Since 1872, Villa Maria has sought to educate the whole young woman – mind, body, and spirit. The Fine Arts department plays an important part in fulfilling that mission. Students are developed academically through art and music classes, physically through dance and theater performances, and spiritually through the beautiful results of their creativity. The audiences for whom they perform are also enriched by their performances and shows.

Life skills like collaboration, problem solving, and creativity are nurtured by fine arts instruction. Chairman of the Fine Arts Department Dr. Anthony Mosakowski, a music teacher at Villa for 20 years, says, “Students receive many benefits from studying music and performing in music ensembles. These include an outlet for creative expression, learning to work as part of a team, fulfilling personal responsibility, and developing the patience and perseverance necessary to see a complex process through to completion.”

The statistics tell the story. This year about 3,000 hours were dedicated to concert rehearsals. Eleven student musicians represented Villa Maria in All-Catholic and District music festivals. More than 50% of the student body took art instruction. Students selected from 28 art and music classes, including Ceramics, Graphic Design, Water Color, Sculpture, AP Studio Art, AP Music Theory, Ear Training, and Music Composition. The Theatrical Production and Design class offered a complete immersion in theatrical production, including play selection, set design, stage management, and acting. The Dance Company and dance curriculum offered 3 classes and performed at concerts and other events.

Villa Maria musicians and artists took their talents off campus to the wider world. Musicians played at Carnegie Hall and Camilla Hall. Artists displayed their work at several area art shows and in local restaurants. Villa actors, dancers, and singers performed on the Malvern Prep and Devon Prep stages.

It has been estimated that up to 25% of public high schools have totally dismantled their art and music programs due to budget cutbacks. Villa Maria is blessed to have passionate instructors, talented students, and administrators who believe in and support music and art instruction. The arts at Villa Maria Academy are alive and well!
Senior musicians Joanna Chen, Rachel Chen, and Nicole Slaats perform at the Grand Prix Concert at Carnegie Hall.

Rachel Chen and Nicole Slaats display their certificates after their Carnegie Hall performance.

Rachel Chen performs at her end-of-year recital at the prestigious Manhattan School of Music.

Rachel Chen and Nicole Slaats display their certificates after their Carnegie Hall performance.

Junior violinist Millie Slifer and sophomore harpist Millena Chirillo perform at the Rising Talents concert at Columbia University.
Ms. Leah Kim, Music Director