



**GIRLS ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP ACADEMY: DR. MICHELLE KING SCHOOL FOR STEM**  
2328 St. James Place, Los Angeles, CA 90007 • (323) 900-4533 • [www.GALAcademy.org](http://www.GALAcademy.org)

## PRINCIPAL & FOUNDER

Dr. Liz Hicks

## ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Jason Benoit & Dr. Lisa DeRoss

## COLLEGE COUNSELOR

Tiffany Hervey

## HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Tara Hallinan

## MIDDLE SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Rebecca Gross

**BSAP COUNSELOR:** Dr. Jeina Dadrass

## ACCREDITATION

Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) - 6 years

## RECOGNITIONS

- California Distinguished School
- Educational Results Partnership Honor Roll: High Achieving School
- Top 20 High Schools in CA (US News & World Reports)
- Top 1% of Middle and High Schools in California (niche.com)
- CA Senate, CA Assembly, LA City Council, LA Mayor's Office

## AWARDS

- College Board AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award, 7 years
- MATE Underwater Roving Competitions (1st and 3rd)
- MS Robotics, Lego Team City
- HS Robotics, First Tech Challenge Regional Award
- MS Pentathlon
- Gold Level National Math Club
- Mock Trial State Competitors
- National Merit Scholars
- Questbridge & Posse Scholars
- NCWIT Student/Teacher Awards
- SAMPE STEM Teacher Award
- CIF City Championships: Volleyball, Soccer, Tennis
- CIF Sports Scholar Athletes

## MEMBERSHIPS

- International Coalition of Girls' Schools
- Student Leadership Network

## FACULTY

- 36 fully-credentialed teachers, most hold advanced degrees

## FACILITIES

Architecture Studio, Field & Track, Graphic Arts Studio, Library, Multi-Purpose Room, Robotics Field, Stage Performing Space, Wellness Room, Zen Garden

## TUITION

GALA is a public school, tuition-free and donation dependent. No student is admitted or denied based on financial capacity.

# 2024-2025 GALA SCHOOL PROFILE

## DESCRIPTION:

Girls Academic Leadership Academy (GALA): Dr. Michelle King School for STEM is the first and only PUBLIC all-girls STEM school in LAUSD and California. GALA serves 6th-12th grades. Established in 2016, GALA is a leader in student achievement; girls have the opportunity to excel in academics with a focus on STEM, leadership, and social-emotional skills. Our pillars are excellence, leadership, wellness, and honor. We welcome all girls who are committed to a rigorous college-prep curriculum. GALA is a Title 1 school with **100% graduation**.

## ADMISSIONS:

GALA is an LAUSD Admission Criteria public school. GALA is not a charter and not a magnet. New student admission is by application on the GALA website October 1-November 15.

6th Grade: 104 new students admitted      9th Grade: 0-20 new students admitted  
7th Grade: 0-10 new students admitted.      10th Grade: 0-10 new students admitted  
8th Grade: 0-10 new students admitted      11th Grade: 0-10 new students admitted

## SCHOOL SCHEDULE:

**Hours:** Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursday, Fridays 8:30am-3:35pm and Tuesdays 8:30am-2:35pm

**Academic Schedule:** GALA features an Advisory period and seven periods. We follow an alternating block schedule with A-days (periods 1, 3, 5) and B-days (periods 2, 4, 6). Each day includes a morning Advisory and three 90-minute block classes. The 7th period is a required elective, meeting one hour, four times a week.

## REMOTE LEARNING GRADING POLICY:

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, LAUSD and GALA moved to remote learning March 2020, Hybrid in March 2021, and in-person August 2021. Grading policy: <https://achieve.lausd.net/ab104>

## 2024-2025 ENROLLMENT

Total (6th-12th): 720  
Middle School: 339  
High School: 381    Class of 2025: 83

## 2024-2025 ETHNICITY

29% Caucasian  
29% Latinx  
15% 2 or more ethnicities  
13% African American  
10% Asian  
2% Filipino, Pacific Islander  
2% Unknown

## DEMOGRAPHICS

GALA students come from 84 different schools around Los Angeles and their families reside in 81 different zip codes.

