



DAYSPRING ARTS & EDUCATION

DAYSPRING ACADEMY



ISSL Independent
Schools of St. Louis



30 YEARS



2024-2025

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Maryland Heights, MO 63043



Alicia Whitbeck
Head of School/
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DAYSPRING ACADEMY

WELCOME PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

Welcome to DaySpring Academy where we see educating children as a great responsibility and privilege in equal measure. With our team of educators devoted to cultivating the desire for lifelong learning in every student, DaySpring will:

- Cultivate the desire for lifelong learning by engaging students in the subject matter.
- Facilitate an environment that leads them to make connections between what they are doing in the classroom and the world around them.
- Allow students to use their own interests and creativity to explore the topics presented in the classroom.
- Instill in students a respect and appreciation for each one’s unique gifts and strengths.
- Train students how to practice effective communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity to solve problems.
- Lead them in finding ways to utilize each person’s contribution in group projects and presentations.
- Build confidence and independent thinking as they grow in their skills.
- Inspire students to dream big and imagine all the possibilities of how they can impact the world.

We will equip our students to be ready and able to take the next step, secure in the knowledge of who they are, who God is, and to feel confident in their abilities to pursue their passions.

We are excited to partner with families to make this type of education possible. As we work together as parents, teachers, and students, we are modeling the very things we value and endeavor to grow in our students as stated above.

We look forward to meeting each of you and getting to know your family.



**DAYSPRING PROVIDES A CHALLENGING
& PROJECT BASED EDUCATION . . .**



WHO WE ARE

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

We believe that if you teach skills, such as **creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, and communication**, within all content areas, students will be equipped for success in whatever they do beyond school. We believe education should be dynamic, alive, and relevant to students. Our teaching style and curriculum choices reflect those beliefs.

- We aim to provide a challenging and comprehensive education with a hands-on, problem solving approach.
- We seek to make the students’ educational experience as personal as possible and to motivate and equip students of all abilities to reach their full potential.
- DaySpring Academy provides a **project-based education** that encourages individuality and a love for learning.

Although we do not teach Bible classes, the Bible is at the center of all we do, and we consider it a privilege to partner with parents as they prepare their children for what God desires for them.

OUR ACADEMY FORMAT

DaySpring Academy follows a college structure from preschool through high school. Our students come to class three days a week and work at home with a parent or independently on the other two days. This model helps students learn to manage time, be responsible for completing their work, and prepares them for success beyond high school. This structure also allows parents to be more aware and involved in their child’s education.

We believe students learn best through investigative, hands-on activities that challenge them to work together and think creatively.

TEACHERS

DaySpring chooses their faculty for not only their excellent qualifications, but also for their godly character and passion for what they teach. Each of our faculty is committed to engaging students in meaningful education, investing in them, and seeing them grow in and outside the classroom. They are experts in what they teach and ready and willing to partner with parents and students, offering the support necessary to enable students to create a positive successful education.

Our faculty adheres to and teaches from a Christ-centered viewpoint, while challenging students to explore the world around them and seeking to understand those different from themselves.

All of our faculty are degreed, most are certified, and some hold advanced degrees. Their degrees, certifications, and endorsements include, but are not limited to, English, Gifted, Special Education, Speech, Math, Psychology, Social Work, World History, Chemistry, Biology, Unified Sciences, Divinity, and Early Childhood.

We are proud of our amazing faculty who make the program academically strong, creative, and personal.



**PROVIDING
EDUCATION THAT
IS DYNAMIC, ALIVE,
RELEVANT, HANDS-ON,
& ENGAGING...**



ELEMENTARY

CREATIVE ARTS PRESCHOOL

Ages 3-5 | Pioneers

We offer a comprehensive preschool program that includes a strong emphasis in arts and music instruction.

The Creative Arts Preschool at DaySpring is committed to nurturing the whole child by providing opportunities to explore music and movement, art, and developmentally appropriate academic activities while developing a love of learning through rich, hands-on experiences in a child-centered environment.

