



harding
FINE ARTS ACADEMY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Harding Fine Arts Academy Receives High Marks on State Report Card

Oklahoma City- Oklahoma City's Harding Fine Arts Academy has earned an A+ on the State Department of Education's A-F Report Card for the 2014 – 2015 school year.

Adopted into law by the Oklahoma Legislature in 2011, this grading system is designed to incentivize schools to strive for and reach high levels of college- and career-readiness.

According to the Oklahoma State Department of Education, the A-F Report Card is comprised of two primary components, each worth one-half of the overall grade: Student Performance and Student Growth. In addition, schools have the opportunity to have up to 10 bonus points added to their final grade.

The Student Performance component is simply the passing rate for all state testing within a school (i.e., number of passed tests/total number of tests). Each school receives a letter grade based on this rate in order to aid interpretation. An "A" represents outstanding achievement with nearly all students (90 percent or greater) demonstrating at least grade-level proficiency.

Student Growth is measured by comparing proficiency levels from a prior exam to the exam from the current school year. The Overall Growth sub-component is then essentially the average percentage of students across math and reading that experienced sufficient growth or maintained proficiency on state tests. Like the performance component, each school received a letter grade based on this percentage in order to aid interpretation.

Additionally, schools can receive up to 10 bonus points to be applied toward their final grade. Bonus items and/or their point values differ depending on whether the site is an elementary, middle or high school.

This is the second year in a row that Harding Fine Arts Academy has received an A+ grade.

Harding Fine Arts Academy was recently named a 2015 Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education and was ranked among the top 500 high schools in the nation according to Newsweek's 'Beating the Odds' list seeking to identify schools that do an excellent job of preparing their students for college while also overcoming the obstacles posed by students at an economic disadvantage.

Harding Fine Arts Academy is a tuition-free, non-selective Oklahoma City charter school that prepares high school students for college in an academically challenging, arts-integrated environment.

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