

Arts, Entertainment, & Design

Design & Vis. Arts • Fashion & Int. • Fine Arts • Lighting & Sound Tech. • Media Prod. & Broad. • Performing Arts



Promising Progressive Career Pathways Map

**Education
(Skills/
Knowledge)**



**Work-Based
Learning**



**Local Career
Opportunities**

Middle School

Middle School Core + Electives

High School

KPS High Schools + Career and Technical Education
CCC – Design, KVCC Media Arts, Dance, Literary Arts, Media Arts, Visual Arts, Theater and Performing Arts

Early/Middle College
Graphic Design, Studio Art

Community College

Skill-Based Credentials

Graphic Design, Illustration, Creo

Associate of Arts and Sciences

Animation & Game Art, Graphic Design, Illustration, Multi-Media/Video, Studio Art, Web Design & Development

University

Bachelor of Arts

Fine Arts & Studio Arts, New Media Printing & Publishing, Musical Theater, Digital Animation & Game Design, Graphic Design, Film & Video Production, Dance

EDP (K-12)

Dual Enrollment Choices

2+2 Transfer Programs

Job Shadowing, Co-Ops, Internships, Apprenticeships, Summer Jobs

Internships, Apprenticeships, Full- and Part-Time Jobs

Internships, Apprenticeships, Full- and Part-Time Jobs

Printing Press Operators	\$44,740
Data Entry Keyers	\$37,830
Managers	\$110,520
First-Line Supervisors of Entertainment and Recreation Workers	\$44,590

Audio and Video Technicians	\$53,660
Merchandise Displayers and Window Trimmers	\$33,280
Prepress Technicians and Workers	\$45,620
Web Developers	\$84,420

Graphic Designers	\$49,470
Coaches and Scouts	\$47,730
Interior Designers	\$61,610
Technical Writers	\$65,530
Producers and Directors	\$52,710

Design Your Path to Your Promise
— Explore Where You Can Go.

Kalamazoo Public Schools

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PATHWAY 2 CAREERS



Arts, Entertainment, & Design

Design Your Path to Your Promise — Here's How You Can Get There.

MIDDLE SCHOOL	English Language Arts	Math	Science	Social Studies	World Language	Enrichment	Career Readiness	Elective Focus
	English	6 th Grade Math or Accelerated Math	6 th Grade Science	Social Studies	Spanish for Beginners (Elective)	Physical Ed./ 6 th Gr. Art Studio	Life Skills	Tech Smart/Band Orchestra, or Choir
	English	7 th Grade Math or Accelerated Math	7 th Grade Science	Social Studies	Spanish Intermediate	Physical Ed./ 7 th Gr. Art Studio	Life Skills	Tech Smart/Band Orchestra, or Choir
	English	8 th Grade Math or Algebra	Science/Robotics	Social Studies	Spanish 1	Physical Ed./ 8 th Gr. Art Studio	Life Skills	Tech Smart/ Art Foundations
HIGH SCHOOL	English Language Arts	Math	Science	Social Studies	World Language	Enrichment	Career Readiness	Elective Focus
	English 9 / Honors English	Algebra and Geometry	Environ. Science & Biology (CEB)	World History	French	PE	Tech Smart	Band, Orchestra, or Choir or other career programs below.
	English 10 / Honors English	Geometry or Algebra II	Biology (DEE) or Chemistry or Physics	US History	French	Health	College/Career Readiness	
	English 11 A or Honors or AP	Algebra II or Personal Finance	Earth Science or Physics	Gov or AP Gov	French / Mandarin Chinese	Visual Arts Exploration	Economics	
	College Eng. 12 or Honors Eng.	Statistics or Math Modeling	Geology or Astronomy	Social Studies Elective	French / Mandarin Chinese	Fine Arts	Mixed Media	

