

Student Life - Where You Belong

Find a home among socially active, aware students. With 500 students, our teachers' doors are always open.

"Ursula Franklin Academy's school values are closely tied to the life and work of its namesake, Dr. Ursula Franklin. Students are attracted to UFA for its innovative technology programs, Enriched Wednesday sessions and school values. Students call teachers by their first names and classrooms are also referred to by its teacher's name (and not its room number). This creates a pleasant atmosphere for both students and teachers. The school values include democracy, spirit of inquiry, social justice, connected knowledge and creating a community of learners".



The above statement was written by recent graduates.

Virtual UFA is our own internal bulletin board system, where you can access your timetables, homework, conferences, collaborate with other students and submit assignments to teachers online. Build friendships that will last a lifetime. Every member of our community has a VUFA e-mail address.

Join one of our many clubs, including chess, African-American heritage, ICT, dancing, guitar, recycling, photography and video production and Literary Journal, to name a few. Submit your creative writing to our annual literary magazine and newspaper. Help raise a culture of acceptance with our equity club, students against sexual stereotyping (SASS). Join our UFA student uniform association and help design and produce your own school uniform; profits support our Enriched Wednesday programs.

You don't need to be a senior student or a member of our student council to be involved in every aspect of our school life. Join one of our sports teams, including badminton, baseball, basketball, cross-country running, hockey, soccer, swimming, track and field and skating.

Rendezvous with Madness - Our students lead our involvement in the Rendezvous With Madness film festival that presents short films and features touching on the stigmas of mental health and addiction. Students view humorous, experimental and powerful films and participate in post-screening panel discussions with filmmakers and artists.



Map and Contact Information



URSULA FRANKLIN ACADEMY

For more information, click on: www.ufacademy.org or call 416-393-0430. We welcome your queries between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.



Ursula Franklin Academy

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Toronto, ON M6P 3E3
416-393-0430
Email: UrsulaFranklin@tdsb.on.ca
Web: www.ufacademy.org

Special Feature (at this school)

Enriched Wednesday Program

This program is unique to Ursula Franklin Academy. Students sign up to this multi-grade and multi-disciplined full day program based on personal interest grounded upon three essential categories:

- Connected Knowledge
- Health and Well-Being
- Community Building
- Integrated/cored subjects in Grades 9 and 10
- Ursula Franklin Academy designed ICT courses in
- Grades 11 and 12 – "The Real World of Technology", "Praxis of Change"
- P.A.L.S. (Student Leaders/Mentors)
- Virtual UFA
- Student Uniform Association
- Community School Model
- High academic expectations
- Dr. Ursula Franklin's mentorship

TDSB Discovery - School Selection Made Easy

Academics for the real world

The staff and students' passion for social justice permeates every course and every experience at Ursula Franklin Academy. Dr. Ursula Franklin, member of the Order of Canada and professor emeritus at the University of Toronto, continues to mentor our students. We are a small school by design and the relationship students develop with our award-winning teachers lasts the rest of their lives. We welcome applications from students across Toronto.

Information, Communication and Technology

We create learning communities much larger than ourselves. Our information, communication and technology (ICT) program is one of the very best in Canada. We were honoured with the Canadian distinction in education award.

Innovation at Ursula Franklin Academy

Starting this year, we will be offering an IDC course called "The Real World of Technology", the same name as Dr. Ursula M. Franklin's CBC Massey Lectures Series book. This course will have several distinct yet intersecting strands:

- 1) The Philosophy of Technology
- 2) Technology in Education: Application
- 3) Ursula Franklin: Information and Communications Technology for Social Justice, and
- 4) An Integrated Project revolving around key course themes. This will be an inquiry-based course, not a "computers" course. Although students will have the opportunity to build on previously-acquired tech skill-sets, the course focus will be investigating technology and the relationship between ourselves and the world.

This is the second year we are offering a Grade 12 IDC course called the Praxis of Change. This is an integrated course exploring cultural, technological, social, organizational and global change from a Canadian perspective. The course will integrate the disciplines of Sociology, Psychology, Anthropology, Politics, Business, Geography, Family Studies and Native Studies. The focus of this course will be to explore the praxis of change (the theory and practice of change), the forces of change and the individual's role in change.

