



ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS 2023-2024



The Village School
Montessori Education

LE, UE, MS and Primary Students

“Education is a natural process carried out by the child and is not acquired by listening to words but by experiences in the environment.”

-Maria Montessori

"What greater gift than to allow our students to try new things, develop new skills, and explore their passions through enriching programs in the areas of the arts, sciences, and athletics. We are so pleased to offer a full breadth of enrichment experiences to our Village School students from Primary through Middle School."

**-Becky Cohen
Community Engagement Leader
The Village School**



www.thevillageschool.net

ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL ENRICHMENT

2023-2024



Enrichment classes are offered after school 3:15-4:15pm (unless otherwise noted) to our LE, UE and MS Students during two 9 week semesters.

*Fall Enrichment enrollment will take place on 9/8-9/13.
Classes will begin on 9/28.*

*Spring Enrichment enrollment will take place 12/5-12/9
and classes will begin the week of 1/15.*



Grade 4-8 Fall

shopping season and birthdays too! Ideas are endless -- slime glitter jars, beaded jewelry with school colors, and cool bookmarks just to name a few! Students must conduct market research, create an awesome gift, define an optimal marketing mix, design a clever advertisement and creative selling strategies to maximize sales! Family and friends are welcome to our "Marketplace" during the last week of class.

\$285

BUSINESS INNOVATORS

PART 2 OPEN FOR BUSINESS
by Be BrainBright.

Students will build upon their business knowledge (from the "Business Foundations" class) and create the best "Gift" product for the busy holiday



Grade 4-8 Spring

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

TGA's multi-week program is ideal for all levels - from beginners to experienced Ultimate players - and is designed to refine skill, learn the sport, and achieve success.

\$250

Monday

CRAFTS & MORE

Create something new and different every week with Sunshine Pottery. It's fun, messy and so very arty. We focus on the enjoyment of the craft, creativity and the process. Kids will be using a variety of art mediums such as: pottery painting, clay creations, exploding slime, canvas painting, water color painting, oil pastels, board art, paint pouring, and much more! We specialize in making art easy - peasy and fun, fun, fun!

\$315



**Grade 4-8
Fall**

COOKING & BAKING

The children will slice, dice, and chop, while learning to use all the essential tools in the kitchen with Ridgewood Culinary. Each week we will either cook or bake. New recipes are made each week!

\$265



**Grade 1-4
Fall**



ROBOTICS

Grade 1-4 Fall-Spring

RoboThink's project based lessons are designed to promote the development of critical thinking, spatial sense and problem solving skills. Our fun and educational models pique and foster interest in STEM in a hands-on-way. As our students assemble and build, they will gain real life experience in how electronics and mechanics work in robotics. We encourage exploratory learning allowing the students to express their ideas and gain self-confidence in what they can create. Each child will have their own build kit.

\$280



Tuesday



**Grade 4-8
Fall-Spring**

BUSINESS INNOVATORS

FALL: PART 1 BUSINESS FOUNDATION by Be BrainBright.

Students will be introduced to the world of business where they must make decisions about product cost, design, marketing, and much more! Watch example pitches from the "Shark Tank" show to get inspired. Brainstorm problems and possible solutions. Design your own unique invention. Write and present a persuasive "pitch" to try to get the sharks to invest in your product!

\$285

SPRING: PART 2 OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Students will build upon their business knowledge (from the "Business Foundations" class) and create the best "Gift" product for the busy holiday shopping season and birthdays too! Ideas are endless -- slime glitter jars, beaded jewelry with school colors, and cool bookmarks just to name a few! Students must conduct market research, create an awesome gift, define an optimal marketing mix, design a clever advertisement and creative selling strategies to maximize sales! Family and friends are welcome to our "Marketplace" during the last week of class.

\$285



Grade 1-4
Fall

ECO HEROES

Explore how the earth's climate is changing and how to be a hero for our earth with Tenaflly Nature Center. Students will learn more about how to help the earth through engaging hands-on activities and games. LIVE animal ambassadors will help reinforce the learning experience.

\$250



Grade 1-4
Fall-Spring

TENNIS

TGA puts the fun in tennis fundamentals! No experience necessary. All equipment will be provided.

\$250

Tuesday



MAKER SPACE

**Grade 1-4
Spring**

Use the tools and materials provided to build, create, and solve design challenges in computerized paper cutting, 3d printing, plaster casting, etc. Students will have the chance to choose from various workstations including a nibbler saw and "breaker space" for deconstructing old electronics.