Grade	Possible Career-Connected Pathway Choices		Dual Enrollment Courses	Postsecondary Programs/Majors/Apprenticeships for Occupations in this Career Cluster	
9	Art Foundations	Beginning Dance/ World Dance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adobe Creative Suite Bus Practices/Creative Careers Public Speaking Video Production Multimedia Audio Production Storyboarding 2D Design & Color Theory College Writing I 	Certificates, Associate's Degrees, and Apprenticeships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animation & Game Art, AAS Graphic Design, AAS Illustration, AAS Multi-Media/Video, AAS Studio Art, AA Web Design & Development, AAS Graphic Design Certificate Illustration Certificate 	Bachelor's and Advanced Degrees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fine Arts & Studio Arts New Media Printing & Publishing Musical Theater Digital Animation & Game Design Graphic Design Film & Video Production Dance
10-12	Drawing Studio	Mixed Media			
10-12	Photography	Visual Arts Exploration			
10-12	AP Studio Art Portfolio	Film and Video Arts			

Kalamazoo Public Schools

College and Career Awareness & Exploration Resources

Higher Education



Early/Middle College Programs

Kalamazoo County Early/Middle College (EMC) is an innovative early college program, which gives students the opportunity to earn an associate degree or certificate with an additional year of high school.



Kalamazoo Valley Community College

Kalamazoo Valley Community College seeks to provide every student with clear, flexible program options that provide a mix of educational skills and experiences that will prepare students for advanced coursework at top universities and meaningful opportunities for employment in a changing world.



Kalamazoo College

Kalamazoo College offers qualified high school students the opportunity to enroll in courses while concurrently enrolled in high school during the fall, winter, and spring terms.



Western Michigan University

Dual enrollment through Early College Programs at WMU provides eligible high school students with credits that may be applied toward high school graduation requirements, as well as a college or university program.



The Kalamazoo Promise

Choosing a career path is one of the biggest and most important decisions you'll ever make. The good news is that The Promise is here to help you find and pursue the career path that fits you best.

Local Career Training Programs



Career Launch Kalamazoo

This modernized Youth Apprenticeship Program that provides flexible occupational training programs that cultivate well-educated, highly skilled workers able to meet the demands of a competitive global economy in careers that are in high demand.



Kalamazoo RESA Career Connect Campus

New in the 2025-2026 school year, students will have the opportunity to participate in programs at the Career Connect Campus (CCC). The inaugural class of students at the CCC will learn from industry experts in a new, state-of-the-art facility.



Teach Kalamazoo

Kalamazoo's Grow Your Own (GYO) Teacher Residency program includes apprenticeships and numerous on-ramps into the teaching profession for undergraduate and graduate students, staff, parents, paraprofessionals, for anyone with an existing bachelor's degree, and/or anyone who is interested in entering the honorable and fulfilling profession of teaching.

Labor Market Tools



Michigan Pathfinder

Pathfinder uses current labor market, wage, and institutional data and metrics to help you create an individualized career roadmap. This free tool provides information to students, parents, and guidance staff to make informed choices about educational and career options.



Pure Michigan Talent Connect

Michigan's free online career exploration tool that provides information on in-demand careers and the degrees or credentials needed to pursue them.

College & Career Exploration and Resources



[Xello Career Exploration](#)

Kalamazoo Public Schools uses the Xello platform so students in grades K-12 can build self-knowledge and explore options beyond high school.



[Michigan Career Development Model](#)

The Michigan Career Development Model (MCDM) is a framework, guided by legislation that engages school communities, students, and their support networks in intentional and meaningful career awareness, exploration, and preparation.



[Advance CTE National Career Clusters Framework](#)

The National Career Clusters® Framework provides a shared structure and language for CTE program design across the United States. The new framework provides meaningful career exploration and preparation experiences through Career Technical Education (CTE) that prepare students for the changing and interconnected world of work.



[Michigan Pathfinder](#)

Pathfinder provides valuable information to help students make informed choices about educational and career options.



[O*NET Online](#)

O*Net provides a collection of resources to inform students' college and career journeys: a Career Exploration Tool, O*NET Interest Profiler, My Next Move, Career One Stop, and Get My Future.



[SAT/PSAT – College Board](#)

The SAT and PSAT are standardized tests meant to show colleges and universities how prepared students are for college by measuring key skills like reading comprehension, computational ability, and clarity of expression.