At DaySpring, children engage in small group and large group activities as well as self-directed, individualized activities in a mixed-age classroom. Our children are excited about learning as they explore and discover the world around them through curriculum and materials in language and literature, mathematics, science, social studies, music, and art. Social skills are developed as children interact with the teacher and with one another and learn to communicate their thoughts and ideas through the arts and through oral and written language. Full day option includes all of the above plus lunch, rest time, outside time, and more art and science activities.

Options include...

2-Day: Mon/Wed or Tue/Thurs (half & full day options)
AM Only: 8:45-11:45 | Full Day: 8:45-2:45

3-Day: Mon/Wed/Fri or Tue, Thurs/Fri
Full Day: 8:45-2:45



STUDENTS LEARN
BEST THROUGH
INVESTIGATIVE HANDS-
ON ACTIVITIES THAT
CHALLENGE THEM TO
WORK TOGETHER AND
THINK CREATIVELY!

ELEMENTARY

Kindergarten | Discoverers 1st & 2nd Grade | Explorers

In Early Elementary Grades, the educational experience at DaySpring is dynamic, alive, and relevant. It exposes students to rich literature, a variety of writing styles, conceptual math skills, an overview of historical events, science concepts, and the arts. Our curriculum and book choices help build curiosity about the world around them, and teachers provide many hands-on activities that engage young bodies and minds.

AT HOME:

Parents should expect to direct and work side by side at home with their child. The “at-home” work on Mondays and Wednesdays will require parents to read to children, interpret directions, engage in hands-on activities, guide them in writing assignments, and help them do research. Parents should expect to spend about 3-4 hours per day depending on the attention span of their student.

Tuesday/Thursday, 8:45-2:45 Friday Enrichment, 9-3:45

3rd & 4th Grade | Adventurers

At this level, education begins to take on a more structured approach. We focus on mechanics, study skills, digging deeper into our literature and history books, and making more connections in math and science and in real life. Classes still incorporate many hands-on activities that keep students moving and engaged. There is also a strong focus on communication and collaboration through group and partner work. Focus is given to building our students’ study, time management, computer, cultural, and character building skills.

AT HOME:

Parents will need to work alongside their students and make sure that they are understanding assignments and concepts. Parents are expected to teach the math and language arts lessons each at-home day and check their student’s work. They will oversee the student’s work in Science and Social Studies. The ‘at home’ days will require 4 to 6 hours depending on your student’s personal work speed.

Tuesday/Thursday, 8:45-2:45 Friday Enrichment, 9-3:45

5th & 6th Grade | Voyagers

The goal at this stage is to begin developing personal work ethic and study skills, with growing independence and responsibility. Students begin to apply their knowledge and understanding to solve problems, utilizing critical thinking skills. There are more projects at this level that challenge students to think creatively. Students will have ample opportunities to collaborate with their classmates on school work and projects. Students will cover various topics in science, social studies, math, and language arts.

At this stage, parents take on more of a coach role. While they will still teach daily math lessons, they act more as a coach in the other subjects. Parents should check in with their student for each subject, helping them understand how to complete each assignment. Parents should offer helpful instruction when necessary and check the student’s work and provide feedback. Parents should help their student develop organizational skills and help to develop executive functioning skills. This will go far in helping students achieve academic success. At-home days will require 4 to 6 hours depending on your student’s personal work speed.

Monday/Wednesday, 8:45-3:45 Friday Enrichment, 9-3:45

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

MIDDLE SCHOOL

7th & 8th Grade | Springboarders

The Middle School students are stretched to use previously learned skills in more complex applications. Our focus develops beyond simple comprehension to beginning to recognize and appreciate individual ideas and themes. Students will be expected to respond to increasingly challenging literature in an age appropriate way. They are given the opportunity to delve into specific science and math studies and are challenged to not only work together at this level, but to develop team strategies that utilize all team members’ strengths. Students are given unique problems and encouraged to develop creative solutions. Springboarders will have 60 minutes of exploration time each week to explore different art forms such as screenprinting, dance, film writing, and chorus.

