



Vancouver School of Arts and Academics Vocabulary

Welcome to VSAA! Staff, students and families at the Art School speak their own lingo. We've compiled a list of some of the VSAA terms to help you transition into our school community. We're a family, so just ask if you need help! VSAAptsa@gmail.com or www.facebook.com/vsaapta

320's	Top floor on the north side of the building • Classrooms are all numbered between 312 and 324 • Primarily high school classes
Advo	Advocacy • A group of students in grades 6-12 assigned to the same teacher for each of their seven years at VSAA • Similar to "home room" but with academic, social and emotional support
Advocate	Advocacy teacher
Art forms	Six art disciplines at VSAA: MIA, Visual Art, Literary Art, Theatre, Dance and Music
Art Schooler	Any former or current VSAA student
Black Box	Theatre space located above the art room in Room 301
Booth	The balcony space of the Durst Theatre • Used for tech (lights, sound, tricasting) for all Durst performances
Color War	Competitions between Blue, Red and Yellow Teams • Usually held during Spirit Week
Confluence Panels	Six mosaic panels on the exterior of the building on the Main Street side • Part of the larger Confluence Project to celebrate the Confluence of culture, history and ecology along the Columbia River
Convo	Convocation • weekly meetings of student leaders representing each Advo
Core	Class where information and procedures from academic studies are applied in interdisciplinary, arts-based projects
Costume Shop	Storage and work space adjacent to the cafeteria • All costumes for shows and performances are made here • Home to the Costume Club
Courtyard	Green space outside of main entrance • Includes performance stage and art

CTC	Children's Theatre Company • After school theatre program available to middle-school students
Day of Caring	School-wide day of Community Service held annually in the spring
Durst	VSAA Auditorium • The Royal Durst Theatre, dedicated to Royal Durst, father of long-time Arts patron Leslie Durst
Fish Bowl	Hallway area with bayed windows outside of Media Center
FQ's	Fundamental Questions • A method of inquiry using six questions to examine a topic (Evidence, Perspective, Connections, Supposition, Relevance and Transitions)
Gallery	Large foyer inside of main doors along with the area around the base of the Grand Staircase • Largest display space for art in the building • Student gathering area
Grand Staircase	Large staircase immediately inside the "old" Main Street entrance • Connects the Gallery and Upper Gallery
Green room	Vocal classroom which also serves as an off-stage area for performers during productions in the Durst
Informance	Evening performance to showcase an art form
Mac Lab	Teaching and learning space next to the VA Room used for yearbook and VA
MIA Room	Moving Image Arts Room 308
Peace Garden	Terraced garden area in Courtyard • Incorporates student projects
Yellow/ Red/ Blue Teams	The color teams that grade groups are divided into for core • Yellow: grades 11-12 • Red: grades 9-10 • Blue: middle school
Science Hallway	Hallway on north side of the building, second floor • Most science classrooms located in this area
Showcase	Assembly during the school day to "showcase" an art form or other activity
Shumway	Charles Shumway • Vancouver Superintendent from 1895 – 1930 • Original name for VSAA's building was Shumway Junior High
Sunshine Hallway	Upper hallway on the north side of the building with lots of light • Favorite meeting space for students
The Chicken	Large art sculpture located between the student and main parking lots • Actual name is the "Rose"
Upper Gallery	Area above the Gallery • Display space
VA Room	Visual Art Room 201
Zero Period	Classes offered before the start of the regular school day