GALA is a Title 1 school.

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In 2016, LAUSD aligned their graduation requirements with the A-G University of California minimum subject requirements. GALA requires girls to complete STEM courses above these so our students are best prepared for the rigor of college courses. GALA requires 2 years of Computer Science in high school, a graduation requirement unique to any other LAUSD school.

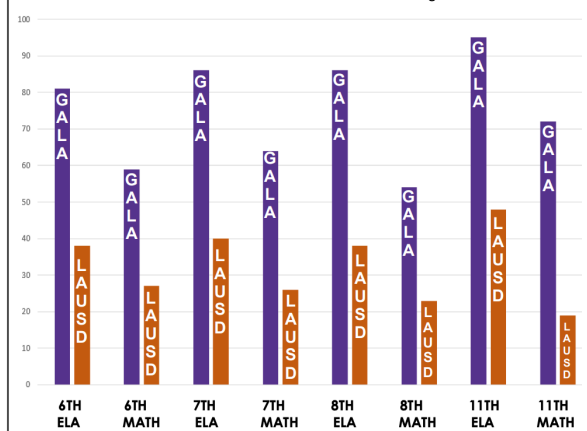
A-G	UC/HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS	UC/HS REQ. # OF YEARS	GALA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS	GALA REQ. # OF YEARS
A	Social Science	3	<b>Social Science</b>	<b>3</b>
B	English	4	<b>English</b>	<b>4</b>
C	Mathematics	3	<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>4</b>
D	Science	2	<b>Science</b>	<b>4</b>
E	Language Other Than English	2	<b>Language Other Than English</b>	<b>2</b>
F	Visual/Performing Arts	1	<b>Visual/Performing Arts</b>	<b>1</b>
G	College Prep Elective	1	<b>College Prep Elective</b>	<b>1</b>
	LAUSD EXTRA REQ	2	<b>GALA EXTRA REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>2</b>
	Physical Education	1	Physical Education	1
	Health (1 Semester)	1	Health (1 semester)	1
	Ethnic Studies (1 Semester)	1	Ethnic Studies (1 semester)	1
	Computer Science	0	Computer Science	2
	Advisory	0	Advisory	4

## GALA TESTING INFORMATION

**CALIFORNIA STANDARDIZED TESTS** - All standards higher (some double) that of LAUSD and California averages. At the time of this printing, 2024 CAASP scores were not yet publicly available. The statistics below are from 2023.

