The faculty, staff, and administration of the Youth Performing Arts School (YPAS) have the distinct opportunity to train, educate, and nurture today's young talent to become tomorrow's artists. Students' success is founded on commitment and discipline applied to the artistic program, and success is enhanced by the school's rich diversity and understanding of the creative spirit. YPAS offers the nine majors: Band, Dance, Design and Production, Guitar, Musical Theatre, Orchestra, Piano, Theatre, and Vocal Music. The heart of YPAS holds an 886-seat proscenium theater and an additional experimental theater with state-of-the-art lighting and sound equipment seating approximately 150 individuals. Prestigious universities and conservatories across the nation seek after YPAS students. They consistently perform and excel in national venues. The culture of high expectations is known throughout the country.