

Fine Art - Music

The pilot phase has allowed 11th and 12th grade students who have either a 3.0 or better GPA or instructor approval to register for the course. Full course description and requirements will be found on 54 of the program of studies.

Music

The music department recognizes the importance of music in developing a student's self-esteem and the value of nurturing an appreciation for music. Outside of the formal course offerings, students may take part in the following extracurricular groups: Red Knotes, Bella Voce, Acabellas (non-audition women's group), Jazz Band. These groups generally meet before or after school and do not satisfy a Fine Art requirement. The students can also be involved in the Metro West Conference Band, Choir and String Orchestra Festivals, Honor Band, Honor Choir and Honor String Orchestra, Small Group Contest, and spring tour.

Choir (S1) and/or (S2)

One semester, one credit, open to freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

This course is designed for students who like to sing. A wide selection of music is rehearsed and performed throughout the school year. Music includes sacred, classical, and contemporary tunes. Students will have an opportunity to work on solos and ensembles for a contest/festival. Attendance is required at all performances, including school liturgies, concerts and other performances scheduled by the director. It is recommended, but not necessary, to enroll in both semesters of choir. Based on enrollment and at the discretion of the instructors, students may be placed in one of the following choirs:

Concert Choir – open to freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

Chamber Choir – open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

Concert Band (S1) and/or (S2)

One semester, one credit, open to freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

Prerequisite: A minimum of two years of band experience.

Students will perform a wide variety of music: overtures, marches, lighter classics, and pop tunes. Students will work on improving their rhythm, technique, and style. Public performances will include concerts, athletic events, and a contest/festival with an opportunity for solo and ensemble playing. Attendance is required at major performances, athletic events and other events scheduled by the director. It is recommended, but not necessary, to enroll in both semesters of this course.

String Orchestra (S1) and/or (S2)

One semester, one credit open to freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

Weekly private lessons outside of school are strongly encouraged. String Orchestra participates in school liturgies.

This course builds upon the skills developed in junior high, continuing to increase musical awareness, refinement of technique, and performance skills, including various styles and periods of music. The repertoire studied covers a large spectrum from classics to pop to contemporary and liturgical music. Performances in a variety of venues including school mass, community and school events, and seasonal concerts with band and choir will require some after-school and before-school participation. Practice retreats are scheduled in the fall and spring. Extended weekend tours out of state are planned every other year.

.5 Band, Choir or String Orchestra as an 8th class (S1) and/or (S2)

Band, Choir or Orchestra: One semester, .5 credit Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

Students in grades 10, 11 and 12 who have completed one full year of regular Band, Choir or Orchestra are eligible to enroll concurrently in .5 Band, Choir or Orchestra. Band, Choir or Orchestra meets Tuesday-Friday, with Monday scheduled as your BSM Hour. Attendance is required as needed for concert preparation or sectional work. First

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semester juniors will be excused from Band, Choir or Orchestra to attend the required ACT prep course. This option is designed for students who love music and desire to continue their participation as they maintain a full academic load.