



HOLY INNOCENTS'  
E P I S C O P A L S C H O O L

2020 - 2021 Middle School

Fine Arts Course Descriptions

## **HIES Middle School Art**

### **Intermediate/Advanced Art**

Grade 8: Year Long Course

This year-long art elective is focused on student choice and student voice. Students will work as artists through authentic learning opportunities and responsive teaching. During this course, students will focus on the eight studio habits of mind (SHoM): envision, develop craft, observe, engage and persist, stretch and explore, express, reflect, and understand the art world. Students will practice coming up with art problems to solve, asking questions and seeing possibilities in the world around them. Students will learn to persevere through difficulties as well as to trust themselves and their own judgment while simultaneously becoming self-directed and organized.

## **HIES Middle School Theatre**

### **Stagecraft/Advanced Acting**

*Grade 8: Year Long Course*

Students will learn technical aspects of theatre including design, carpentry, and painting skills as well as taking a deeper dive into acting utilizing various acting techniques.

***Prerequisite:*** Must audition with a choice of monologue provided on student and parent pages. This audition will also include an interview.

## **HIES Middle School Orchestra**

The Holy Innocents' Orchestra program exists to foster an appreciation for music through performance. Students will be placed by audition/evaluation into one of the three ensemble groups.

### **Beginning Orchestra**

*Grades 6th, 7th & 8th: Year Long Course*

Beginning Orchestra students are introduced to technique and the fundamentals of the four orchestral string instruments: violin, viola, cello, and string bass. Students will be prepared to join the Concert Orchestra after a year of beginning level classes. Beginning Orchestra students will present an in-school holiday performance during the week of finals in December and will also join Concert Orchestra on several pieces at the end-of-year spring concert.

***Prerequisites:*** None

### **Concert Orchestra**

*Grades 6th, 7th & 8th: Year Long Course*

The MS Concert Orchestra is made up of 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students with at least one year of experience on a string instrument. Concert Orchestra presents two concerts and may participate in Large Group Performance Evaluation. Students are encouraged to participate in GMEA Solo & Ensemble Festival and in Chapel Ensemble.

***Prerequisites:*** One year on string instrument and placement audition

## **Symphonic Orchestra**

### ***Grades 6th, 7th & 8th: Year Long Course***

The MS Symphonic Orchestra is open to more advanced 6th, 7th, and 8th grade string students who are comfortable with key signatures up to three sharps/two flats and are ready to start shifting. Symphonic Orchestra presents two concerts during the year and may participate in GMEA Large Group Performance Evaluation or a similar festival. Students are encouraged to participate in GMEA Solo & Ensemble Festival and in Chapel Ensemble. Highly advanced students will perform in a “pull-out” Chamber Ensemble and have the opportunity to perform with the Upper School Orchestra. ***Prerequisites: Placement audition***

## **HIES Middle School Band**

The Holy Innocents’ Band program is designed to foster a love for music through small and large group performance. Students will develop their individual performance technique while strengthening music literacy, practicing abilities, and general musicianship.

## **Concert Band**

### ***Grades 6th, 7th, 8th: Year Long Course***

The MS Concert Band is made up of 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students with beginning to intermediate experience. The course is designed to introduce students to large ensemble performance in a more recreational atmosphere. Concert Band presents at least two concerts and may participate in Large Group Performance Evaluation. ***Prerequisites: One year on a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument.***

## **Symphonic Band**

### ***Grades 6th, 7th, 8th: Year Long Course***

The MS Symphonic Band is open to more advanced 6th, 7th, and 8th grade band students. Symphonic Band presents at least two concerts during the year and may participate in GMEA Large Group Performance Evaluation or a similar festival. Students are encouraged to participate in GMEA Solo & Ensemble Festival, District/All State Band auditions, and Chapel Ensemble. Highly advanced students will perform in chamber ensembles and have the opportunity to perform with the Upper School Band. ***Prerequisites: Placement audition***

## **HIES Middle School Chorus**

## **6th Grade Girls Chorus**

### ***Grade 6: Year Long Course***

Choral music at Holy Innocents’ is designed to promote a love of singing and music, and is open to female students new to singing as well as those continuing chorus from earlier grades. Students will learn the basics of vocal production and technique, while incorporating the skills of sight-singing, music literacy and general musicianship. This is a performance-based class, with concerts presented in the Fall, Winter, and Spring. Additional performances may be scheduled during the school day, which may include chapel and community events. Students will be given the opportunity to audition for the GMEA 6th Grade Statewide Honor Chorus.