AT HOME:

When students reach middle school, they should be able to complete most assignments independently at home. The parent’s role becomes one of support and motivation. It will be expected that parents know what assignments are on the schedule each week, if their child is completing them, and if they are struggling with any of them. Parents should be encouraging students to contact teachers when there are questions or if they need extra help. Parents should support students in executive functioning development. At home, students should expect to spend an hour on each subject.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 8:45-3:45



HIGH SCHOOL

9th-12th Grade | High Schoolers

In High School, we train the student to write with accuracy and fluency by modeling different styles of writing. Students focus more attention on literature studies and analysis. Students also develop skills in discussion and debate through class participation in debates and idea exchanges. They will be stretched through specific studies in science and math to problem solve and apply basic principles in a logical way. Our students are encouraged to take Spanish, which will fulfill graduation requirements, but more importantly, it will prepare them for the global world we live in. The focus shifts in the final years of high school to really prepare students for college and career, and to be independent thinkers and clear communicators. They will develop and hone their skills in presentation and writing. They will have elective classes in personal development, social sciences, and worldviews to help prepare them for life after high school. High school students will have 60 minutes of exploration time each week. 9th-10th graders will explore different art forms such as screen printing, dance, film writing, and chorus. 11th-12th graders have the option to focus their exploration time on ACT prep, senior capstone project, or yearbook committee.

AT HOME:

Once students reach the high school level they should be completely independent in their at home work on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Parents are called on to help students at home, only if their student is struggling with independence. Students should expect to put in at least an hour at home for each subject they have in school.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 8:45-3:45



WE BELIEVE THAT IF YOU TEACH SKILLS, SUCH AS
CREATIVITY, CRITICAL THINKING, COLLABORATION, AND
COMMUNICATION WITHIN ALL CONTENT AREAS, THAT
STUDENTS WILL BE EQUIPPED FOR SUCCESS IN WHATEVER
THEY DO BEYOND SCHOOL.

ENRICHMENT FRIDAY WITH DAYSPRING ARTS

PRESCHOOL THROUGH 6TH GRADE

Whereas a traditional school might spread arts & specialty classes throughout the week, DaySpring offers an entire day of classes from which to choose on Fridays to enrich our students. Students have the unique opportunity to receive quality, hands-on training from professionals in all the areas of the arts including **dance, music, musical theatre, art, drama, and literature**, as well as **hands-on STEM** classes in **science, technology, robotics, engineering, and programming**. Parents and students will be given the opportunity to choose the classes they are most interested in on Friday to build their own unique schedule.

These enrichment classes are an integral part of DaySpring Academy’s program and are a valuable part of the students’ education here. Studies have shown the dramatic impact these classes are having by preparing today’s students with the skills needed in the changing workforce of their adult lives. Involvement in **STEAM (STEM + arts)** programming has been found to train our children’s minds to

- be organizers
- think critically and creatively, finding new solutions for problems
- multitask
- see the big picture while working on the details
- use complex language skills
- build discipline in attitudes and actions
- develop perseverance, focus, collaboration and confidence and
- boost their academic progress in the classroom.

See our **Enrichment Friday** flyer, which gives full descriptions of the specialty classes. Private music lessons and Performing and Fine Arts classes are also offered for all ages in the evenings and on Saturdays with highly qualified and selectively chosen teaching artists. See our **Classes in the Arts** brochure or our website for more information.

AFTER SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

7TH THROUGH 12TH GRADE

The DaySpring Academy student has the great advantage of being able to choose from many extracurricular classes in a unique and creative environment.

