

*Learning and Exploring
Beyond the Classroom*



SCHOOL PROFILE 2018-2019



THE
MARVELWOOD
S C H O O L

The Marvelwood School provides an affirmative environment in which students develop strong core values, empathy, a respect for diversity, and an appreciation for the value of service to others.

A Marvelwood education empowers graduates to become creative, resilient, mindful, and confident young adults ready to meet the challenges of higher learning, the workplace, and a rapidly changing world.



“When looking for a high school for my two children, I wanted the same nurturing yet challenging environment they had at Montessori. I wanted a school where my children would continue to enjoy learning and exploring, and build their confidence as community members.”

My husband and I are thrilled that we decided to send our children to The Marvelwood School. We are deeply grateful to the wonderful faculty and staff who nurtured our daughter, Emily, through high school, and are now preparing our son, Jack, for his future.”

Joanne Gersten P’17, P’20

Our Core Values

Honesty · Respect · Responsibility · Service to Others



Marvelwood at a Glance

Year Founded: 1956

Students: 140 in grades 9–12 and PG;
120 boarding and 20 day

States Represented: 15

Countries Represented: 13

International Students: 29%

Student-to-Faculty Ratio: 4:1

Average Class Size: 8–12

Faculty and Administrators: 53

Faculty with Advanced Degrees: 52%

Average Faculty Tenure: 15 years

Residential Faculty: 75%

Number of Dorms: 4

Residential Dorm Faculty: 14

U.S. Students of Color: 15%

Students Receiving Financial Aid: 28%

Endowment: \$2.1M

Campus Acres: 83

Miles Outside New York City: 95

Accreditation: NEASC

Memberships: CAIS, TABS, WCBS, NAIS



College Matriculation 2014–2018

Academy of Art University	Hult International School of Business	Purdue University	University of Colorado at Boulder
Allegany College of Maryland	Iona College	Quinnipiac University	University of Connecticut
American University	Ithaca College	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Delaware
Bennington College	Johnson & Wales University, Providence	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of Hartford
Bentley University	King's College	Roger Williams University	University of Illinois at Urbana- Champaign
Binghamton University	Lake Forest College	Rollins College	University of La Verne
Boston University	Landmark College	Royal Holloway, University of London	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Brandeis University	Lasell College	Rutgers University	University of New Haven
Bridgewater State University	Lesley University	Sacred Heart University	University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Brigham Young University	LIM (Laboratory Institute of Merchandising)	Salve Regina University	University of North Carolina at Wilmington
Central Connecticut State University	Long Island University, Brooklyn	Savannah College of Art and Design	University of Pittsburgh
Central Saint Martins	Loyola Marymount University	School of Visual Arts	University of Redlands
Champlain College	Lynn University	Schools of the Art Institute of Chicago	University of Puerto Rico, Carolina
Clarkson University	Manhattan College	Skidmore College	University of Rochester
Colby-Sawyer College	Manhattanville College	St. Lawrence University	University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Curry College	Marist College	St. Olaf College	University of Vermont
Dickinson College	Marlboro College	State University of New York, Delhi	University of Virginia
Dominican College	Maryland Institute College of Art	State University of New York, Plattsburgh	University of Wisconsin–Madison
Drexel University	Mills College	Suffolk University	Vancouver Institute of Media Arts
Elon University	Mount Ida College	Syracuse University	Virginia Tech
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach	Mount Saint Mary College	The Culinary Institute of America	Wagner College
Florida Southern College	Muhlenberg College	The George Washington University	Warren Wilson College
Gettysburg College	New England College	The University of Tampa	Washington University of St. Louis
Glion Institute of Higher Education	New England Institute of Technology	Unity College	Wesleyan University
Goucher College	The New School	University of California, Irvine	Western Connecticut State University
Green Mountain College	New York Film Academy	University of California, Los Angeles	Western New England University
Hampshire College	New York University	University of California, San Diego	West Virginia Wesleyan College
Hartford Art School at University of Hartford	Pace University, New York City	University of California, Santa Barbara	Wheaton College
Hartwick College	Penn State		Whittier College
Haverford College	Penn State Altoona		
High Point University	Penn State Harrisburg		
Hofstra University	Pratt Institute		
Hood College	Prescott College		

“In every way, our school is designed to support college-bound students in their efforts to achieve intellectual, social, personal, and moral growth.”

Blythe Everett P’14, ’16, Interim Head of School, Senior Dean for Academics

Cornerstone Programs

Learning Support

Marvelwood's unique Learning Support program provides students who learn differently with the support and tools they need to experience academic success, to increase self-confidence, and to acquire strong learning and self-advocacy skills they will need in college and beyond.

Learning Support is a daily one-on-one or small-group tutorial period that supplements Marvelwood's college preparatory curriculum. Programs are customized to meet students' individual learning needs. Students enrolled in the Learning Support program may work one-on-one with a teacher to complete class work and to reinforce skills and basic concepts critical to academic success. Students requiring less intensive support may work in a small group of two to four students that focuses on executive functioning and core academic skills. Students may also be trained to use the assistive technology available in our Learning Lab, including voice recognition software and text-to-speech programs.



Ornithology in Connecticut and Panama

Marvelwood is one of only three high schools in the nation to offer a yearlong course in ornithology. Students observe birds in their natural habitat and have documented more than 87 species that breed in or migrate through northwestern Connecticut. Projects include operating bird-banding stations under the guidance of the Institute for Bird Populations and maintaining a colony of Purple Martins, an endangered species, with the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection.