## **6th Grade Boys Chorus**

### ***Grade 6: Year Long Course***

Choral music at Holy Innocents' is designed to promote a love of singing and music, and is open to male students new to singing as well as those continuing chorus from earlier grades. Students will learn the basics of vocal production and technique specifically focusing on the male voice change, while incorporating the skills of sight-singing, music literacy and general musicianship. This is a performance-based class, with concerts presented in the Fall, Winter, and Spring. Additional performances may be scheduled during the school day, which may include chapel and community events. Students will be given the opportunity to audition for the GMEA 6th Grade Statewide Honor Chorus.

## **7th & 8th Grade Girls Chorus**

### ***Grades 7 & 8: Year Long Course***

Choral music at Holy Innocents' is designed to promote a love of singing and music, and is open to female students new to singing as well as those continuing chorus from earlier grades. Students will learn the basics of vocal production and technique, while incorporating the skills of sight-singing, music literacy and general Musicianship. This is a performance-based class, with concerts presented in the Fall, Winter, and Spring. Additional performances may be scheduled during the school day, which may include chapel and community events. Students will have the option to audition for the GMEA Allstate Choruses.

## **7th & 8th Grade Boys Chorus**

### ***Grades 7 & 8: Year Long Course***

Choral music at Holy Innocents' is designed to promote a love of singing and music, and is open to male students new to singing as well as those continuing chorus from earlier grades. Students will learn the basics of vocal production and technique, specifically focusing on the male voice change, while incorporating the skills of sight-singing, music literacy and general musicianship. This is a performance-based class, with concerts presented in the Fall, Winter, and Spring. Additional performances may be scheduled during the school day, which may include chapel and community events. Students will have the option to audition for the GMEA Allstate Choruses.

## **7th & 8th Chamber Choir**

### ***Grades 7 & 8: Year Long Course***

Choral music at Holy Innocents' is designed to promote a love of singing and music, and is open to both female and male students by audition only. Students will learn the basics of vocal production and technique, while incorporating the skills of sight-singing, music literacy and general musicianship. The MS Chamber Choir performs a variety of challenging and engaging music. This is a performance-based class, with concerts presented in the Fall, Winter, and Spring. Additional performances may be scheduled during the school day, which may include chapel and community events. Students will be encouraged to audition for the GMEA Allstate Choruses. ***Prerequisites: Completion of 6th Grade Choir, and placement audition.***

## **HIES Middle School Music & Engineering**

### **Music Production and Engineering 1**

#### ***Grades 6,7 & 8: Year Long Course***

Beginning with the basics of how music production has evolved over its history to how current musicians are leveraging some of the most powerful tools in the industry, students learn to create and record tracks. Students will learn about music literacy, instrument families, fundamentals of music technology and history, basic performance skills on instruments including keyboards, ukulele and drums. In addition, students will explore editing software, vocal tracking, music production, audio mixing, and mastering in a project-based environment, including the building of their own speaker.

### **Music Production and Engineering 2**

#### ***Grades 7 & 8: Year Long Course***

This class will spend much of the time applying and honing skills learned in Year 1 and exploring the newest forms of digital sound recording. We will be working from sound programs such as ProTools recording software, Audacity, Garage Band, and iMovie to create music with and without traditional instruments. Students will be creating their own songs from the computer as well as arranging well-known popular, jazz, classical, and folk songs. In addition to audio digital recording students will learn sound production and engineering for school events, concerts and theatre productions. Students will also work in teams to produce and manage a shortwave radio broadcast for carpool of the original works created by HIES students. ***Prerequisites: completion of Music Production and Engineering 1***

### **Music Production and Engineering 3**

#### ***Grade 8: Year Long Course***

Students will continue to explore current practices and innovations in music technology, electronic musicianship, and music production, and learn key aspects of recording and production. Students will learn the all skills associated with live recording from recording session set-up and microphone placement to signal flow, mix-down, mastering, and professional studio protocol. Students will create original scores for a silent film to be used as part of an international film exchange project. Students will also learn the art and craft of Foley for the use in short films. Additionally, students will work in teams to produce and manage a shortwave radio broadcast for carpool of the original works created by HIES students. ***Prerequisites: completion of Music Production and Engineering 1 & 2***