Through DaySpring School of the Arts, students become well-equipped in the disciplines of the performing and fine arts, as they are taught by professionals with a passion for their disciplines. Students can choose from **classical ballet, tap, jazz, modern dance, musical theatre, drama, technical theatre, fine art** in many different medias, **private music lessons**, group **music classes**, AND MORE! Academy students who participate in these classes will find them listed on their high school transcript and will earn credit for them.

All of these extracurricular classes can be found in the **Classes in the Arts** brochure and are offered throughout the week, after school and Saturdays.



DAYSPRING HAS A SAFE ENVIRONMENT THAT ENCOURAGES INDIVIDUALITY AND A LOVE FOR LEARNING!



25-26 TUITION & FEES

TUITION by level

Creative Arts Preschool

- 3-Day: \$675 monthly (\$6,075 annually)
- 2-Day: \$475 monthly (\$4,275 annually)
- 2-Day (AM only): \$275 monthly (\$2,475 annually)
- Friday only: \$325 monthly (\$2,925 annually)

Discoverers (Kindergarten) / Explorers (1st & 2nd) / Adventurers (3rd & 4th)

- 2-Day: \$525 monthly (\$4,725 annually)
- 3-Day: Enrichment classes* priced individually

Voyagers (5th & 6th)

- 2-Day: \$620 monthly (\$5,580 annually)
- 3-Day: Enrichment classes* priced individually

SpringBoarders (7th & 8th)

- \$735 monthly (\$6,615 annually)

High School (9th-12th)

- \$815 monthly (\$7,335 annually)

**Enrollment is a 9-month commitment*

ENROLLMENT FEES

- Preschool: \$150 per student
- K - 6th Grade: \$250 per student
- 7th-12th Grade: \$400 per student

Enrollment fees will increase \$25 per month March 16/April 16/May 16

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Cohort Support Days

Tu, Th | 9:00am-1:00pm
\$320 monthly (\$2,880 annually)

Available for 5th-12th grade students needing additional support or at-school peer work groups on the home days

After School Care

Tu, Th, F | 2:30-5:30pm
M, W | 3:45-5:30pm

\$15 per day charged by the number of days attending per semester
\$20 drop in rate

Discounts

Enrichment Class Discount

Academy students receive a \$99 discount when they enroll in 2+ Friday Enrichment classes.

Multi-Sibling Discount

There is a multi-sibling discount where the oldest child receives 10% off tuition and additional siblings receive 20% off tuition.

Tuition is payable monthly through our Parent Portal. You can also pay in full at the start of the year or in two installments at the beginning of each semester by cash or check.

ALUMNI SPEAK



"Dayspring helped me with my transition from high school to college by encouraging independence throughout my years there. The teachers have shown consistently that they care deeply for students and their futures. Before college, I was unsure of what I would do. But because of Dayspring, I was able to find my way to my major."

- Kate Shannahan
Academy Class of 2022

"DaySpring offered me many different ways to express my creativity and individual learning styles. They offered classes I loved from theater to hip hop to art in addition to allowing my creativity in the academic classroom through projects with high expectations for uniqueness."

The small class sizes, intentional teachers, and flexible curriculum contributed to my love to learn because I had teachers who were passionate about their subjects, genuine friendships with my classmates, real life lessons and ability to grasp all concepts taught."

- Anna Jeschke
Academy Class of 2020



COLLABORATE

TRAIN

INSPIRE



APPLICATION PROCESS

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

JULY

Open House

Personal tours, applications, parent interviews, student shadowing

New family registration opens, pending class numbers

Finalize paperwork: turn in contracts, immunizations, and fees

Rolling admissions continue on a space available basis for all grades

WHY CHOOSE US?

- ✓ Engaging Education
- ✓ Certifies & Passionate Teachers
- ✓ Financially Viable
- ✓ Parent/Teacher Collaboration
- ✓ 21st Century Learning
- ✓ Arts Inspired



VISIT [DAYSPRINGARTS.ORG/ACADEMY](https://dayspringarts.org/academy) TO LEARN MORE!