

# Freshmen Electives



**MOTHER  
MCAULEY**  
Liberal Arts High School

## Science

Intro to Coding / Mobile App Creation  
Computer Science Essentials  
(Project Lead the Way)

## Theatre Performing Arts

Drama I  
Drama II Acting  
Drama II Tech  
Introduction to Theatre  
Public Speaking

## Art Visual Arts

Introduction to Drawing  
Introduction to Drawing / Introduction to Painting  
Ceramics  
Ceramics / Sculpture  
Ceramics / Clay Sculpture and Wheel Throwing  
Art and Emerging Technology



## Music Performing Arts

Chorus 1  
Beginning Strings - Violin and Viola  
Beginning Strings - Cello and Bass  
Intermediate Strings  
Symphony Strings Honors  
String Ensemble Honors  
Beginning Band  
Mother McAuley & Brother Rice  
Concert Band  
Mother McAuley & Brother Rice  
Symphonic Band Honors  
Mother McAuley & Brother Rice  
Philharmonic Band Honors  
Mother McAuley & Brother Rice  
Music: From Bach to Rock

## Social Science

Advanced Placement Human  
Geography

2020 – 2021

# Performing Arts Music

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Every music course may be used to fulfill the music/theatre, fine arts, and/or elective graduation requirement.

## Chorus I

808  
1 credit 2 semesters

Chorus I provides students with an opportunity to sing with a large group and to explore music from a wide variety of cultures and time periods. Basic vocal techniques, sight-singing skills and theory are developed. A variety of choral music is sung, and public performances are included in this course. This course is open to all students who enjoy singing and performing.

## Beginning Strings – Violin and Viola

801  
1 credit 2 semesters

Beginning Strings is the first strings class in the Mother McAuley String program. It offers beginners the chance to play a stringed instrument (violin, viola) within an ensemble. No audition or prior experience is required. Instruments will be provided to the students and choice of instrument may be determined by availability. The music will vary from classical pieces to modern day pop songs. Continuation into intermediate strings is recommended. See Course 814 for cello and bass options.

## Beginning Strings – Cello and Bass

814  
1 credit 2 semesters

Beginning Strings is the first strings class in the Mother McAuley string program. It offers beginners the chance to play a stringed instrument (cello, bass) with an ensemble. No audition or prior experience is required. Instruments will be provided to the students and choice of instrument may be determined by availability. The music will vary from classical pieces to modern day pop songs. Continuation into intermediate strings is recommended. See Course 801 for Violin and Viola option.

## Intermediate Strings

818  
1 credit  
Signature Course  
Audition  
2 semesters

Intermediate Strings is a second year of group instruction, combining the four orchestral string groups into a single ensemble. It follows the successful completion of Upper or Lower Beginning Strings and intended to prepare the students for the advanced Symphony String Orchestra. Auditioning into the ensemble is possible for an incoming student, provided they have prior experience.

## Symphony Strings Honors

796  
1 credit  
Signature Course  
Audition  
2 semesters

This is an advanced level string ensemble that forms the body of string instruments for the symphonic orchestra. There are multiple performances throughout the year. It is expected that members of the Symphony Strings will have at least two years of group or private instruction on their instruments before being considered for the ensemble. An audition is required for new members. Students will also have the opportunity to enter in state music competitions such as IMEA Music Festival and solo and ensemble. Students will increase musical proficiency in areas of theory, history, performance and musicianship.

## String Ensemble Honors

798  
½ credit  
Signature Course  
Audition  
2 semesters  
*Time: Monday and Wednesday – 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.*

String Ensemble is a performing group of violinists, violists, cellists, and bassists who have proficiency on their instruments. This group performs for school and community events. The musical repertoire performed consists of professional, classical pieces as well as pop string arrangements. Students will increase their musical proficiency in area of theory, history, performance and musicianship. Membership in Symphony String Orchestra is required.

## Performing Arts *Music* continued

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### **Beginning Band – Mother McAuley & Brother Rice**

785 Personal Interview  
1 credit 2 semesters

In this course, members learn to play a wind, brass, or percussion instrument. Upon successful completion of this course, students are expected to continue their music in a performance group. Instrument choice is determined by student preference and balance of the ensemble. No experience on any instrument is necessary.

### **Concert Band – Mother McAuley & Brother Rice**

786 Signature Course  
1 credit Audition  
2 semesters

Throughout the course, students will develop their technical and reading skills playing woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments. A variety of method materials and ensemble repertoire will challenge students to prepare for public performance. To enroll, students must have at least one year of musical training. This class will be taught in conjunction with Brother Rice, and it is an expectation that all students in the class would march in the Brother Rice/Mother McAuley Marching Band during the first quarter. Finally, students in the Concert Band will be assessed a \$100.00 band uniform/activity fee to cover the costs associated with participation in the Brother Rice/Mother McAuley Marching Band; the fee will be included in the tuition bill.