\$250



ART MIXED MEDIA



Grade 1-4
Fall-Spring

Inspired by contemporary artists, students stimulate their imaginations and develop essential technical skills in a fun classroom environment. One River's compelling curriculum allows students to develop original concepts and create ambitious artwork. Projects include drawing, painting, sculpture and mixed media techniques. All new projects available each session!

\$270



Grade 1-4
Fall

ANIMAL TALES

Meet some amazing animals and learn how they survive in their own habitats. Join Tenaflly Nature Center as we explore reptile relatives, amphibian abilities, mighty mammals, and more. Through crafts, stories, hands-on activities, artifacts and LIVE animal encounters, students will gain more of an understanding of what can be found in their own backyards.

\$250

Wednesday

DINOSAURS ROCK

Join us for a Jurassic journey with hands-on activities galore -- take home a giant collection of fossils and minerals! Super interactive experience - see and touch life-size and genuine Museum exhibit pieces up-close! Learn from a DINOSAUR ROCK expert! Weekly hands-on activities...Excavate REAL fossils and minerals to keep! Polish REAL rough amber in search of insect and plant inclusions ... to keep! Make a Fossil Shark tooth necklace. Open a Crystal-Filled Geode...and more! Fun & Educational! As seen at the Bronx Zoo and hundreds of area schools.

\$345

RUNNING CLUB

Run with friends outside at Whites Park (weather permitting) or in the gym! No running experience necessary. The Spring Session will culminate with the option to participate in the Walddick 5K Run.



3:15-4:00 PM

FALL (6WEEKS) \$150

SPRING (9WEEKS) \$225



**Grade 1-4
Spring**



**Grade 3-8
Fall-Spring**



MIXED SPORTS

Grade 1-4 Fall-Spring

FALL: Try a new sport each week with US Sports Group. Players will learn key skills through small-sided scrimmages in a variety of sports including modified Lacrosse, Soccer, T-Ball and Track & Field. All curricula create an environment which allows players to develop and progress within the sport. All levels welcome!

\$250

SPRING: This program is all about fun, inclusion, and respect. Coach Gio is a former professional soccer player and wrestler who brings 10 years of coaching experience to The Village School. He loves to spread the joy of athletics to kids of all ages, in the form of high energy sports and games that promote teamwork, as well as individual play. Examples of Sports: Soccer, Basketball, Kickball. Examples of Games: Capture the Flag, Steal the Bacon, Bucket Ball, etc. Kids will be encouraged to leave their comfort zones and show their true personalities!

\$250

Thursday



**Grade 4-8
Fall-Spring**

ART MIXED MEDIA

Inspired by contemporary artists, students will stimulate their imaginations and develop essential technical skills in a fun classroom environment. One River's curriculum allows students to develop original concepts and create ambitious artwork. Projects include drawing, painting, sculpture and mixed media techniques. Teacher led demonstrations provide technical instruction and hands-on guidance. All new projects available each session!

\$270



**Grade 4-8
Fall-Spring**

CHESS

International Chess Academy's (ICA) chess program instructs students on how to think logically and creatively. Students will partake in chess strategy lessons, solve problems to improve their tactical ability and foresight, and hone their skills with supervised practice games. We will make you love the game.

\$255

MAKER SPACE

Use the tools and materials provided to build, create, and solve design challenges in computerized paper cutting, 3d printing, plaster casting, etc. Students will have the chance to choose from various workstations including a nibbler saw and "breaker space" for deconstructing old electronics.

\$250



**Grade 4-8
Fall-Spring**

CRAFTS & MORE

Create something new and different every week with Sunshine Pottery. It's fun, messy and so very arty. We focus on the enjoyment of the craft, creativity and the process. Kids will be using a variety of art mediums such as: pottery painting, clay creations, exploding slime, canvas painting, water color painting, oil pastels, board art, paint pouring, and much more! We specialize in making art easy - peasy and fun, fun, fun!

\$315



**Grade 1-4
Fall-Spring**

PRIMARY ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

Spring



Primary Enrichment classes will be offered during the Spring 9 week session and will run after school from 3:00-4:00pm unless otherwise noted.



ART START

One River designed this class specifically for primary aged students to experience art making in a hands-on environment that stimulates creativity and independence. Young artists develop a higher level of critical thinking and problem solving skills through learning about elements of art making and contemporary art. Diverse projects emphasize basic art making skills and help to build fine motor development. Drawing, painting, sculpture and mixed media are explored in a warm, nurturing environment. New projects each session.