Marvelwood's *Building Migratory Bridges* program was established in 2001 in collaboration with the local Audubon Center. Marvelwood students travel annually to Cocobolo Nature Reserve in Panama, a vital yet fragile section of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor, to monitor the habits of migratory species and research the country's native birds and reptiles. During each trip, students engage in activities with children in the nearby isolated village of La Zahina and take part in service projects that benefit local communities.



Community Service

Since the founding of the School, service has been a core value. Each Wednesday morning is devoted to regional community service projects. Every spring, the Senior Service Trip provides a culminating experience for Marvelwood seniors, offering tangible proof of their potential to make a difference in the lives of others.

We offer a range of community service options, including:

- Amnesty International
- Animal Welfare of New Milford
- Astor-Wingdale Head Start
- Coldstream Farm
- Domestic Violence Awareness Week
- Fernwood Retirement Home
- Forrest Court Children's Center
- Guiding Eyes Foundation
- Kent Center School
- Kent Community Nursery School
- Kent Memorial Library
- Kent Senior Center
- Kent Volunteer Fire Department
- Make-A-Wish Foundation
- Mountainview Farm
- Sharon Audubon Center



Minimum Graduation Requirements

4 credits in English, grades 9–12

4 credits in mathematics, grades 9–12, including Geometry and Algebra 2

3 credits in history, including U.S. History

3 credits in science, including two lab sciences

2 credits in foreign language (may be waived in some cases)

3 credits in the arts

English as a Second Language (ESL)

Marvelwood's ESL Program is designed to help international students gain fluency in all areas of language: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. These skills are essential for the students to succeed in the mainstream program.

Courses offer small class size and are student-centered, utilizing an approach that includes pair work, group work, and oral presentations. Marvelwood is certified as a TOEFL testing center.

Performing and Visual Arts

At Marvelwood, we believe all students have a gift for creating, and we provide myriad opportunities for them to discover and develop their creative voice through a wide range of performing and visual arts classes. Students have the opportunity to work individually with faculty members to design a self-directed course of study. Music students may study privately with vocal or instrumental instructors, and all students showcase their talents at performances throughout the year.



Academics

Courses Offered: 80

AP and Honors Courses: 20

Course Offerings in Music, Theatre, and Visual Arts: 13

Sample Course Offerings

- 3D Art
- AP Calculus: AB, BC
- AP Chemistry
- AP Economics
- AP European History
- AP Statistics
- AP U.S. History
- Applications of Algebra
- Comparative Politics
- Computer Science: Database
- Computer Science: Programming
- Differential Equations
- Environmental Science
- Ethology
- Field Ornithology
- History of the Middle East
- Honors Conservation Biology
- LEGO® Robotics
- Politics in Film
- Screenwriting
- Social Psychology
- *The Walking Dead* and Philosophy

Art Offerings

Marvelwood offers 13 arts courses covering the following subjects:

Music: Songwriting, American music history, music performance

Theatre: Honors Theatre; Hamilton: Anatomy of a Phenomenon

Visual Arts: Ceramics, drawing, film, painting, photography, sculpture, yearbook

Residential Life

Leadership Opportunities

- Admission Tour Guides
- Community Service
- Dorm Prefect
- Judicial Council
- Peer Mediation
- Peer Tutoring
- Round Square
- Student Activities
- Student Government

Clubs and Activities

- A cappella
- American Mathematics Competition
- Chorus
- Connecticut Bird Atlas
- Connecticut Envirothon
- Cultural & Social Awareness Club
- Jazz Band
- Marvelwood Film Festival
- Marvelwood Idol
- Math Club
- Model United Nations
- *Mouth of the Mountain* (school newspaper)
- National Econ Challenge
- Orchestra
- Pop Culture Club
- Princess Tea/Make-A-Wish Fundraiser
- Prom Committee
- Rock Band
- Round Square
- The Skiff Mountain Scuffle wrestling tournament
- Social Media
- Table-Top Gaming Club
- Video Explorations
- Yearbook

Weekend Trips (non-academic)

- Adventure Park
- Amusement parks
- Battle of the Bands
- Bowling
- Broadway shows
- Camping
- Comic-Con
- Dances
- Drive-in movies
- Escape Room
- Go-karting
- Intramural sports
- Laser tag
- Mini-golf
- Minor and major league sporting events
- Movies
- New York City sightseeing
- Paintball
- Roller skating
- Trampoline park

Athletics

Number of Athletic Teams: 17

League Championships 2015–2018: 9

A wide variety of non-competitive athletics are also offered.

Fall

- Cross country
- Horseback riding (all terms)
- Outdoor Adventures*
- Soccer
- Volleyball

Winter

- Basketball
- Fitness training
- Recreational skiing/snowboarding
- Ski team
- Weight training
- Wrestling

Spring

- Baseball
- Golf
- Lacrosse
- Outdoor Adventures*
- Softball
- Tennis
- Ultimate Frisbee

**Outdoor Adventures* is a non-competitive program including camping, canoeing, hiking, mountain biking, rock climbing, and wilderness survival skills

Contacts at Marvelwood

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ACADEMIC AND LEADERSHIP SUMMER PROGRAM