

**Charter High School for Architecture + Design**  
**105 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street Philadelphia, PA 19106**  
[www.chadphila.org](http://www.chadphila.org)  
**215-351-2900**



## CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN 2011-2012 APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

### THE TWO-STEP ADMISSION PROCESS

To assist you in completing your child's application for admission, please refer to this two-step process. **This checklist is for your convenience and need not be returned with the Application for Admission.** Upon receipt of all the required documents explained in Step One of the application process, the applicant will be considered for Step Two.

#### STEP ONE: SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION + REQUIRED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Complete the application and submit it with all of the required documents to **CHAD Admissions**  
**105 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street Philadelphia, PA 19106:**

☐ **Application for Admission**

Complete the enclosed application.

☐ **Report Card / Transcript**

Grade 9 applicants must submit a copy of their most recent report card from the current school. CHAD reserves the right to request a copy of applicant's final 8<sup>th</sup> grade report card. Grade 10, 11 and 12 applicants must submit a transcript of all courses taken in high school and all credits earned to date.

☐ **Birth Certificate**

Photocopy of student's birth certificate (no originals please). Passports are acceptable. Social Security Cards are not acceptable.

☐ **Immunization Records**

A copy of all up-to-date immunization records must be forwarded with application.

☐ **2 Letters of Recommendation**

Two recommendation forms are provided in the application. The Teacher Recommendation forms must be completed by current teachers. Recommendation forms must be mailed directly to the CHAD Admissions Department.

☐ **Proof of Custody [ONLY IF LEGALLY APPLICABLE]**

#### STEP TWO: MEETING AND ON SITE VISIT

Applicants will be invited to an on-site visit and meeting with a school official before admissions to CHAD is offered. Only applicants who submit a complete application will be eligible for Step 2. The student and one parent or legal guardian must attend this on-site visit in order to be considered for admission.

- q Our on site visits will take place at the Charter High School for Architecture + Design on a scheduled Saturday (s) in the spring. You will receive an invitation to one of these visits.
- q The site visit will have the following components:
  - o Applicant and parent/guardian will tour the school
  - o Applicant meeting with a member of the CHAD faculty
  - o Applicant will be asked to make a short portfolio presentation of his/her own work during the interview



# CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN

## 2011-2012 APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

### PART ONE: STUDENT/APPLICANT INFORMATION

applying for grade: ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12

last name first name middle name

birth date age current school (full name)

race: ☐ american indian/alaskan native ☐ native hawaiian/pacific islander ☐ black ☐ hispanic ☐ white  
☐ multi racial ☐ asian

gender: ☐ male ☐ female student resides with: ☐ mother ☐ father ☐ both ☐ guardian

current school district: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about CHAD? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you applying to other high schools? If so, please list here:

### PART TWO: PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

name: ☐ parent/s ☐ legal guardian

street address

city state zip

home phone #(s)

work phone #(s)

cell phone #(s)

email address(es)

Students, parents, and families play an important role in a successful educational experience. The Charter High School for Architecture + Design is a school of choice. Students who choose to attend CHAD also agree to accept its mission, policies, rules, and goals. We, the undersigned, hereby certify that all statements made in this application are true, accurate, and complete, including all report cards, transcripts, letters of recommendation, portfolio of student work, medical records, birth certificates and all other submitted documents.

applicant signature: \_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_

parent/guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_



## CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN 2011-2012 APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

# APPLICANT ESSAY CHOICES

Choose ONE of the following prompts (A, B, or C) to write your essay.

**A:** Through the years new inventions have changed the way we live. Think about one invention that has had an impact on the way you live. Write an essay explaining how this invention has changed your life.

**Expository Essay:** Explain how an invention has changed your life. Be sure to include specific reasons and supportive details when explaining the invention you chose.

-OR-

**B:** If you could invent something that would be valuable to society, what would it be and how would it be beneficial? You might want to spend time thinking about your invention and its purpose in society. Think about what this invention would be able to do and how it would be helpful to society.

**Expository Essay:** Describe your invention and how it would benefit society. Be sure to include specific details or events that relate to your topic.

-OR-

**C:** A wealthy donor plans to build a new facility that will benefit young people in your neighborhood. It could be a swimming pool, a theater, a skateboard park, an art school, or any other facility that would provide young people with constructive ways to spend their time. The donor is not sure what kind of facility would be most useful.