For more information, please visit us at <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/schools>

... read more on the other side →

More information about Ursula Franklin Academy

Social Justice

"Peace is not the absence of war but the absence of fear, which is the presence of justice."
Dr. Ursula Franklin

Dr. Franklin is one of the moving forces in the efforts to ensure peace, social justice and human rights in Canada and internationally. She continues to play an important and influential role in our students' education. Dr. Franklin launched her recent book, *The Ursula Franklin Reader: Pacifism as a Map*, at our school.

Everything you will learn here promotes social justice. It will change your life.



Mentoring Partnership: Ursula Franklin Academy, Queen Victoria Public School and Carleton Village Jr. & Sr. Public School

- As part of the Enriched Wednesday Program offered at Ursula Franklin Academy, a group of high school students from Grades 9 to 12 have formed an ongoing, year-long partnership with students at Carleton Village Jr. & Sr. P.S. and Queen Victoria P.S. Students act as reading buddies, classroom buddies, and science and math mentors to students from Kindergarten to Grade 8. Our senior students are also taking an active role in the development and implementation of this initiative and are learning valuable life skills as volunteer math tutors.

The project, now in its third year, is guided by feedback from students and staff in both schools. It builds on the idea that students can play an invaluable role in the learning of others.

Integrated Grade 9 Project - Our Grade 9 Integrated Project is an annual tradition. The Ursula Franklin Academy curriculum includes ongoing, thematic integration in all courses, but the English, BTT and Geography courses culminate in a shared end of year Integrated Project. The nature of this project changes every few years to reflect the dynamic nature of world events, but always involves students exploring the geographical, human, and environmental aspects of a current global or local issue. In past years, students have redesigned Toronto's Regent Park, examined the production cycle of everyday commodities, and explored a range of environmental success stories. Through this project, students integrate media and technology skills, literary analysis, writing techniques, critical thinking and spatial knowledge from their BTT, English and Geography courses to produce a final product.

Greening Initiative - In 2007, UFA embarked on a Landscaping Initiative to improve the attractiveness, usefulness and environmental friendliness of the school grounds. Supported by the School Advisory Council in the form of an annual Spring Gala fundraiser, the school community has come together to plant trees, dig flowerbeds, install pathways. The aim has been to provide or create a quiet space for students to sit, eat lunch, have outdoor classes, and play soccer. An ongoing project, the Landscaping Initiative recently received further support from the Toronto District School Board in the form of a dedicated landscape architect who will help to shape and realize our landscaping vision.

EcoSchools - Ursula Franklin Academy has adopted the Toronto District School Board's EcoSchools initiative in an attempt to reduce our ecological footprint. Our Environmental Alliance has implemented a variety of programs that are designed to promote environmentally sound practices. As we work to contribute to a sustainable future, we hope that our sphere of influence will spread beyond our school to raise awareness in our surrounding communities.

Young Men's and Young Women's Clubs - Join our young men's or young women's clubs to organize programs to support the empowerment of male and female students. As a member of the young women's club, you will organize our annual girls' night and workshop to discuss issues of equity and health. As a member of the young men's club, you will lead our peer mentoring project, connecting Grade 9 students with senior male students to reduce potential isolation and ease their transition into high school.

Leadership Camp for Grade 9 Students - For the third year in a row, we are offering a leadership camp for approximately 130 Grade 9 students. The camp will be held at an outdoor sports camp near Rosseau, ON. The purpose of the trip is to promote leadership skills, foster school spirit and facilitate an in-depth examination of the school's values. All of the weekend's activities will be designed and led by a student leadership team.

Test Drive Potential Careers

We help you articulate and plan your career as a future leader. Gain valuable hands-on work experience in the fields of computers, business, social services and health care. Meet with college and university representatives and plan how you will make a difference in the world.



The Ursula Franklin Academy Difference

"There is nothing like UFA anywhere. The teachers are totally involved. I grew in all aspects. I learned very valuable research and writing and independent reasoning skills that are helping me immensely at university today."

UFA graduate, scholars' electives student
the University of Western Ontario

We give our students an educational springboard for their futures. Each year 75 per cent of our students are accepted into their university of choice; 25 per cent of our students attend their college program of choice. We foster strong social values and academic focus that will benefit our students for the rest of their lives.

Our Teachers Are Tops

Our teachers are enthusiastic, dedicated and award winning! We are recognized by York University's Faculty of Education alumni association with a teaching excellence award for lifetime achievement in 2006.

One of our teachers was honoured by the prestigious Society for Neuroscience in the United States, winning an award to attend an international conference and mingle with the world's biggest brains.

