

Mounds Park Academy 2023-2024 School Profile

Mounds Park Academy (MPA) is an independent, nondenominational, coeducational college-preparatory day school for students in grades PreK-12. With an average class size of 16 and a schoolwide student-faculty ratio of 7:1, teachers know students well and provide a challenging academic program in an encouraging and supportive environment. All grade levels share the same building, creating opportunities for cross-divisional peer-to-peer learning, leadership, and service.

ABOUT MPA

7:1

STUDENT-
TEACHER RATIO

16

AVERAGE
CLASS SIZE

574

TOTAL
ENROLLMENT

240

UPPER SCHOOL
ENROLLMENT

\$5.1M

FINANCIAL AID
IN 2023-24

32

ACRE
CAMPUS

- Coeducational, PreK-12
- Founded in 1982
- Head of School: Dr. Bill Hudson
- Upper School Director: Mark Segal
- Accreditation: Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS)
- Memberships: NAIS, NACAC, MACAC, ACCIS, and Cum Laude

ABOUT MPA STUDENTS

The Class of 2024 consists of 61 students. Six students are recognized as Semifinalists in the National Merit program, and two students achieved Commended status. Typically, 96-100% of the senior class enrolls directly in four-year colleges. Other choices may include two-year colleges or gap years for volunteering, travel, athletics, or work.

MPA does not rank its students and does not weight grades.

However, the top 20% of each senior class is inducted into the Cum Laude Society in October. The valedictorian and salutatorian are named at commencement. Except for Malone Schools Online Network (MSON) classes, MPA does not integrate other course credits or GPAs on student transcripts. Instead, MPA forwards other transcripts for colleges/universities to use per their policies and practices.

Class of 2023 Application Summary: 60 students submitted an average of 6.8 applications each. 30% chose in-state colleges and 68% chose out-of-state schools. 63% chose private institutions and 35% chose public schools.

International Students: MPA typically enrolls several international students grades 9-12. Their scores are included below.

ACT Average

	# Testing	Composite
Class of 2023	47	28.1
Class of 2022	36	28.2
Class of 2021	42	29
Class of 2020	38	28.8

SAT Average

	# Testing	Composite
Class of 2023	12	606/597
Class of 2022	20	665/622
Class of 2021	21	670/697
Class of 2020	18	642/708

COLLEGE COUNSELING STAFF

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UPPER SCHOOL CURRICULUM

MPA uses an alternating-day block schedule with a combination of 75-minute and 40-minute (elective) class periods. **Course descriptions are available at mpa.link/curriculum or at the link to the right.**



English | 4 credits required

English 9

Western Literature (Grade 10)

American Studies – English (Grade 11)

Grade 12 electives:

- AP English Literature (1 semester)
- Creative Writing
- Contemporary Women Writers
- Fiction and Literary Adaptation
- Living the Blues: Music and the Harlem Renaissance
- Science Fiction and the Politics of Imagination

Science | 3 credits required

Physics (Grade 9)

Biology*/Honors Biology* (Grade 10)

Chemistry/Honors Chemistry* (Grade 11)

Grade 12 electives:

- Advanced Physics: Mechanics; Waves, Optics, Electromagnetism (two-semester course)
- Anatomy and Physiology
- Astronomy
- Environmental Chemistry
- Environmental Science
- Neuroscience

(*25% longer classes to accommodate longer labs)

History/Social Studies | 4 credits required

World History 9/Honors World History 9

World History 10/AP World History (Grade 10)

American Studies – History (Grade 11)

Grade 12 electives:

- Constitutional Law
- Government and Economics
- Introduction to Psychology
- 21st Century Global Issues
- World Religions

Mathematics | 3 credits required

Three-year progressions:

- Geometry, Algebra II/Trigonometry, Functions/Probability/Trigonometry (FPT);
- Advanced Algebra II/Trigonometry, Advanced Algebra III/Advanced Trigonometry, Honors Pre-Calculus;
- Honors Algebra II/III, Honors Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus AB

Grade 12 electives:

- Honors Pre-Calculus
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- Statistics and Discrete Math
- AP Statistics

World Languages | 3 credits required

Spanish (I-VI, AP Language & Culture, AP Literature)

French (I-V, AP Language & Culture)

Fine Arts | 3 credits required

Art: Drawing*, Painting*, Ceramics*, Photography*, Printmaking, Art & Design, Mixed Media Studio/Studio 2D (*multiple levels)

Music: Varsity Choir, Concert Choir*, Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra*, Chamber Music (various ensembles), Concert Band, Jazz Band*, Madrigals* (*auditioned ensembles)

Theater: Acting I & II, Improvisation I & II, Costumes, Stage Crafts, Winter Show

Additional Electives

Advanced Argumentation, Digital Mediums, Engineering and Design, Intro to Computer Science, Makerspace, Music in Film, Music Technology, Persuasive Communication, Robotics, Yearbook, Yearbook II. Independent Study by arrangement.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

English	4.00 credits	World Language	3.00 credits	Senior Seminar	4.00 credits
Mathematics	3.00 credits	Social Studies	3.00 credits	Senior Performance	3.00 credits
Science	3.00 credits	Physical Education	1.00 credits	Service Project	3.00 credits
Fine Arts	3.00 credits	Health	0.25 credits		

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

MPA is a member of the [Malone Schools Online Network \(MSON\)](#), a 19-school national consortium of independent schools offering high-rigor courses taught via virtual classroom to juniors and seniors approved for participation. Classes do not appear on student schedules or transcripts until after course completion. See [maloneschoolsonline.org](#) for more information about consortium membership and curriculum.