**A letter to the donor:** Decide the type of facility you would like to have built, and persuade the donor that your building is the best choice. Be sure to support your opinion with convincing reasons and evidence.

Please read directions for the essay writing on the next page.



## CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN 2011-2012 APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

# APPLICANT ESSAY DIRECTIONS

Learning to write well is an important part of being at CHAD. A five paragraph essay is an easy way to structure an essay. Please use this guide to help you organize the writing of your essay. A letter is also an effective way to communicate ideas. **ESSAYS MUST BE TYPED AND SUBMITTED WITH THE APPLICATION.**

**If you have chosen A or B** you have to write an expository essay. Expository essays are simply essays that explain something with facts, as opposed to opinion.

### DIRECTIONS FOR THE EXPOSITORY ESSAY (A or B)

**THE INTRODUCTION:** The introduction contains a thesis statement—a sentence telling the reader what points will be discussed and how they will be addressed. The introduction's topic sentence may also be the thesis statement, with the entire paragraph being an outline of the essay including three main points.

**THE FIRST MAIN POINT:** The next paragraph addresses the first point mentioned in the thesis statement. A topic sentence begins the paragraph, identifying the main point. The paragraph develops the point with proof and support. The concluding sentence summarizes the paragraph, preparing for the next point.

**THE SECOND MAIN POINT:** The next paragraph covers the second point given in the thesis statement.

**THE THIRD MAIN POINT:** The next paragraph refers to the third point listed in the thesis statement.

**THE CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH:** The conclusion summarizes the points introduced in the thesis statement and discussed in the essay. The introduction and conclusion often use similar wording to complement each another.

**If you have chosen C** you have to write a letter.

### DIRECTIONS FOR THE LETTER (C)

**THE INTRODUCTION:** The first paragraph should introduce yourself and explain why you are writing the letter. Keep the first paragraph as concise and clear as possible so that the reader can immediately understand it.

**THE BODY:** The next paragraph(s) should state why your proposal is worthy. Include all the necessary facts in order to legitimize your case. To make your letter more reader-friendly, use bullet-points every time you need to enumerate.

**THE SUMMARY:** The last part should summarize everything you have stated above. Repeat the necessary points that need to be considered. Also include the contact details and where you can be reached. Close out the letter by thanking the reader for his or her time.



## CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN

### 2011-2012 APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

applying for grade: ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12

Applicant First and Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Use this page for your original artwork.** You are required to submit at least **two** sketches from the following choices: (1) a self-portrait; (2) a car; or (3) a pair of shoes. You may use this page in portrait or landscape orientation. Your sketch must fit in the box below. No other artwork will be accepted with the application. Additional original artwork and projects may be requested for portfolio presentation during the applicant's interview.

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN

## 2011-2012 APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

applying for grade: ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12

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Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN

## 2011-2012 APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

### ACADEMIC QUALITY - TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Applying for grade: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Academic Qualities – Please circle one answer for each inquiry.

##### Academic Ability

Outstanding	Good	Average	Below Average
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##### Academic Achievement

Outstanding	Good	Average	Below Average
-------------	------	---------	---------------

##### Effort and Drive

Outstanding	Good	Average	Below Average
-------------	------	---------	---------------

##### Study Habits

Well Organized	Organized	Easily Distracted	Poor
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##### Artistic Aptitude

Talented and Hardworking	Hardworking	Talented	Has Great Difficulty
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##### Ability to Work with Others

Always works well	Usually effective	Sometimes effective	Has Great Difficulty
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##### Ability to Work Independently

Always works alone	Needs help Occasionally	Needs help frequently	Requires Supervision
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##### Oral Expression of Ideas

Exceptional	Good	Only When Called on	Rarely Contributes
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##### Seeks Help When Needed

Always	Sometimes	Never
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#### Personal Qualities

##### Maturity

Very Mature	Appropriate	Somewhat Immature	Very Immature
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##### Consideration of Others

Unusually Thoughtful	Usually Considerate	Rarely Considerate	Selfish
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##### Social Adjustments With Peers

Healthy Relationships	Occasional Minor Problems	Frequent Minor Problems	Relates Poorly
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##### Self-Confidence

Has Healthy Self Image	Needs Some Support	Seems Overly Confident	Needs Much Reassurance
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##### Integrity

Very Trustworthy	Usually Trustworthy	Occasionally Trustworthy	Untrustworthy
------------------	---------------------	--------------------------	---------------

##### Conduct

Well-behaved	Usually Follows Rules	Occasionally Misbehaves	Frequently Misbehaves
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# CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN

## 2011-2012 APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

### ACADEMIC QUALITY - TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM P. 2

#### Personality Traits

Circle all of the words that best describe the applicant

Aggressive  
Confident  
Helpful  
Negative Leader  
Self-Disciplined

Anxious  
Conscientious  
Honest  
Passive Aggressive  
Shy

Articulate  
Disobedient  
Influential  
Perfectionist  
Social

Assertive  
Easily Discouraged  
Irritable  
Positive Leader  
Artistic

Cheerful  
Follower  
Manipulative  
Responsible  
Well-Liked

**Academic Strengths & Weaknesses:** Comment concerning writing ability or math skills as appropriate to your subject area. Consider such categories as effort, curiosity, motivation, achievement in relation to potential, class participation and homework preparation.

**Artistic Strengths & Weaknesses:** Comment concerning creative ability or artistic skills as observed. Consider such categories as effort, curiosity, motivation, achievement in relation to potential, class participation and interest in art, design or architecture in and outside of class.

**Emotional Maturity:** Comment concerning self-confidence, respect for limits and routine, ability to make transitions and response to frustration.

**Overall Rating -** Do you recommend this applicant for admission to the Charter High School for Architecture + Design?

☐ Highly

☐ With reservations

☐ Acceptable

☐ I cannot recommend

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this evaluation. Please provide your contact information so that we may contact you in the event we have further questions.

**Please return this form directly to:**

Admissions  
Charter High School for Architecture + Design  
105 S. 7th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Teacher's Name

Teacher's Signature

Date

Position

School Name

School Address

Telephone

Email



# CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN

## 2011-2012 APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

### ACADEMIC QUALITY - TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Applying for grade: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Academic Qualities – Please circle one answer for each inquiry.

##### Academic Ability

Outstanding	Good	Average	Below Average
-------------	------	---------	---------------

##### Academic Achievement

Outstanding	Good	Average	Below Average
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##### Effort and Drive

Outstanding	Good	Average	Below Average
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## CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN

### 2011-2012 APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

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Aggressive  
Confident  
Helpful  
Negative Leader  
Self-Disciplined

Anxious  
Conscientious  
Honest  
Passive Aggressive  
Shy

Articulate  
Disobedient  
Influential  
Perfectionist  
Social

Assertive  
Easily Discouraged  
Irritable  
Positive Leader  
Artistic

Cheerful  
Follower  
Manipulative  
Responsible  
Well-Liked

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**Overall Rating -** Do you recommend this applicant for admission to the Charter High School for Architecture + Design?

☐ Highly

☐ With reservations

☐ Acceptable

☐ I cannot recommend

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this evaluation. Please provide your contact information so that we may contact you in the event we have further questions.

**Please return this form directly to:**

**Admissions  
Charter High School for Architecture + Design  
105 S. 7th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106**

Teacher's Name

Teacher's Signature

Date

Position

School Name

School Address

Telephone

Email



## CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN

### 2011-2012 APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

#### ABOUT THE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN

The Charter High School for Architecture + Design (CHAD) prepares students to be active citizens in understanding and shaping the built, natural, and manufactured environment. Its design-based academic curriculum celebrates creativity, imagination, and systems thinking.

CHAD serves motivated students who are interested in, and may have aptitude for, architecture and other design-related areas. CHAD students, their families, and faculty have high performance expectations and aspirations.

CHAD's integrated college preparatory academic program fuses the traditional core academic subjects with general design, drawing, spatial, and architectural concepts. It provides inventive learning experiences that consider a variety of individual abilities and learning styles. CHAD uses motivational and instructional techniques that develop each student's problem-solving, critical thinking, and leadership abilities. These skills prepare students with a solid foundation for entering college.

CHAD enriches its academic program with the participation of architecture and design professionals and through partnerships with businesses and universities. These alliances help students experience real world problem solving and expose them to design professionals and their careers.

#### OUR MISSION

The Charter High School for Architecture + Design is a learning community committed to an innovative program [of study,] integrating the design process with the mastery of a strong liberal arts education. The school offers each student the opportunity for success and the preparation for life-long learning and responsible citizenship. CHAD is a thoughtful academic environment that engenders love of learning, intellectual curiosity, and new ways of seeing, and prepares students for higher education.

