Getting the Word Out
Do you enjoy...
• Taking videos and pictures of events?
• Playing a musical instrument?
• Writing?
• Artistic endeavors?
• Performing for others?

Then a career in Media, Music, and the Arts is for you!

“...the opportunities the academy exposes me to. For example, because of the Academy, I submitted some of my short films to the Madeira Film Festival and the Gandhi Youth Media Festival. I wouldn’t have heard about those opportunities if not for the Academy. The Academy allows students to get involved and pursue their artistic interests.” —Lowell

Our Mission

The Mission of the Academies at Montgomery Blair is to enhance the high school experience with unique electives and events that allow students to explore their career interests.

Downcounty Consortium

The DCC includes five high schools and their feeder middle and elementary schools—Blair, Einstein, Kennedy, Northwood, and Wheaton.

Each DCC high school offers distinctive academy programs designed to capture students’ interest, incorporate rigorous academic course work, explore possible career pathways, and bring real world relevance to students’ education.

Montgomery Blair High School
51 University Blvd East
Silver Spring, MD 20901

Phone: 301-649-2880
E-mail: Michael_J_Horne@mcpsmd.org

Lead Teacher: Michael Horne
Students in this Academy develop the ability to read, analyze, evaluate, and produce communications in written text, moving images, still images, and sound. Students will learn to read critically, interpret analytically, communicate effectively, and produce messages for both meaning and persuasion. Any field involving art, music, film, radio, video, television, theater, literature, journalism, or photography requires an understanding of effective communication.

A student may create a program of courses spanning several areas, all relevant to a particular career area, or he/she may choose to explore one specific area in depth.

**Strands and Electives**

The following strands are designed to guide students in their choice of electives.

- Broadcast/Mass Media
- Vocal and Instrumental Music
- Theater and Dance
- Visual Arts

The following classes are examples of electives offered by MBHS that introduce students to skills and concepts they will need for an MMA career.

- Introduction to Media Literacy
- TV Production
- Music Theory and Composition
- Media in Society
- Jazz Ensemble
- Show Choir
- Dance
- Ceramics
- Photography

**Careers and Internships**

A key aspect of the Academy is to provide students with opportunities to experience their chosen pathway. Past MMA internships include:

- Working with musical professionals
- Directing the production of the MCPS-TV Homework Hotline program
- Managing social media for the Maryland Basketball Academy
- Designing media communications for the Silver Spring Regional Center
- Shadowing DJs

**Capstone Projects**

The Capstone Project is an individual piece of work designed to give each student a chance to explore an area of interest connected to their academy and personal education and career goals. Capstone Projects may take one of a variety of forms, but each one will have three similar components, which include a reflective essay, a journal, and a presentation.

"As an actor, my Capstone project, which analyzed my character development process, allowed me to seamlessly integrate what I had learned in my two years of theater at Blair, as well as outside of school at a local theater company, into a single, tangible product." - Sam