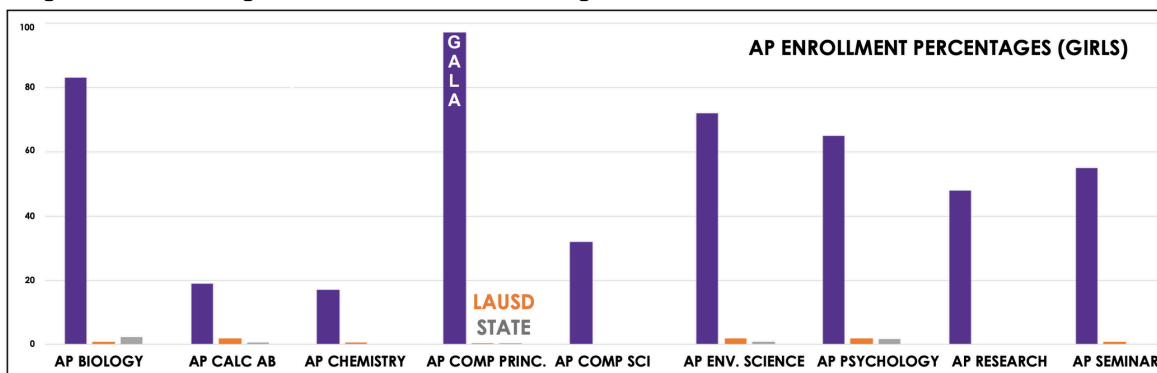
### CAASP Published Test Results

Meets and Exceeds Standards Percentages



CAASP TEST SCORES - 2023 Meets and Exceeds Standards Results		
GR	ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	
6	GALA SCORE: 81%	LAUSD SCORE: 38%
7	GALA SCORE: 86%	LAUSD SCORE: 40%
8	GALA SCORE: 86%	LAUSD SCORE: 38%
11	GALA SCORE: 95%	LAUSD SCORE: 48%
MATHEMATICS		
6	GALA SCORE: 59%	LAUSD SCORE: 27%
7	GALA SCORE: 64%	LAUSD SCORE: 26%
8	GALA SCORE: 54%	LAUSD SCORE: 23%
11	GALA SCORE: 72%	LAUSD SCORE: 19%

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT** - GALA is changing educational gender norms of girls taking AP STEM classes. AP Computer Principals is required. GALA does not have grade pre-requisites for AP classes. Any student can take AP classes and the AP test if they are willing to do the academic rigor. 100% AP enrollment. All AP testing is free to GALA students.



### STUDENT PSAT AND SAT TESTING

- PSAT: Tests administered free on the GALA campus for 8th - 11th grades for no fee.
- SAT: 11th Grade SAT tests administered on the GALA campus for no fee.

## GRADING & COURSES

### GRADE AND GPA SCALE

GALA uses a 4-point scale to calculate grade point averages. LAUSD augments weighted GPA by adding 0.025 for each AP/Honors course per semester.

A = 4.0 B = 3.0 C = 2.0 D = 1.0

### EQUITY GRADING & INSTRUCTION

Equity, standards-based grading is a growth-mindset approach to teaching and learning, based on the expectation that everyone can learn when provided the right conditions and support. Students are evaluated on a 4-point rubric provided per standard in each academic class.

### 2024-2025 AP CLASSES

AP African American Studies  
AP Biology  
AP Calculus AB  
AP Chemistry  
AP Computer Science A (Java)  
AP Computer Science Principles  
AP English Language & Composition  
AP English Literature & Composition  
AP Environmental Science  
AP Music Theory (added 2024-2025)  
AP Physics 1  
AP Psychology  
AP Research (Capstone)  
AP Seminar (Capstone)  
AP Statistics  
AP US Government & Politics  
AP US History  
AP World History

### CIF HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Basketball  
Cheer  
Cross Country  
Flag Football  
Lacrosse  
Soccer  
Tennis  
Swim  
Track  
Volleyball

### ARTS

Architecture  
Art History  
Broadcast/Film  
Chorus  
Dance  
Graphic Arts  
Musical Theater  
Orchestra

### 2024-2025 ELECTIVES

Aerospace  
Architecture Design  
Art History  
Broadcast  
Chemistry of Cooking  
Choir  
Computer Science  
Dance  
Engineering Dynamics  
Ethnic Studies  
Film Analysis  
Game Design  
Graphic Arts  
Graphic Design  
Horticulture  
Journalism  
Leadership  
Latin Amer. Studies  
Math Lab  
Music  
Musical Theater  
Robotics  
Spanish  
Speech & Debate  
Virtual Branding  
Weight Lifting  
Yearbook

### 6TH GRADE 10WK ELECTIVE WHEEL

Aerospace, Intro to Computer Science, Creative Writing, Global Studies

### EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

A capella Choir  
Arts Festival  
ASB Leadership and Ambassadors  
UCLA / Beyond the Bell  
CIF High School Sports  
Clubs (student-led)  
College Prep  
Computer Science Honor Society  
Concerts for Music, Dance, Musical Theater  
Dances: 8th Gr, HS HoCo, 11th/12th Prom  
Earth Day, Pi Day, etc  
Field Trips  
Goddess Games  
National Honor Society  
Robotics Competition Teams (MS & HS)  
Talent Show  
Young Women's Career Conference