#### DRESS POLICY – the clothes of a young professional designer

Why a dress policy? A dress policy has many practical purposes. At the Charter High School for Architecture + Design, we feel that a uniform addresses several issues:

- (1) simplifies dressing
- (2) reduces peer pressure and social stigmas
- (3) encourages distinctions of character and personality instead of appearance
- (4) places emphasis on learning, not clothing
- (5) equalizes economic diversity
- (6) lowers long-term clothing costs
- (7) allows for cohesive presentation as a group
- (8) facilitates security by identifying outsiders
- (9) enhances school spirit

CHAD students are required to wear the official school uniform available for purchase from **CRAMERS' UNIFORMS**. Many of our courses allow for opportunities for our students to interact with professionals both inside and outside of school. Our professional dress code ensures that students will always be prepared to represent CHAD, and themselves, professionally.



# CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN

## 2011-2012 APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

### ATTENDANCE POLICY

Absence from school prevents students from satisfactorily completing the prescribed course of study. Regular attendance is a condition upon which all courses of study are predicated. The curriculum at the Charter High School for Architecture + Design is designed to achieve maximum educational benefits for students within the allotted number of school days. Therefore, students missing 14 school days for a yearlong course will be reviewed by the Principal to determine promotion/retention. Students with excessive absences jeopardize their matriculation and will be required to make up missed time during summer credit completion. Days in credit completion are assigned according to the time missed during the school year.

### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS + PROMOTION POLICY

The purpose of a promotion policy is to specify minimum requirements in academic credit accrual, design competencies, and other expectations required by the School District of Philadelphia, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the **Charter High School for Architecture and Design (CHAD)** to receive a graduation diploma from CHAD.

#### Credit Accrual

CHAD is a college preparatory school and all students must meet or exceed the academic requirements of the School District of Philadelphia and the state of Pennsylvania. Students must successfully complete all credits to receive a CHAD diploma. Failed courses must be made up in summer school or in an approved program within the year following the failing grade.

Failing any 3 or more courses in a year will require the student to repeat the entire year. CHAD reserves the right to consider a student academically ineligible to repeat a school year at CHAD. A pattern of failed classes places the student on academic probation and a student's continuation at CHAD will be dependent on successful adherence to a contract agreed upon by the school, student, and parents or guardians.

#### Design Competencies

**CHAD is a specialty school for students with an interest in learning about design.** The design curriculum includes Drawing Foundations (9<sup>th</sup> grade), 2D/3D Design (10<sup>th</sup> grade), Sculpture + Industrial Design (11<sup>th</sup> grade) and Senior Design Projects in 12<sup>th</sup> grade. While students are not required to pursue further design careers, all students must be prepared to take the design courses and to maintain adequate progress in design. A failing grade in design may result in a student being academically ineligible for grade promotion. Students must successfully complete two credits of design each year for a total of 8 credits in order to receive a CHAD diploma. Design classes are mandatory at CHAD and grades in design classes are included in computation of overall grade point averages.

#### Additional Competencies

In addition to accrual of course credits in design and other academic subjects there are additional competencies required to receive a CHAD diploma:

##### Community Service

120 hours of community service (30 hours each academic year) are required to receive a CHAD diploma. Community service is included as part of the student's overall grade point average. It is the responsibility of the student to complete community service and submit the appropriate documentation to the Advisor each year.

##### Physical Education

120 hours of physical education (1 credit as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education) is required during freshman year to receive a CHAD diploma. Physical education is evaluated on a pass/fail basis. It is the responsibility of the student to complete physical education and submit the appropriate documentation to the Advisor.



# CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN

## 2011-2012 APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

### TRANSFER INFORMATION

#### Transfer Students

Only credits from official transcripts will count toward requirements. Official transcripts are those provided directly by previous schools attended. For students who attended schools outside of the United States, official transcripts are those evaluated by international credit evaluation firms such as World Education Services (WES).

### TRANSPORTATION

#### Transpasses

The School District of Philadelphia is required, by charter school law, to provide transportation to charter school students under the same terms and conditions as it provides transportation to other public school students.

Eligibility (taken directly from the School District of Philadelphia's website):

Students: must be a resident of Philadelphia.

Grades: 7th through 12th

Distance: live 1.5 miles or more from school.

Schools: Public, Charter, Archdiocesan and Non Public

Method: Student Transpasses

Hours: 5:30 AM to 7:00 PM. No evening or weekend use is permitted.

Days: When school is in session. Adults may not use SEPTA student Transpasses.

Non-Philadelphia resident students: Parents and guardians should contact their home school district for possible help with transportation.