



# Albany High School

*Four unique academies. One great education.*

**2019-20 Academy Lottery  
Information and Application**



# Four unique academies. One great education.

Albany High has four academies, each with its own theme: Citizenship, Discovery, Leadership and Innovation. These physically smaller learning environments are designed to help students feel connected, involved and engaged. Students are assigned to each academy through a lottery they are encouraged to enter. An application to the lottery is on the last page of this brochure. The lottery is open to all incoming freshmen, new students and current Albany High students wishing to change academies.

## How the academies are the same: core courses, high expectations for all

- All the academies offer the same core classes in English, math, science and social studies, and students generally take those courses in the academy to which they are assigned.
- Also, students have the opportunity to take Albany High's acclaimed Advanced Placement courses in all four academies. All students also may take courses from the International Baccalaureate program offered in Citizenship Academy.
- Honors, Special Education classes and English as a New Language classes are available in every academy. While all students will be assigned to an academy, they also can take part in Abrookin Career and Technical Center programs.
- Classes in physical education, band, orchestra, chorus, art and health include students from all academies.

## How the academies are different: themes

Each academy is made unique by the electives it offers and the themes woven into the core curriculum. However, students can take electives in different academies and the electives are equally available to all.

### Citizenship Academy

*Theme: global awareness and multiculturalism*

- Upper-level classes in social studies and foreign language
- May be of interest to students considering careers in international studies, government, education, social services or culinary

### Discovery Academy

*Theme: communication and performing arts*

- Upper-level classes in English, music and art
- May be of interest to students considering careers in acting, computer animation, directing, fashion, graphic arts, journalism, music, photography, videography or web design

### Innovation Academy

*Theme: science, technology and engineering*

- Upper-level classes in science, technology and engineering
- May be of interest to students considering careers in chemistry, computer programming, engineering, forensics, health professions or technology

### Leadership Academy

*Theme: civic and social responsibility*

- Upper-level classes in math and business
- May be of interest to students considering careers in business information, construction technology, entrepreneurship, executive management, hospitality, human resources, law and tourism

## Applying to an academy for 2019-20 (deadline is Nov. 13, 2018)

To apply for the lottery, students must complete the application on the last page. The application asks students to decide which academy they would prefer to attend by ranking their first, second, third and fourth choices.

Enrollment in each academy is capped to help balance the student body across the four academies.

For each academy, the lottery will randomly select 175 students who listed that academy as their first choice on the application. Remaining seats available in that academy

then will be randomly filled with students who selected it as their second, third or fourth choice.

Students who do not enter the lottery by the application deadline – Nov. 13 – are assigned randomly across the four academies. The lottery will be held Dec. 4.

For information about the academies, contact Roderick Gilmour III at [rgilmour@albany.k12.ny.us](mailto:rgilmour@albany.k12.ny.us) or (518) 475-6208 or Kahla Kuchta at (518) 475-6010 or [kkuchta@albany.k12.ny.us](mailto:kkuchta@albany.k12.ny.us).

# Citizenship Academy

## Ignite your curiosity to become a culturally competent, responsible and productive global citizen

Global awareness is an understanding of concepts that affect our world: namely, environmental, social, cultural, political and economic relations. Students in Citizenship Academy are provided the skills to navigate and embrace cultural differences. Applying the knowledge of global and cultural perspectives prepares students for academic, professional and social success as productive global citizens. Also, Citizenship Academy is particularly relevant to students considering taking part in the International Baccalaureate program.

## Opportunities in Citizenship Academy

- Earn a New York State Seal of Biliteracy for being proficient in listening, speaking, reading and writing in one or more languages in addition to English
- Experience global foods and gourmet cooking in Culinary Arts courses
- Immerse yourself in different cultures through multiple upper-level foreign language studies
- Join French Honor Society
- Join Spanish Club
- Participate in related after-school clubs including Model UN, International Club, French Club and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cooking



“ No matter where you come from, Citizenship Academy will guide you on **the path to a successful future.**

–Francis Hung Mang, senior

Being able to **make your society a better place** through hard work and leadership will **empower others** to follow in your steps. Citizenship Academy will help you with every step.

–Skyy Rivas, senior ”



# Discovery Academy

## Discover yourself to discover your future

Discovery Academy allows students considering careers in acting, computer animation, directing, fashion, graphic arts, journalism, music, photography, videography or web design to explore courses that will provide them with the 21st-century skills necessary to be successful in the information age.

Discovery Academy students will learn about information, media and technology in courses such as Studio in Art/ Electronic Media, Digital Filmmaking or Television Production. Their communication and collaboration skills will soar as they participate in the Theatre Ensemble. Students will have a chance to further explore their creative side in courses such as Studio in Photography or Fashion Illustration and Costume Design.

## Opportunities in Discovery Academy

- Work with Youth FX to create films (Albany High students participated in a film that went to the 2016 Sundance Film Festival!)
- Participate in related after-school clubs including digital film and media arts, gospel singing, music recording, photography, cosmetology and dance.
- Complete an independent study/ University in the High School program in advanced art
- Earn an Advanced Regents Diploma by completing a five-unit art sequence
- Learn the many facets of production in Digital Filmmaking and Music Recording courses
- Perform in musical and student-written productions of Theatre Ensemble
- Earn a license in cosmetology
- Perform in award-winning music performance groups, including vocal, jazz, wind and symphonic ensembles, and concert band



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Discovery Academy **inspires students to show who they are through art and music.** I found out a lot about myself and who I want to become.

—Caleb John, senior

Discovery Academy helps me to **explore my interests in writing and music** and really represents those things.