# GALA CLASS of 2024

**100% GRADUATION**  
89 Students

**OVER 5.5 MILLION DOLLARS**  
in Scholarships and Financial Aid (attending schools)

**100% AP STUDENTS**

**4.6 GPA**  
Valedictorians  
**4.08 GPA AVERAGE**  
Class of 2024

**98% COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE**  
86 Attending College  
3 Gap Year

**36% Girls Entering STEM in College**

University/College Acceptances to 32 States, Washington D.C., and 4 Countries

China, England  
Ireland, Scotland

## 6TH GRADE COURSE MAP

**ENGLISH:** CC English 6  
**HISTORY:** World History: Anc. Civ.  
**MATH:** CC Math 6  
**SCIENCE:** Integrated Science 6  
**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**  
**ELECTIVE WHEEL:** Aerospace, Computer Science, Creative Writing, Ethnic Studies  
**7TH PERIOD ELECTIVE:** Aerospace, Art History, Creative Writing, Dance, Ethnic Studies, Game Design, Graphic Arts, Journalism, Leadership, Math Lab, Robotics

## 7TH GRADE COURSE MAP

**ENGLISH:** CC English 7  
**HISTORY:** World History: Medieval Modern  
**MATH:** CC Math 7 or Accelerated CC Math 7/8  
**SCIENCE:** Integrated Science 7 and Health  
**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**  
**ELECTIVE -** Computer Science, Exploring Architecture and Engineering, or Music  
**7TH PERIOD ELECTIVE:** Aerospace, Exploring Architecture, Art History, Broadcast, Choir, Dance, Ethnic Studies, Game Design, Graphic Arts, Journalism, Leadership, Math Lab, Robotics, Spanish, Yearbook

## 8TH GRADE COURSE MAP

**ENGLISH:** CC English 8  
**HISTORY:** US History  
**MATH:** CC Math 8 or Algebra 1 (Prereq. accel. math) **SCIENCE:** Integrated Science 8  
**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**  
**ELECTIVE -** Chemistry of Cooking, Computer Science, Exploring Architecture and Engineering, Musical Theater, or Spanish.  
**7TH PERIOD ELECTIVE:** Aerospace, Exp. Architecture, Art History, Broadcast, Choir, Dance, Ethnic Studies, Game Design, Graphic Arts, Journalism, Leadership, Math Lab, Robotics, Spanish, Yearbook

## HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

### HISTORY (A)

World History  
 US History  
 Econ & Government  
**AP World History**  
**AP US History**  
**AP US Government & Politics**

### ENGLISH (B)

English 9  
 English 10  
 American Lit/Cont.Comp.  
 Adv Comp/Women in Lit.  
**AP English Language & Composition**  
**AP English Literature**

### MATH (C)

Algebra 1  
 Geometry  
 Algebra 2  
 Pre-Calculus  
 Intro Data Science  
**AP Calculus AB**  
**AP Statistics**

### SCIENCE (D)

Biology  
 Chemistry  
 Physics  
 Physiology  
**AP Biology**  
**AP Chemistry**  
**AP Physics 1**  
**AP Environmental Science**

### LANGUAGE (E)

Spanish 1  
 Spanish 2  
 Spanish 3  
 Spanish 4 (new 2024-2025)  
 LACCD: Other languages

### VISUAL/PERFORMING ART (F)

Architecture Design  
 Dance  
 Graphic Design  
 Music (Choir, Musical Theater, Orchestra)  
**AP Music Theory**

### COMPUTER SCIENCE

Exploring Computer Science  
**AP Computer Principles (D)**  
**AP Computer Science A (C)**

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Advance PE 1  
 Advance PE 2  
 Weightlifting  
 CIF Sports:  
 Basketball  
 Cheer  
 Cross Country  
 Flag Football  
 Lacrosse  
 Soccer  
 Swim  
 Tennis  
 Track  
 Volleyball

### AP ELECTIVES

**AP African American Studies**  
**AP Psychology**  
**AP Research**  
**AP Seminar**

### LAUSD REQUIREMENTS

Health (1 semester)  
 Ethnic Studies (1 semester)