College representatives: Be aware that limited/variable class offerings, as well as schedule conflicts, can make it impossible for some eligible students to take advantage of MSON. While rigorous (comparable to advanced or DE coursework), MSON courses are difficult to join unless students are available during the various times of day that courses are offered (across time zones of participating schools).

Certificates of Distinction recognize students pursuing focused independent academic work and experience beyond the MPA curriculum. A student may earn one certificate—choosing from STEM, Global, Literary Arts, or Fine Arts—after meeting requirements including a presentation to faculty. Candidates are noted in the counselor recommendation as certificates are recognized at Commencement.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

MPA's size allows students to participate and lead in a wide variety of activities, rather than needing to specialize.

Interscholastic Athletics

Alpine Skiing
Boys Baseball
Basketball
Cross Country
Boys Football
Hockey
Girls Swimming
Golf
Girls Gymnastics
Nordic Skiing
Soccer
Girls Softball
Tennis
Track and Field
Girls Volleyball
Girls Lacrosse

Clubs and Activities

Asian Culture Club
BIPOC Affinity Group
Black Student Union
Cheese Club
Chess Club
Chinese Language & Culture
Club Cooking Club
Cum Laude Society
Debate Team
Dungeons & Dragons Club
Election Club
Environmental Club
Film & Animation Club
Freethinker Student
Newspaper French Club
Gender Sexuality Action
Habitat for Humanity
HOSA-Future Health Professionals
Lake Phalen Rowing
Magic The Gathering
Math Lab
Math League
MPA Underground Orchestra
Outdoor Adventures Club
Peer Leaders
Peer Prep Tutors
Pop Culture Club
Quiz Bowl
Racial Justice and Equity Club
Robotics Team
Sailing Club
Service Club
Social Consciousness Club
Spanish Club
Speech Team
Spring Musical
STEM Education Club
Student Ambassadors
Student Council
Upper School Drama Club
Writing Lab

COVID-19 RESPONSE

In the spring of 2020, MPA instituted distance learning starting in late March. MPA's 1:1 laptop program enabled students to complete the year in synchronous instruction. For the 2020-21 school year, MPA opened as planned with a hybrid schedule that brings half the Upper School students into the building each day. Students not on campus attend classes synchronously using Zoom. Anticipating the need for flexibility in teaching modes this year, teachers completed training in online instruction and course design over the summer. This fall they began using classroom technology upgrades to integrate their in-person and virtual student groups. Grading has remained on an A-F basis.

2019-2023 COLLEGE ADMISSION AND MATRICULATION

The 60 members of the Class of 2023 received offers of admission from 110 unique four-year colleges and universities in 33 states, Washington, D.C., Canada, and Scotland. They chose to attend 39 different schools in 20 states, Washington, D.C., and Scotland. MPA students in the classes of 2019-2023 were admitted to the colleges and universities listed below.

Bold indicates matriculation to that institution. An asterisk (*) indicates matriculation of more than one student.