### **Symphonic Band Honors – Mother McAuley & Brother Rice**

789 Signature Course  
1 credit Audition  
2 semesters

This course is for students in Grades 9-12 who have mastered the fundamentals of music and intermediate music theory/performance concepts. Students in this course will work on the “Core” of wind ensemble literature. They will perform original works written to help the instrumentalist reach the pinnacle of music performance. Members of this ensemble will be exposed to the gamut of key and time signatures as they relate to music composed in the common practice period of music. Students will be placed in this course at the discretion of the director following an audition. This class will be taught in conjunction with Brother Rice,

and it is an expectation that all students in the class would march in the Brother Rice/Mother McAuley Marching Band during the first quarter. Finally, students in the Symphonic Band Honors will be assessed a \$100.00 band uniform/activity fee to cover the costs associated with participation in the Brother Rice/Mother McAuley Marching Band; the fee will be included in the tuition bill.

### **Philharmonic Band Honors - Mother McAuley & Brother Rice**

783 Signature Course  
1 credit Audition  
2 semesters

This Honors class is the top level ensemble for students who play wind and percussion instruments. Students in this class will learn advanced musical techniques, learn the core of wind and percussion literature, and be able to analyze music from performance and listening. This ensemble will perform music at a collegiate level, compete at music festivals in the Chicagoland area, and represent Mother McAuley and Brother Rice at a variety of local and national events. Members of this ensemble will join the members of the Symphonic and Concert Bands in making up the Brother Rice and Mother McAuley Marching Band. Admission into this class is by audition only. This class will be taught in conjunction with Brother Rice, and it is an expectation that all students in the class would march in the Brother Rice/Mother McAuley Marching Band during the first quarter. Finally, students in the Philharmonic Band Honors will be assessed a \$100.00 band uniform/activity fee to cover the costs associated with participation in the Brother Rice/Mother McAuley Marching Band; the fee will be included in the tuition bill.

### **Music: From Bach to Rock**

790  
½ credit 1 semester

The major emphasis of this course is to provide students with a variety of musical experiences and activities. The course provides opportunities for growth in the understanding of musical elements such as rhythm and melody, music theory including note reading, and music history focusing on a diverse group of musicians such as Beethoven and the Beatles. This course also develops the ability to listen analytically to many different styles of music from classical to jazz.

# Performing Arts *Theatre*

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Every theatre course may be used to fulfill the music/theatre, fine arts, and/or elective graduation requirement.

## Drama I

721 1 semester  
½ credit

This course introduces any student to elements of both acting and technical theatre. Students of any experience level may take this course. This highly interactive, creative, and collaborative class gives students the opportunity to discover both strengths and areas of interest in theatre from an introductory level. In the acting unit, students will create relaxing warm-up routines, use senses and memory for the actor, create pantomime scenes with a group, and participate in improv games and scene-work. In the technical unit, students will learn how to operate the lights and sound in the theatre, how to operate the curtains, how to identify and operate several tools for set-building, and how to run the thrust on the stage. Students may then choose an area of focused study continuing forward.

**This course is a prerequisite for Drama II Acting and Drama II Tech.**

## Drama II Acting

722 1 semester  
½ credit

This course is for any student who has taken Drama I, and who has an interest in acting. Students will practice skills in a collaborative and creative atmosphere. Skilled developed focus on more advanced training for the actor, including character development, ensemble work, a dramatic partner scene, and a comic monologue. **Prerequisite of Drama I is required.**

## Drama II Tech

723 1 semester  
½ credit

This course is for any student who has taken Drama I and who has an interest in technical theatre. Students will practice skills in both traditional classroom and workshop environments. Skills developed focus on more advanced technical theatre training including constructing and painting set pieces, designing and operating stage lights, learning the functions of sound equipment, applying stage makeup, and basic costuming. Students will assist on a stage or technical crew for the fall musical or spring play. **Prerequisite of Drama I is required.**

## Introduction to Theatre

731 1 semester  
½ credit

This class is a survey of the art of Theatre, touching on a variety of aspects of the theatrical process. Emphasis is placed on understanding a variety of aspects of the art, including acting, directing, audience appreciation, history and theatre production. This is not a performance class. No outside rehearsal time is required. Recommended for all levels.

