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*Daily we strive to inspire learning, courage, and joy in the developing human being.*

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## 2017-2018 PROFILE FOR COLLEGES

Founded in 1980, the Seattle Waldorf School serves 547 students in Preschool through Grade 12. Our 9-12 high school division was launched in 2007 and is the only Waldorf high school in Washington state. Our college preparatory program follows a curriculum grounded in the teachings of Rudolf Steiner, the founder of Waldorf education.

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### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SWS students meet life with courage and respond with initiative and creativity to the needs of the world and their fellow human beings. They learn through:

**Experiential Education** - Waldorf schools are rooted in the belief that students learn by doing. Whenever possible, knowledge is discovered, not delivered.

**Morning Lesson blocks** - Students engage in intensive morning study in major subjects, rotating courses every three to five weeks.

**Outdoor Education** - Students participate each year in a week-long outdoor trip tied to a specific study, and also in a week-long service learning trip.

**Global Connection** - Students learn about the world through international and domestic exchanges within the Waldorf school global network.

**Arts** - All students take art and music classes, every week. Drama, music, and visual arts are integral components of the high school curriculum.

**Senior Project** - In the senior year, each student completes an intensive Senior Project. Past subjects have included creating a line of dance wear, making raku pottery, participating in a political campaign, and illustrating a William Blake manuscript.

### INTEGRATED CURRICULUM

SWS students study chemistry, physics, biology, and earth science each year. The humanities curriculum includes courses in civics, ethics, and the study of history through art and architecture in addition to literature, writing, and standard history subjects. Arts courses are interdisciplinary; students write original plays in drama and produce graphic novels in art.

SWS has made a conscious decision to limit the use of technology school-wide. Students have access to computers for notetaking, writing, or research, but there are no laptop carts or computer labs or tablet programs. Cell phone use is limited to lunch time.

Extracurriculars include Model UN, student government, and yearbook. Students contribute to the formation of school policy and plan thrice-yearly service days.

## COMMUNITY

### High school enrollment:

- 92 students in grades 9-12
- Average class size 13 students
- Students of color comprise 15% of student body (not including exchange students)
- 52% of students receive need-based financial aid

### High school faculty:

- All 28 faculty members hold BA, BFA, or BS degrees
- 12 faculty members hold masters degrees
- 3 hold doctoral degrees

## ACCREDITATION

Association of Waldorf Schools of North America (AWSNA), Washington Federation of Independent Schools (WFIS), Northwest Association of Independent Schools (NWAIS, candidate member 2016)

## LOCATION

SWS High School is located in Magnuson Park, a former naval base north of the University of Washington. The school community enjoys the space and amenities of the 350-acre park, including ball fields, waterfront areas, community gardens, theater and gym facilities, and numerous collaborative partnerships with our park neighbors.

## REQUIREMENTS AND GRADES

Students at SWS are enrolled in the full Waldorf program. Teachers assign letter grades (A, B, C, D, F), except in movement classes, which are not graded. We calculate GPA based on a 4.0 scale, with A=4, A-=3.7, B+=3.3, B=3, B-=2.7, etc. Students produce a volume of work for each morning lesson course. Grading is cumulative and holistic. For the graduating classes of 2016 and 2017, **the average GPA was 3.26.**



## PROGRAM ELEMENTS

SWS operates on a three-term calendar. Math and World Language are taught in year-long courses. Humanities subjects rotate each term. Laboratory sciences, social studies, and literature are taught in Morning Lesson blocks. SWS graduates earn four or more full credits in Mathematics, Science, and Literature, and three or more in Social Studies and World Language (Spanish or Chinese-Mandarin). Students in math classes in grades 9, 10, and 11 may opt to meet honors requirements.



Seniors may elect to study calculus. All students study visual arts, music, and theater arts each year for a total of between 6 and 8 credits. Students earn 0.5 credit per year in P.E. and Eurythmy, a movement class. Hikes and service trips occur in fall and spring, and a life skills series extends over four years.

## STANDARDIZED TESTS AT SWS

Waldorf schools typically do not focus on standardized tests. At SWS, many students encounter multiple-choice tests for the first time when they take the PSAT/10. Our college counseling program begins in grade 10 and helps students become familiar with standardized tests, but we do not emphasize them.



### Scores, middle 50%, 2014-2017:

SAT (47 students tested)  
CR: 570-690  
Math: 500-540  
ACT (30 students tested)  
Composite: 19-27

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*Seattle Waldorf School graduates' college acceptances and matriculations, selected, 2009-2017:*

**Allegheny College**  
**American University**  
**Beloit College**  
**Bennington College**  
**California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo**  
California State University-Monterey Bay  
**Central Washington Univ.**  
**Chapman University**  
**Clark University**  
**Cornish College of the Arts**  
**DePaul University**  
Drexel University  
Earlham College  
**Elon University**  
Emerson College  
**The Evergreen State College**  
**Fairhaven College, Western Washington University**

Fordham University  
Franklin & Marshall College  
**Gonzaga University**  
Goucher College  
**Hampshire College**  
Indiana University  
Kalamazoo College  
**Kenyon College**  
Lewis & Clark College  
**Long Island University Brooklyn (International Program)**  
**Loyola Marymount University**  
Lynchburg College  
Macalester College  
Marquette University  
**The New School-Parsons School of Design**  
The New School-Eugene Lang College  
New York Univ., Tisch College of the Arts  
**Occidental College**  
Ohio Wesleyan University  
**Portland State University (Honors Program)**  
**Pratt Institute**

Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst.  
Rhode Island School of Design  
Rochester Institute of Technology  
San Diego State University  
**School of the Art Institute of Chicago**  
**Seattle University**  
**Smith College**  
St. John's University  
St. Olaf College  
**Stevens Institute of Technology**  
**University of Arizona**  
University of California-Davis  
University of California-Irvine  
**University of California-San Diego**  
University of Colorado-Boulder  
**University of Oregon (Clark Honors College)**  
**University of Portland**  
**University of Puget Sound**  
University of Redlands  
University of the Pacific  
University of Vermont

**University of Washington-Bothell**  
**University of Washington-Seattle**  
**Vassar College**  
**Wagner College**  
**Warren Wilson College**  
**Washington State University**  
**Western Washington University**  
**Whitman College**  
**Whittier College**  
Whitworth University  
Willamette University

*Non-U.S. schools:*  
**National Circus School,** Montreal, Quebec, Canada  
**National University of Ireland,** Galway, Ireland  
**Quest University,** Squamish, B.C., Canada  
University of British Columbia, Kelowna, B.C., Canada

*Gap Year programs:*  
**Thinking Beyond Borders**