[EBSCO Learning Express](#)

EBSCO LearningExpress provides online platforms for academic skill building, standardized test preparation, and career-oriented digital content. It helps students prepare for college, explore careers, and accelerate their journey into careers.



[Credential Center](#)

Certifications demonstrate for employers that job candidates have specific skills or knowledge in an occupation, industry, or technology. This site helps students explore training associated with certifications and credentials.



[Apprenticeship USA](#)

Discover apprenticeships across industries, how programs are started by employers, and how to become an apprentice.



[ASVAB Career Exploration](#)

The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a multiple-aptitude battery that measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success in the military.

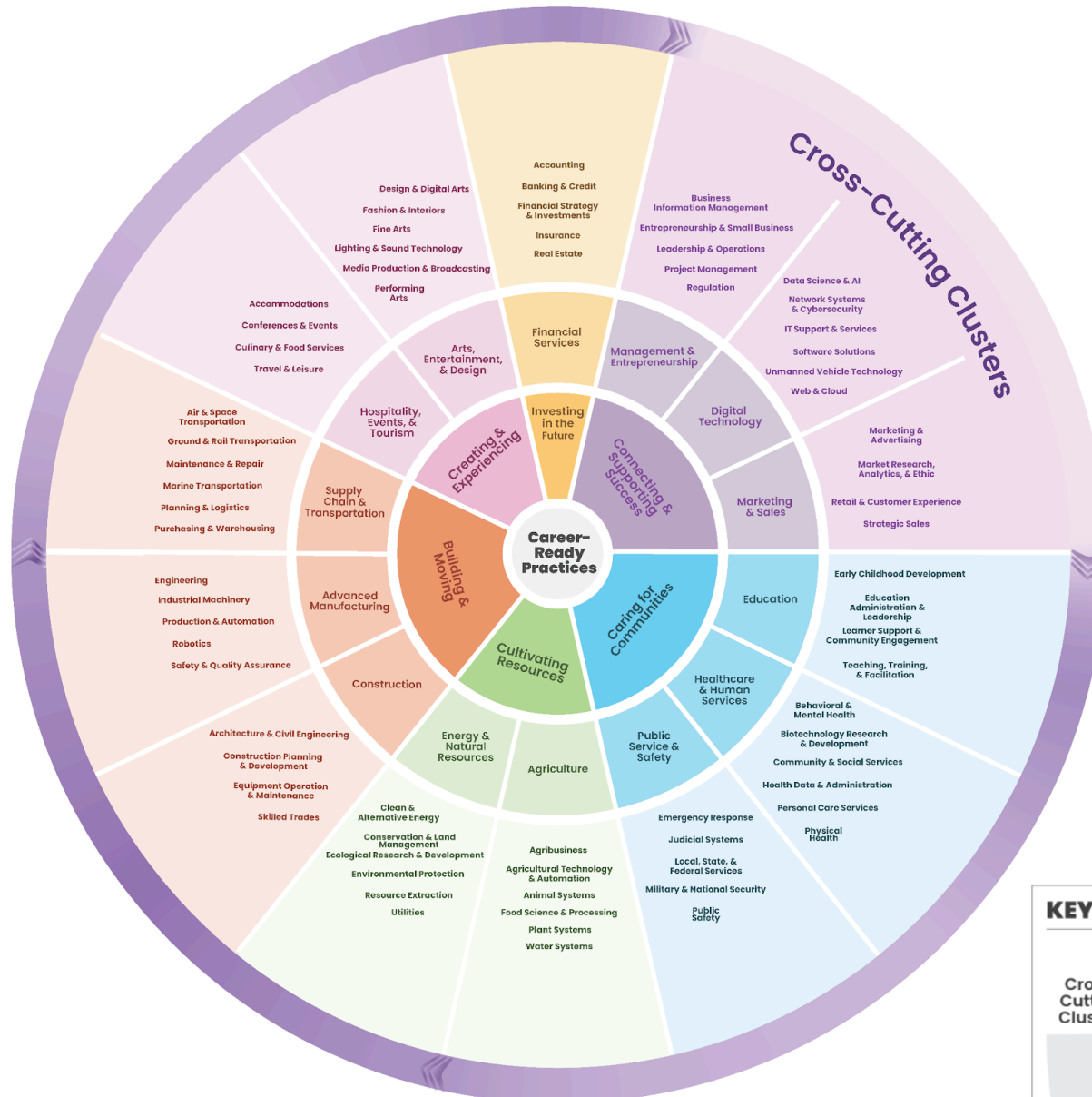


Career Clusters

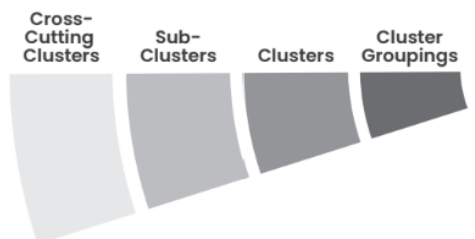
Pathways to College & Career Readiness

The Framework: Wheel View

ADVANCE CTE
State Leaders Connecting Learning to Work



KEY



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Arts, Entertainment, & Design: *Inspiring Creativity, Innovation, & Artistry*

Cluster Definition: The Arts, Entertainment, & Design Career Cluster combines creative roles in visual and performing arts, film, journalism, fashion, interior design, and creative technologies. This Cluster focuses on creating, producing, and sharing artistic and design work across multiple platforms, aiming to entertain, inform, beautify, and inspire.

Sub-Clusters	Example Programs of Study
Design & Digital Arts: Careers encompassing the creation and production of visually engaging digital content such as animation, visual marketing, graphic design, print media, augmented and virtual reality, web design, game design, and user interfaces/user experiences. This Sub-Cluster combines artistic talent and technology to produce interactive content, entertainment, commercial product and packaging design, and promotional materials.	Digital Animation Graphic Arts
Fashion & Interiors: Careers bridging the creative and commercial aspects of fashion design, production, marketing, and sales with the art and science of interior design and decoration. Professionals in this field are dedicated to creating, promoting, and selling apparel, accessories, footwear, costuming, and textiles. Interior design careers focus on designing, improving, and decorating interior spaces through space layout and materiality with the goal of enhancing functionality and esthetic appeal.	Apparel & Textiles Fashion Design Interior Design