## Public Speaking

732 1 semester  
½ credit

This course is designed to prepare young women to meet any and all speaking and communication experiences with confidence. Using a variety of speaking styles and techniques modeled on the TED-Talk presentation format, students will write creative, personal speeches on topics about which they feel passionate. Students will workshop a variety of vocal and physical traits, such as meaningful eye contact, rate, pitch and inflection and appropriate nonverbal expression. Each mode of speaking is practiced and performed. The course will also offer a special emphasis on interpersonal communication skills.

# Science

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## Intro to Coding / Mobile App Creation

**NEW**

420

1 credit

Signature Course

2 semesters

- **Intro to Coding** (taken 1st semester) is a semester course that should be paired with Mobile App Creation or Web Design. The class is aimed at exposing students to the world of computer coding. Introduction to Coding is intended for students with no previous background, and teaches how to code in a fun and accessible way. The students will start by using drag and drop programming to complete simple tasks and progress to text based programming C++, HTML and CSS. The course equips students with the programming fundamentals to learn any programming language. Emphasis is placed on problem solving and critical thinking skills required to properly code, skills that will benefit students in all of their future endeavors. Students will demonstrate their understanding by turning in assignments requiring them to create their own code to perform a required task.
- **Mobile App Creation** (taken 2nd semester) This semester course is suggested to be paired with Introduction to Coding. Students will be introduced to the world of app creation for mobile devices. Emphasis is placed on working in a collaborative environment similar to that of a professional app developer. Each unit will introduce students to a specific topic or skill that will be used to modify or redesign an existing app. At the conclusion, students will apply what was learned to create their own working app.

## Computer Science Essentials (Project Lead the Way)

497

1 credit

2 semesters

With emphasis on computational thinking and collaboration, this yearlong course provides an excellent entry point for students into Computer Science. Students will work independently and collaboratively to learn the language of coding (Python), apply this language to create their own app, develop a website, program a self-driving car, and learn how to make computers work to put their designs into practice. They will apply computational thinking practices, build their vocabulary, and collaborate just as computing professionals do to create products that address real-life topics and problems important to them.

# Social Science

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## Advanced Placement Human Geography

**NEW**

245

1 credit

2 semesters

*AP Exam Fee Required*

AP Human Geography exposes students to college-level introductory human and cultural geography concepts. In this yearlong freshman course the content is presented thematically rather than regionally and is organized around the main subtopics: economic geography, cultural geography, political geography, and urban geography. The goal of this course is for students to become more engaged in contemporary global issues and more informed about multicultural viewpoints. This course is designed to develop the skills of analysis and critical thinking in order to prepare the students for success in other AP courses, college and the 21st century. The course culminates with the AP Human Geography examination, which is administered in May. Students may earn possible college credit.

# Visual Arts

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## Introduction to Drawing

703  
½ credit 1 semester

This course provides an introduction to basic drawing techniques, materials, composition skills and elements of design. Still life and portraiture are among the subject matters covered. **This is a required course for those interested in pursuing Introduction to Painting, Advanced Drawing / Painting, Illustration, Digital Illustration on the iPad, Studio Art Honors and Advanced Placement Art and Design.**

## Introduction to Drawing / Introduction to Painting

718  
1 credit 2 semesters

This is a full year 2 semester course. Course descriptions are in 703 and 705.

**Ceramics** 9, 10, 11, 12  
706  
½ credit 1 semester

This course explores the nature of clay. It involves the discussion of ceramic terms, the preparation of clay, demonstration of various hand building techniques, sculptural composition, and glazing techniques. Special requirements include outside research and additional time for assignments and preparation of clay. One extra period a week is required outside of regular class time. **This is a required course for those interested in pursuing sculpture, ceramic sculpture/wheel throwing and AP Studio Art 3-D Design.**

## Ceramics / Sculpture

717  
1 credit 2 semesters

This is a full year 2 semester art course.

## Ceramics / Clay Sculpture and Wheel Throwing

746  
1 credit 2 semesters

This is a full year 2 semester art course. Course descriptions are in 706 and 745.

## Art and Emerging Technology

709  
½ credit 1 semester

This course is open to freshman, sophomore, and junior students. It is an elective course in which students would receive one-half credit for Fine Art. Art and Emerging Technology will provide students with a variety of creative applications of contemporary technologies including web design, graphic imaging, and animation. Students will be able to transfer and apply these skills for further exploration in high school, college preparation and or work-related career paths. Final

Assessment will include a digital portfolio. **This course is a prerequisite for Web Page Design, Graphic Design I and II, and Digital Animation.**