



## **FINE ARTS**

The Fine Arts department offers core foundational fine arts classes and an extensive listing of intermediate and advance electives in the fields of Dance, Music, Theatre, Media Arts, and Visual Arts.

In addition to the Fine Arts graduation requirement, students can receive International Baccalaureate (IB) and College and High School credit (CHS) through selected Fine Arts classes.

Students may obtain a State Sequence/Endorsement by fulfilling a five-credit sequence utilizing one of three alternate pathways.

School counselors can provide additional clarification including options for transfer students, alternative pathways, or honors designations.

In order to graduate, students must earn a total of 22 course credits, including one credit in Fine Arts at the commencement-level. Students may fulfil this requirement by successfully completing one of the following Fine Art classes: Studio in Art, Music in Our Lives, Introduction to Piano, Drumming, Introduction to Dance, Introduction to Theatre, Concert Choir, Concert Band, and Concert Orchestra. Please see the District Course Catalogue for additional offerings.

### **STUDIO IN ART (1 credit)**

Studio in Art is a hands-on class with experiences in drawing, painting, sculpting, printmaking, collage, mixed media, and pottery. Students also learn about art history, careers, and criticism, and apply the Elements of Art and Principles of Design to their work. This is the only visual arts course that meets the arts elective requirement for graduation and is a prerequisite requirement for intermediate level visual art classes.

### **MUSIC IN OUR LIVES (1 credit)**

This course focuses on hands-on experiences, which may include the musical use of synthesizers, computers, keyboards, percussion instruments, or other instruments that may be available. Students gain listening skills, composing skills, and performing skills as they develop student driven projects. This course develops a student's awareness and appreciation for music from many different historical and cultural traditions. Students develop their ability to critique a piece of music for a better understanding of its style, moods, and themes.

### **INTRODUCTION TO PIANO (1 credit)**

This course offers high school students group piano instruction utilizing electronic pianos for their keyboarding experience. Students will focus on a chordal approach with application to popular and familiar music. Students will gain familiarity with key signatures, scales, rhythmic, and pitch reading in both the treble and bass clefs. Keyboard ensemble repertoire will also be utilized to develop their musical independence. Students will learn to critique a piece of music for its style and its cultural and historical significance. Students will gain confidence in their performance and presentation skills through recital performances as their skills continue to progress.

### **DRUMMING (1 credit)**

Students will learn the skills of drum performance including hand drumming and percussion from Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East. Students will play a variety of instruments that may include djembes, congas, timbales, bongos, darbukas, and shakers. Additionally, students will study the basic stick techniques and apply them to snare drum, bass drum, drum set, and drum line. Students will be required to perform at school events and may play an active role in accompanying other programs such as the

## TIPS FOR PARENTS

Visit museums, traveling art shows, and live performances with your children. These events offer firsthand experiences and provide enriching opportunities which create a new sense of perspective motivating students to elevate their work.

Create a space that facilitates students' exploration and practice of their art. This area should encourage daily activities and be conducive to their short- and long-term goals.

Encourage students to seek out opportunities to display their work or perform in the community. Juried exhibits, honor groups, local and regional ensembles, and community theatre, among others, provide avenues for growth and offer additional feedback and support which is critical to students' professional, social, and emotional development.

## INTRODUCTION TO DANCE (1 credit)

This course introduces students to the study and performance of dance and is specifically designed for the beginning dancer. Topics of study include Jazz, African, Tap, Ballet, and the basic elements of choreography. Students learn the basic techniques of these dance styles as well as the history and development of these dance styles. The course requires active physical participation as well as written work. This is the only dance course that meets the arts elective requirement for graduation and is a prerequisite requirement for intermediate level dance classes.

## INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE (1 credit)

Introduction to Theatre explores basic disciplines of theatre arts ranging from performance to writing to designing through the development of several original stage presentations throughout year. Learning to collaborate with one's classmates to create a finished piece is one of the central objectives of this course.

## CONCERT CHOIR (1/2 OR 1 credit)

The Concert Choir is open to all students who have an interest in singing. It is designed to help students develop skills such as pitch matching, harmonization, vocal production, sight reading, and musical interpretation. Concert Choir performs a variety of musical styles including gospel, pop, jazz, and traditional. Students who want to play an instrument in band or orchestra and sing can alternate Concert Choir with an instrumental ensemble. Participation in concerts and other performances are a course requirement.

## CONCERT BAND (1/2 or 1 credit)

Concert Band is open to all 9-12 graders who play a band instrument. It is designed to improve students' technical skills and develop their ability to play in an ensemble. Weekly small group lessons are included for students to build and fine-tune their skills as well as work on solo repertoire. Concert Band performs a variety of musical styles including classical, original works, folk, and popular music. Participation in concerts and other performances are a course requirement.

## CONCERT ORCHESTRA (1/2 or 1 credit)

Concert Orchestra is open to all 9-12 graders who play a string instrument. It is designed to improve students' technical skills and develop their ability to play in an ensemble. Weekly small group lessons are included for students to build and fine-tune their skills as well as work on solo repertoire. Concert Orchestra performs a variety of musical styles including classical, original works, fiddle/folk, and modern music. Participation in concerts and other performances are a course requirement.

## ADDITIONAL FINE ARTS COURSES

**Dance**

Jazz, Tap, Ballet, Hip-Hop (.5 credits), Dance Connection (1 credit)

**Music**

Symphonic Band, Patriot Orchestra, Chamber Strings, Advanced Piano, Independent Advanced Music (.5 or 1 credits), Silhouettes Treble Choir, Serenaders, Chamber Choir, Jazz Band I, Jazz Band II, Guitar (.5 credit), Music Theory, Advanced Music Theory, Music Production, Music IB (1 Credits)

**Theatre**

Video Production (.5 credit), Acting I, Advanced Acting, Film Making, Writing for Stage & Screen (1 credits), Life Skill Teaching Assistant (.5 or 1 credit)

**Visual Arts**

Introduction to Ceramics, Introduction to Computer Art, Introduction to Drawing, Introduction to Sculpture, Introduction to Digital Photography (.5 credits), Drawing 1, Computer Art 1, Ceramics, Sculpture 1, Digital Photography 1, Drawing & Painting, Visual Art IB SL, Sculpture II, Cultural Arts (1 credits)