Agnes Scott College* Alfred University Allegheny College	Dickinson College	Minneapolis College	University of San Diego*
American University*	Drake University*	Minneapolis College of Art and Design	University of San Francisco
Amherst College	Drexel University	University of Minnesota – Crookston	San Jose State University
Arizona State University – Tempe*	Duke University	University of Minnesota – Duluth*	Santa Clara University
University of Arizona	Dunwoody College of Technology	University of Minnesota – Morris	Savannah College of Art & Design
Art Center College of Design	Durham University	University of Minnesota – Rochester	School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Augsburg University*	Earlham College	University of Minnesota – Twin Cities*	School of Visual Arts
Babson College*	Eckerd College	University of Missouri – Columbia	Scripps College*
Bard College*	The University of Edinburgh	Montana State University	Seattle Pacific University
Barnard College	Elon University	The University of Montana	Seattle University
Barrett Honors College,	Emerson College	Mount Allison University (Canada)	Shenandoah University
Arizona State University*	Emory University*	Muhlenberg College	Sierra Nevada University
Bates College	Florida State University	Naropa University	Simmons University
Baylor University	Fordham University	University of Nebraska – Lincoln	Simpson College
Bennington College	Franklin and Marshall College	University of New Hampshire	Skidmore College
Bentley University	The George Washington University*	The New School	Smith College*
Bethel University (MN)	Georgetown University*	New York University	University of South Carolina – Columbia
Boston College	Georgia Institute of Technology	University of North Dakota	University of Southern California*
Boston University	Gettysburg College	Northeastern University*	Southern Methodist University
Bowdoin College	Gonzaga University	Northern Michigan University	Southwestern University
Bradley University	Coucher College	Northland College	Stanford University
Brandeis University	Grinnell College*	Northwestern University*	Stonehill College
University of British Columbia	Gustavus Adolphus College	University of Northwestern – St. Paul	Stony Brook University
Brooklyn College, CUNY	Hamilton College	University of Notre Dame	SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Brown University	Hamline University*	Nova Southeastern University	Syracuse University
Bucknell University	University of Hartford	Oberlin College*	The University of Tampa
Butler University	Harvard University	The Oberlin Conservatory of Music	Temple University
California Lutheran University	Harvey Mudd College	Occidental College	Texas A & M University – College Station
California Polytechnic University –	Haverford College	The Ohio State University – Main Campus	Texas Christian University
San Luis Obispo*	University of Hawai'i at Mānoa	Ohio Wesleyan University	The University of Texas at Austin
University of California – Berkeley	Hawaii Pacific University	University of Oregon*	Trinity University
University of California – Davis	Hiram College	Oregon State University	Tulane University of Louisiana*
University of California – Irvine	Hofstra University	Pace University	Union College
University of California – Los Angeles	College of the Holy Cross	Pacific Lutheran University	United States Air Force Academy
University of California – Riverside	University of Houston	Pennsylvania State University	United States Military Academy
University of California – San Diego*	Howard University	University of Pennsylvania	University of Utah
University of California – Santa Cruz	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Pepperdine University	Vanderbilt University*
Carleton College*	Illinois Institute of Technology	University of Pittsburgh	Vassar College
Carleton University (Canada)	Illinois Wesleyan University	Pitzer College*	Villanova University
Carnegie Mellon University	Indiana University – Bloomington	Pomona College*	University of Virginia
Carroll College	Iowa State University	Portland State University	University of Vermont
Case Western Reserve University*	University of Iowa	University of Portland	Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Century College	Jacksonville University	Princeton University	Warren Wilson College
Chaminade University of Honolulu	Johns Hopkins University	Providence College	Wartburg College
Champlain College	Kalamazoo College	University of Puget Sound*	Washington & Jefferson College
Chapman University	Kansas State University	Purdue University*	Washington College
The City University of New York, CUNY	University of Kansas	University of Redlands	Washington State University
Claremont McKenna College	Kenyon College	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	Washington University in St. Louis*
Clarkson University	Knox College	Rhode Island School of Design	University of Washington – Seattle
The College of Charleston	Lafayette College	University of Rhode Island	University of Washington – Bothell
Coe College	Lawrence University	Rhodes College	University of Washington – Tacoma
Colby College*	University of London (England)	Rice University	Wayne State University
Colgate University*	Lewis & Clark College	University of Richmond	Wellesley College*
University of Colorado Boulder	Loras College	Ripon College	Wesleyan University
Colorado College*	Loyola Marymount University	Rochester Institute of Technology	West Virginia University
Colorado School of Mines	Loyola University Chicago*	University of Rochester	Western Washington University
Colorado State University – Fort Collins	Loyola University Maryland	Roger Williams University	Whitman College*
Columbia College Chicago	Luther College	Rutgers University – New Brunswick	Whittier College
Columbia University*	Macalester College*	University of St. Andrews	Willamette University*
Connecticut College	University of Maine	College of Saint Benedict	College of William & Mary
University of Connecticut	Marist College	St. Catherine University*	Williams College
Cornell College	Marquette University	Saint Edward's University	Winona State University
Cornell University	Maryland Institute College of Art	Saint John's University	University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire*
Cottey College	University of Maryland – College Park	St. Lawrence University	University of Wisconsin – Green Bay
Creighton University	Massachusetts College of Art and Design	Saint Louis University	University of Wisconsin – Madison*
Dartmouth College	University of Massachusetts – Amherst	Saint Mary's University of Minnesota	University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee
Davidson College	McDaniel College	Saint Michael's College	University of Wisconsin – River Falls
University of Dayton	McGill University (Canada)	Saint Norbert College	University of Wisconsin – Stout*
University of Delaware	Miami University (Ohio)	St. Olaf College*	The College of Wooster
Denison University	University of Miami	The College of Saint Scholastica	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
University of Denver*	Michigan State University	University of St. Thomas (MN)*	Xavier University
DePaul University*	Michigan Technological University*	Salem State University	Yale University*
Des Moines Area Community College	University of Michigan – Ann Arbor	Salve Regina University	
	Middlebury College	San Diego State University	
	Milwaukee School of Engineering		