

## LADERA VISTA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

### 2017-2018 SCHOOL STATISTICS

Designated in 2018

Community Size - Suburban

School Enrollment - 976

Grade Levels - 7, 8

School Calendar - Traditional

Free and Reduced Lunch 45.3%

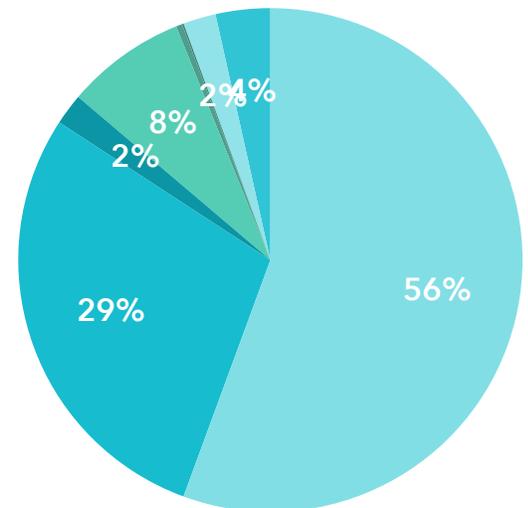
English Learners 17.9%

Students With Disabilities 11.8%



Ladera Vista Junior High School of the Arts  
Fullerton School District  
1700 E Wilshire Ave Fullerton, CA 92831  
Tel (714) 447-7765  
Principal - Randa Schmalfeld  
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### 2017-2018 School Demographics



### School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

#### Academic Excellence

• **Arts-Integrated Approach to Learning.** This approach ensures high levels of student engagement and success.

Our vision as a School of the Arts is central to our school's culture and identity and our students see themselves as successful learners. The arts are used as a springboard for learning and provide an opportunity to synthesize and express essential learning outcomes.

Ladera Vista Students apply their learning through arts-based activities and projects, which promote real-world connections and higher level thinking skills.

- **Technology Integration.** Each student on our campus is issued an iPad at the beginning of each school year. This device is utilized as powerful learning tool, and teachers have received extensive training to support challenging and engaging learning through the use of technology and a variety of instructional strategies.
- **Tutorials.** Tuesday and Thursday Tutorials provide students with the opportunity for Intervention Supports as well as “Just in Time” support. Tutorials take place for 30 minutes immediately following lunch. During Tutorials, students identified through extensive data analysis receive targeted and strategic small group intervention. Students who need re-teaching of current concepts or who need to retake a test or complete an assignment may also visit their teachers during this time. Those students demonstrating mastery have an opportunity to participate in a variety of Enrichment activities.

## **Developmental Responsiveness**

- **Advisory Classes.** These classes are considered “home base” for the two years that students are with us at Ladera Vista. Advisory classes are typically small in size and students stay with the same Advisory Teachers for their 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade years. Advisory teachers welcome their students to school on the first day of school and call their students’ names as they walk across the stage at our Promotion Ceremony. Students see their Advisory Teachers everyday and for extended periods during specially scheduled days for arts assemblies, guest speakers, PBIS assemblies, and other special events.
- **Advisory Houses.** Not only are our students grouped into advisory classes, but these classes are grouped into Houses, which are named after well-known universities. Our houses are in friendly competition with each other for preferred seating at assemblies, front of the line passes, and other school perks. This structure supports a personalized and fun environment for each student.
- **Creative Expression Through the Arts.** Our arts-infused approach to academic content and elective classes supports student success and high levels of engagement. Students learn through the arts and are engaged in Visual, Performing, and Digital Arts activities throughout their day.
- **Interdisciplinary Collaboration.** Our Computer Animation Teacher teamed with ELA and Art Teachers to bring many students’ stories to life. Students were challenged to write a short story with a hero and a villain. Top stories were selected and Art Students were challenged to create visual backgrounds and character sketches for the stories. Next, our Computer Animation Students animated the stories using their outstanding technology skills.
- **After School Co-Curricular Activities.** Our Arts Conservatory Program offers after school classes in visual and performing arts at a free and reduced cost three afternoons per week. The Intermural Sports Program is popular with our students as we compete against other schools in the District in seasonal sports. Our Science Olympiad team competes regionally and meets twice a week after school. Our Cyber Patriot Teams also compete regionally in the area of cyber security and one team is competing at the National level this April. Our school also boasts an all female service organization called Ladera’s Leading Ladies which empowers female students to make a difference in locally.

## **Social Equity**

- **Community of Diverse Learners.** Our school-wide commitment to student achievement is at the heart of Ladera Vista's success in recent years. We view ourselves as a community of learners, a place where all students are expected to reach their highest potential, where individual differences are honored, and where creativity is celebrated. We use arts as a springboard for learning and an avenue for demonstrating mastery. In addition to more traditional assignments and assessments, students have the opportunity to demonstrate mastery of academic content through digital arts projects, performances, and visual arts projects.
- **PBIS School.** The Ladera Vista Awards and Recognition Team works closely with our PBIS Team to acknowledge student achievement in a variety of ways. Honor Roll and National Junior Honor Society celebrate academic achievement. Students are also recognized for participation in Arts Pathways Programs, and our staff also honors students who are special to them through our People's Choice Awards. The PBIS Rewards system also recognizes outstanding citizenship and students earn rewards points throughout the day which can be redeemed in our PBIS Store.
- **Technology Platforms.** Thrively, a platform for students to explore their personal interests and possible future career pathways also supports students in identifying their learning styles. Teachers in each class have access to this data to plan for student success. Thrively is also a great tool for personalizing student learning. Vocabulary.com is another technology tool used, our students compete in a weekly Vocabulary Bowl against other schools across the state and across the nation. Our students take great pride in our #1 ranking in the state of California and we have been ranked #3 in the nation for weeks at a time in various times throughout this school year.

## **Organizational Support**

- **Our Vision.** "Ladera Vista Junior High School of the Arts is a center for innovation and creativity. It is our desire to provide students with meaningful, relevant, and rigorous learning opportunities. Through our infusion of the visual, performing, and digital arts, we strive to support each student in making meaningful connections in their learning. As a school community, we exhibit a passion and enthusiasm for exploration, learning, and achievement, and we celebrate and encourage each student's success. We take great pride in creating a warm and welcoming school community, where each student knows they are cared for and safe and are expected to meet their greatest potential."
- **Professional Learning.** Our staff is encouraged to stretch and grow as educators. While we hold steadfastly to our commitment to student success, we value the freedom to be innovative in our approaches. Ladera Vista Teachers work closely to ensure high levels of student success and challenge each other with new ideas in a school environment that fosters creativity. Peer support for improving professional practice is found in the work of our PLC Teams, through our Collegial Walk-throughs, and through mentor partnerships across our academic disciplines.