Fine Arts: Careers focused on the technical and artistic skill needed for the creation, promotion, and sale of visual art forms including painting, sculpture, and pottery. Professionals in this field focus on producing works that not only possess esthetic value but also serve as mediums for expression, and they are involved in every stage from conceptualization to exhibition, ensuring that art is accessible and resonates deeply with audiences.	Fine Arts Museum Studies
Lighting & Sound Technology: Careers specializing in sound engineering and lighting design, which are vital for both functional and artistic applications, including immersive experiences in film, music, performing arts, fine arts, and interiors. Professionals in this field adeptly manipulate sound and light to set moods, highlight themes, and enhance audience engagement, contributing significantly to the success and impact of artistic and design endeavors.	Audio & Visual Technology Lighting Design Sound Engineering
Media Production & Broadcasting: Careers encompassing film, television, radio, journalism, communications, writing, and broadcasting, focusing on content creation, production, and distribution. This field includes direction, production, cinematography, and publishing, emphasizing storytelling and technical expertise. This Sub-Cluster also highlights the impact and ethical use of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, in enhancing visual effects and streamlining production. Broadcasting includes digital technologies such as streaming and podcasting, transforming audience engagement and content consumption.	Broadcasting Technology Filmmaking: Production & Managerial Arts Journalism Video Production
Performing Arts: Careers focused on the technical and management elements of the performing arts and entertainment industry to produce and stage live artistic and athletic performances, including theater, music, dance, and sports. This Sub-Cluster encompasses the core creative and artistic talents coming from actors, musicians, dancers, and other performers intended to entertain, inform, and provoke thought in audiences. It also covers a wide range of genres and styles and plays a vital role in cultural preservation, expression, & entertainment.	Performing Arts Stage Design & Management