### HIGH SCHOOL ELECTIVES

Architecture Design  
 Architecture Engineering Dynamics  
 Broadcast  
 Choir  
 Dance  
 Film Analysis  
 Graphic Design  
 Horticulture  
 Latin American Studies  
 Leadership  
 Musical Theater  
 Robotics  
 Speech & Debate  
 Virtual Branding & Design  
 Weightlifting  
 Yearbook

**NOTE:**  
 LACCD LOTE courses are typically equivalent to 2 years of high school courses.

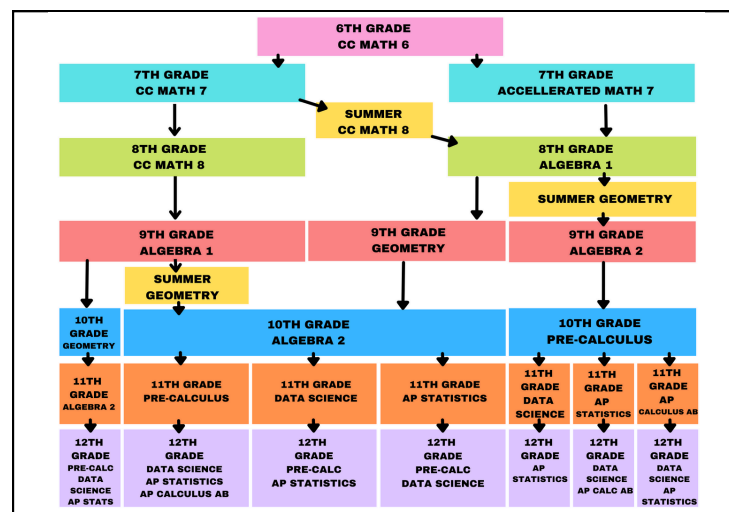
## GALA MATH FLOW CHART

Students can accelerate in math beginning in 7th grade.  
 Acceleration is based on the student's willingness to the academic rigor and teacher recommendation.

The math chart illustrates the possible math trajectories at GALA.

**Course Handbook:** [www.galacademy.org/academics](http://www.galacademy.org/academics)

**Math Chart:** [www.galacademy.org/math](http://www.galacademy.org/math)





# MATRICULATION TO COLLEGE - CLASS OF 2024



The first three graduating classes (2020, 2021, 2022) attended GALA 9th-12th grades. The first graduating class of students attending full-span (6th-12th grades) was the Class of 2023. 89 students in the Class of 2024 were accepted to colleges in 32 states, Washington D.C., and 4 countries. In the list of 2024 college acceptances below, every school denoted in bold has a Class of 2024 graduate attending. A parenthesis denotes multiple students attending.

Adelphi University  
 Agnes Scott College  
 Alabama State University  
 AMDA College of the Performing Arts - Los Angeles  
 American University  
**Amherst College**  
 Arizona State University-Tempe  
**Bard College**  
 Barnard College  
 Bennington College  
 Boston University  
 Bowie State University  
 Brandeis University  
**Cal Poly SLO (2)**  
 California Lutheran University  
 California State Polytechnic University-Humboldt  
**California State Polytechnic University-Pomona**  
**California State University-Channel Islands**  
 California State University-Chico  
 California State University-Dominguez Hills  
**California State University-East Bay**  
 California State University-Fresno  
**California State University-Fullerton (2)**  
**California State University-Long Beach**  
 California State University-Los Angeles  
 California State University-Monterey Bay  
**California State University-Northridge (2)**  
 California State University-Sacramento  
 California State University-San Bernardino  
 California State University-San Marcos  
 Canisius University  
**Carleton College (2)**  
 Carnegie Mellon University  
 Case Western Reserve University  
**Chapman University**  
 Clark Atlanta University  
 Clark University  
 Colgate University  
 College of Charleston  
 Colorado College  
**Columbia University**  
 Dean College  
 Dickinson College  
 Drew University  
 Drexel University  
**Duke Kunshan University**  
 Fisk University  
 Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University  
 Fordham University  
 George Mason University