—Emma Marlay-Wright, senior

Being in Discovery Academy had helped me to **balance my love for science and the arts.**

—Christina Black, senior

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# Innovation Academy

## Invent the future

Innovation Academy focuses on science, technology and engineering to help students succeed in today's challenging and competitive world. Innovation Academy will empower students with the skills necessary to problem-solve, think critically and creatively, and collaborate!

Science is all around us as we interact with the complexity of the natural universe. Technology shapes our everyday lives as we turn on our computers, smartphones, microwaves and countless devices that make our lives more efficient. Engineering provides us the thinking necessary to innovate, create and invent, tackling the challenges of a growing society.

Choose Innovation Academy to prepare for some of the most in-demand and fastest-growing careers in information technology, medicine and health care.

## Opportunities in Innovation Academy

- Delve into our Nanoscale Science course
- Explore Project Lead the Way pre-engineering courses
- Earn Certified Nurse Assistant certification
- Complete our new Computer Science pathway
- Collect, preserve and analyze forensic evidence
- Pursue opportunities for internships, field trips, guest speakers and more
- Join the Robotics Team to compete with national and international teams



“ As a student in Innovation Academy, I am **challenged**. I am **engaged**. I am **empowered**. I am a **leader**. I am **encouraged to believe** that maybe, one day, **the idea that I have may change the world**.

– Onovu Otitigbe-Dangerfield, sophomore



Innovation Academy allows students to take many enjoyable classes. The classes I am taking are **very rigorous, but I enjoy being challenged**.

–John Morven Nocus, senior

Innovation Academy has helped me realize that I have a **passion for engineering**.

–Joshua Paul Croft, senior ”

# Leadership Academy

## Lead the change you want to see in the world

Choose Albany High School's Leadership Academy to establish yourself as a leader in the community and prepare yourself for careers in business, finance and management.

Leadership Academy is committed to the following five pillars: diversity, academic excellence, innovative curriculum and professional development, high-quality instructional systems, and family and community partnerships.

Leadership Academy builds the intellect and ethics of students so as to develop future productive leaders of society. Every Leadership Academy student will be provided the opportunity to graduate having earned 12 college credits and may participate in an internship aligned to the career pathway of his or her choosing.

## Opportunities in Leadership Academy

- Align your interests to the business world by participating in career excursions as a freshman
- Participate in job-shadowing experiences at local businesses and organizations as a sophomore
- Pursue business internship opportunities in a career of your choosing as a junior/senior
- Complete our accounting pathway and earn your Accounting Basic certification
- Develop soft skills and learn how to build relationships in your occupational field
- Collaborate on a capstone project aligned to your college or career pathway
- Earn scholarships and accumulate college credits to offset the cost of higher education
- Join our Speech and Debate Club



“ I really appreciate all the **support** I receive in Leadership Academy. Whenever I need help I am always met with **kindness** from guidance counselors, teachers, and even the principal. **They know me as an individual** and are dedicated to helping me succeed.

–Caroline Stenard, junior



Leadership Academy will make all your hard work and **dreams come true**. It will help you develop a **strong meaning of life**. It's going to make you want to **become a better individual**. It's going to help you pass through all the hard obstacles that come with life.

–Keymoni Brown, junior

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# 2019-20 Albany High School Lottery Application

Application deadline is Nov. 13, 2018. The lottery will be held Dec. 4, 2018.

## 1. Student Information

[Redacted]		[Redacted]	
Name		Current School	
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
Date of Birth	Current grade	Gender	
[Redacted]			[Redacted]
Street Address			Zip Code
[Redacted]		[Redacted]	
Parent/Guardian Name		Home Phone	
[Redacted]	[Redacted]		
Cell Phone	Work Phone		

## 2. Academy Selection

Please number your choices 1, 2, 3 and 4, with 1 as your first choice and 4 as your last choice. If you do not select an academy, you will be randomly assigned to one.

Each academy offers the same core classes in English, math, science and social studies. Electives are grouped by academy. However, all students can choose electives in any academy.

Choice	Academy Name	Academy Description
	Citizenship Academy	Electives focusing on global awareness and multiculturalism
	Discovery Academy	Electives focusing on communications and performing arts
	Innovation Academy	Electives focusing on science, technology and engineering
	Leadership Academy	Electives focusing on business and math

## 3. Parent/Guardian Information

I agree that if selected the student will remain in the academy for a minimum of one year as long as all program requirements are fulfilled. I understand that if the student declines a position once selected, he/she will be assigned to an academy selected by the district. I affirm that the information included in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

[Redacted]	[Redacted]
Parent/Guardian Signature	Date

Completed applications can be mailed or hand-delivered to your child's guidance counselor or mailed to: Magnet Office, City School District of Albany, 1 Academy Park, Albany, NY 12207.

For more information on the academies, contact Albany High Vice Principal Roderick Gilmour III at [rgilmour@albany.k12.ny.us](mailto:rgilmour@albany.k12.ny.us) or (518) 475-6208. For more information on the lottery process, contact Kahla Kuchta at [kkuchta@albany.k12.ny.us](mailto:kkuchta@albany.k12.ny.us) or (518) 475-6010.



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City School District of  
**ALBANY**  
1 Academy Park  
Albany, NY 12207

# Important 2019-20 Albany High School academy lottery information enclosed!

**Albany High School**  
(518) 475-6200  
Jodi Commerford, *Principal*  
Roderick Gilmour III, *Vice Principal*

**Abrookin Career and Technical Center**  
(518) 475-6400  
Andrea Marques, *House Principal*

**Citizenship Academy**  
(518) 475-6220  
Suzann Cornell, *Academy Principal*

**Innovation Academy**  
(518) 475-6240  
Julie Barber, *Academy Principal*

**Discovery Academy**  
(518) 475-6230  
Michael Elliot, *Academy Principal*

**Leadership Academy**  
(518) 475-6250  
Jason Breh, *Academy Principal*

