



BESANT HILL SCHOOL OF HAPPY VALLEY

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OUR MISSION

The mission of Besant Hill School is the development of each individual's intellectual and artistic abilities. Through awakening the spirit of inquiry, we encourage each student to pursue integrity and excellence. Our non-competitive community builds honesty, respect, compassion, and responsibility. Our goal is to develop a lifelong habit of learning as embodied in our school's motto, *Aun Aprendo—I am still learning.*

SCHOOL PROFILE 2017-18

OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Besant Hill School of Happy Valley is a private, coeducational college preparatory boarding and day high school (grades 9-12, PG) located 85 miles northwest of Los Angeles, California. Our small student body, beautiful location, and dedicated faculty create a unique learning environment for each student to explore his or her passions within a supportive and diverse community.

Besant Hill School of Happy Valley, formerly known as Happy Valley School, was established in 1946 on the principles of education envisioned by our illustrious founders, including Aldous Huxley, Rosalind Rajagopal, J. Krishnamurti, Dr. Guido Ferrando, and Dr. Annie Besant. Our educational philosophy is drawn from the vision of our founders, who believed that the environment which encourages the fullest development of student potential is one that affords the opportunity to explore creative as well as intellectual abilities.

BY THE NUMBERS

100

 BOARDING & DAY STUDENTS

40% INTERNATIONAL • 60% DOMESTIC • 22 COUNTRIES • 10 STATES • 85% BOARDING • 15% DAY

4:1

 STUDENT TO FACULTY RATIO

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE 10



22%

 STUDENTS RECEIVING FINANCIAL AID

10%

 STUDENTS IDENTIFYING AS STUDENT OF COLOR

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

With nearly 30 offerings in music, performing arts, visual arts and digital arts, the arts at Besant Hill involve the whole person and affect the whole community.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

With a five-acre farm and locally sourced food in the cafeteria, student participation in energy saving competitions, trips to annual environmental conferences, ecological literacy is an integral part of the educational process.

ESL

While improving their written, verbal, and comprehension skills, English language learners form strong peer networks and increase their self-confidence.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Sequential and developmental, emphasizing community, team-work, self-challenge, and respect for the environment.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Actively engaging learners in progressive education models, students have the opportunity to travel regionally, nationally, and internationally.

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

A comprehensive program that meets students at their academic level, taking into consideration their individual learning style. Students learn strategies they can apply in all of their classes to achieve academic success.

SENIOR CAPSTONE

Each spring, seniors work with a member of the faculty and in partnership with a professional mentor in his or her chosen field of exploration to create a two-week individualized project or internship.

SUMMER INSTITUTE

Five weeks of dynamic programming in which students interact with peers from all around the world while mastering study skills, life lessons, and gain an appreciation for California. We offer a variety of courses in English as a Second Language, SAT Prep, and a hands-on STEM Program. The day is structured for academic courses in the morning, afternoon art classes, and multiple off-campus excursions.

GRADES AND RANKING

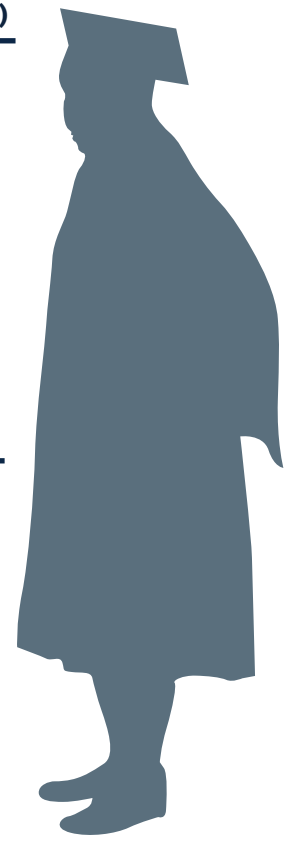
Besant Hill School complies with the UC system A-G graduation requirements. Besant Hill School holds high expectations, therefore, we do not rank our students. Our classes are graded on a standard letter scale of A through F, with pluses and minuses attached to grades A through D. Grades are not weighted in the calculation of a student's GPA. Students do not receive credit for grades D or lower.

CLASS OF 2017 PROFILE

CLASS SIZE	21
MEAN GPA	3.6
SAT ERW	600
SAT M	580

ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND HONORS COURSE OFFERINGS (UC APPROVED)

SUBJECT	ADVANCED PLACEMENT	HONORS
ENGLISH	LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION	ENGLISH II, ENGLISH III
HISTORY	US HISTORY, HUMAN GEOGRAPHY	WORLD HISTORY, US HISTORY
MATH	CALCULUS, STATISTICS	
SCIENCE	BIOLOGY, ECONOMICS (MACRO & MICRO), ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, PHYSICS C	
LANGUAGE	FRENCH, SPANISH	



PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE

OUR GRADUATES WILL:

- Think critically and synthesize knowledge
- Honor their individual strengths and be resilient
- Engage in their creative and artistic passions
- Model global citizenship
- Embody the ideals of environmental activism

Within a framework of Universal Design, teachers employ multiple best practices in the classroom including the Socratic Method, Mastery Teaching, and Cooperative Learning. We value and encourage creativity and a creative mindset in all classes, teaching how to think, not what to think. Academic classes, including art and physical education, are all valued equally in the pursuit of educating the whole person.

MATRICULATIONS 2012-2017 *indicates multiple matriculations

American Musical & Dramatic Academy	Johnson and Wales University, Providence*	The American University of Paris
American University	Kendall College	The Evergreen State College*
Antioch College	Kent State University	The Naropa University
Baldwin Wallace University	Marlboro College	The New School
Beloit College	Marquette University	The Ohio State University
Berklee College of Music*	Marymount California University	Trinity College
Brandeis University	Michigan State University*	University of California, Berkeley
Brigham Young University	Mills College*	University of California, Davis*
California College of the Arts	Mount Holyoke College	University of California, Irvine*
California Lutheran University	New York Film Academy	University of California, Los Angeles*
California Polytechnic State University	New York University	University of California, Riverside
San Luis Obispo*, Pomona*	Northeastern University	University of California, San Diego*
Claremont McKenna College	Oregon State University	University of California, Santa Barbara
Columbia College	Pennsylvania State University*	University of California, Santa Cruz*
California State University,	Pepperdine University	University of Arizona
Channel Islands*	Purdue University*	University of Colorado*
Dean College	Reed College	University of Denver
DigiPen Institute of Technology	Regis University	University of Illinois at Chicago
Eckerd College	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising	Santa Monica College	University of Madrid
Foothill College	Sarah Lawrence College*	University of Oregon
Goucher College	Savannah College of Art & Design	University of Puget Sound*
Green Mountain College	San Diego State University*	University of Redlands*
Grinnell College	San Francisco Art Institute	University of San Francisco*
Hamilton College	Santa Barbara City College*	University of Southern California
Hampshire College	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	University of Washington*
Hendrix College*	School of Visual Arts*	University of Washington, Bothell
Humboldt State University*	Stanford University	University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point
Irvine Valley College	Stony Brook University	University of Nevada, Las Vegas
John Cabot University	Syracuse University*	Ventura College*
Johnson and Wales University, Denver	Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi	Whittier College*