Georgetown University  
 Gonzaga University  
 Grambling State University  
 Grand Canyon University  
**Hampshire College**  
 Hampton University  
 Hawaii Pacific University  
 Hofstra University  
 Howard University  
 Illinois Institute of Technology  
 Indiana University-Bloomington  
**Johns Hopkins University**  
 Kenyon College  
 Knox College  
 Lawrence University  
 Lesley University  
 Lewis & Clark College  
 Long Island University - Post  
**Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College**  
**Loyola Marymount University**  
 Loyola University Chicago  
**Marist College**  
 Marquette University  
 Marymount Manhattan College  
 Massachusetts College of Art and Design  
 Michigan State University  
**Middlebury College (2)**  
 Morgan State University  
**Mount Holyoke College**  
 Mount Saint Mary's University  
 Muhlenberg College  
 New York University  
 Norfolk State University  
 North Carolina A & T State University  
**Northeastern University**  
 Northwestern University  
**Oberlin College**  
**Occidental College**  
 Oklahoma State University  
 Oregon State University  
 Pace University  
 Pennsylvania State University-Penn State  
**Pepperdine University**  
**Pitzer College**  
 Prairie View A & M University  
**Pratt Institute**  
**Purdue University**  
**Reed College**  
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
 Rochester Institute of Technology  
**San Diego State University**  
 San Francisco State University

San Jose State University  
 Santa Clara University  
 Savannah College of Art and Design  
 Seton Hall University  
 Simmons University  
 Southern California Inst. of Architecture  
 Spelman College  
 Stevens Institute of Technology  
 Stony Brook University  
 SUNY at Purchase College  
 SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry  
**Syracuse University**  
 The George Washington University  
 The New School  
 Trinity College  
**Trinity College Dublin**  
 Trinity Washington University  
 Tulane University  
 Tuskegee University  
 Union College (NY)  
 University College Dublin  
**University College London**  
 University of Arizona  
**University of California-Berkeley (5)**  
**University of California-Davis (3)**  
 University of California-Irvine  
**University of California-LA (3)**  
 University of California-Merced  
**University of California-Riverside (4)**  
**University of California-San Diego (2)**  
**University of California-Sta Barbara (2)**  
**University of California-Santa Cruz (9)**  
 University of Colorado Boulder  
 University of Connecticut  
 University of Delaware  
**University of Denver**  
**University of Hawaii at Manoa**  
 University of Houston  
 University of La Verne  
 University of Maryland-College Park  
 University of Massachusetts-Amherst  
 University of Massachusetts-Boston  
 University of Michigan-Ann Arbor  
 University of Nevada-Las Vegas  
 University of North Carolina-Asheville  
 University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill  
 University of North Dakota  
**University of Oregon (2)**  
 University of Pittsburgh  
 University of Puget Sound  
 University of Rhode Island  
 University of San Diego

University of San Francisco  
**University of Southern California (3)**  
 University of St Andrews  
 University of the Pacific  
 University of Vermont  
 University of Virginia  
**University of Washington-Seattle (2)**  
**University of Wisconsin-Madison**  
**Vassar College**  
 Virginia Commonwealth University  
 Washington State University  
 Washington University in St Louis  
**Wesleyan University**  
 Western Washington University  
 Whitman College  
 Whittier College  
 Willamette University  
 William & Mary  
 Woodbury University  
**Worcester Polytechnic Institute**  
 Xavier University of Louisiana  
**Yale University**

**GALA CLASSES OF 2020-2023 WERE ALSO ACCEPTED TO THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS:**

Boston College  
 Brown University  
 California Institute of Technology  
 Claremont McKenna College  
 Cornell University  
 Dartmouth College  
 DePaul University  
 Duke University  
 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
 Emerson College  
 Harvey Mudd College  
 McGill University  
 New School for Architecture  
 School of the Art Inst. of Chicago  
 SoCal Institute of Architecture  
 Tufts University  
 University of Pennsylvania  
 Wellesley College  
 Wiley College