\$270



Wednesday

SUNRISE YOGA

Start your child's day off on the right foot with some centered breathing, stretching and exercise with Rise Yoga. Tailored to this age group, this yoga is fun and engaging!

 8:30 - 9:00 AM

\$165



NATURE EXPLORERS

Experience wonders of nature and science with the Tenaflly Nature Center. Students learn about the different cycles, adaptations, and processes that occur throughout our natural world as they are introduced to topics, such as food webs, animal tracks, and metamorphosis. Sessions will feature stories, hands-on activities, games, artifacts and LIVE animal encounters.

\$250



Thursday



COOKING WITH HEALTHBARN

Students will learn about healthy habits and where their food comes from while making a healthy and delicious snack to accompany their lunch. All cooking supplies provided. They will also eat their lunch (packed from home) during this period.



11:50 AM -12:40 PM

\$250



MOVEMENT/ MUSIC

Music is the tool we use to engage all children, regardless of age or ability. When they feel comfortable and accepted, they shine. AHUM Music will have the kids sing, dance, jump, stomp, share, laugh, shake shakers, beat drums, and experience wonderful moments together. It is truly a gift! All classes feature a head instructor and guitar vocalist.

\$285

Friday



LET'S PLAY SPORTS

The goal of this course is to help kids fall in love with movement! Students will participate in a variety of games, obstacle courses and sports skills. Let the movement and fun begin!

\$250



ELECTIVES

Electives are typically offered during the lunch/recess time period during the school day. These offer an opportunity for students to more deeply explore an area of interest.

MAKERSPACE OPEN EXPLORATION

Grade 1-8

Join our new Maker Teacher during recess to work on projects of your choice. Multiple tools and stations will be available.

Supply Fee \$50



YEARBOOK CLUB

Grade 7-8

Yearbook is a middle school student-led club where 7th and 8th graders design, photograph, write and create all content for the annual school yearbook. The club meets once a cycle during lunch/recess.

Supply Fee \$35





CHESS

**Grade 1-4
Year Round**

Join the VS Chess Team for open play and practice in the library or out on the playground. No advance sign up required. All skill levels welcome.



VOLLEYBALL TEAM

**Grade 6-8
Nov-Feb**

The Volleyball team begins in the fall and ends in February each year. Coaches will assign students to certain practice days which are held during recess. The schedule each year includes games against staff/alumni as well as area schools. Games are held after school either in The Village School Gymnasium or at the opposing team's location. All skill levels welcome.

BASKETBALL TEAM



Grade 5-8
Feb-April

The co-ed basketball team begins in February and is open to all students grades 5 – 8. Students practice 2 -3 times during the week for their games against other schools in the area as well as Village School staff/alumni. Games are held after school either in The Village School Gymnasium or at the opposing team's location. All skill levels welcome.

CHORUS

Jr. Grade 4-6
Sr. Gade 7-8



Both the Junior and Senior choruses perform two concerts throughout the school year (December and May) as well as at other events such as Middle School graduation. Rehearsals are held during the school day and all interested students are welcome to join.

All instrumental ensembles require a minimum of one semester of private lessons either through the Village School or an outside instructor before joining.

Each ensemble performs at the Winter and Spring Concert and throughout the school year at events such as graduation.

Rehearsals are held during the school day unless otherwise noted.



ORCHESTRA

**(Jr. & Sr.)
Grade 4-8**

The Junior Orchestra is open to UE and MS beginner students who have had at least one semester of lessons in brass, woodwinds, percussion or string instruments.

The Senior Orchestra is for more experienced UE and MS students who have been practicing an instrument in the brass, woodwind, percussion or string family for multiple years. Students must audition for the Senior Orchestra with a piece of their own and some sight reading.



PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Grade 4-8

 3:00-4:00 PM

The Percussion Ensemble is open to UE and MS students who have had at least one semester of pitched percussion lessons (8 lessons) or two years of piano lessons (students must be able to read music notation). This is a great way for students who are studying piano to experience the fun of performing in a group. Percussion ensemble meets after school on Tuesdays.



GUITAR/UKULELE ENSEMBLE

**(Jr. & Sr.)
Grade 4-8**

The Junior and Senior Guitar Ensembles are open to UE and MS students who have had one semester (8 lessons) of lessons playing instruments such as ukulele, guitar, and electric bass. Students will be placed based on their ability to read music notation.

PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS

Private music lessons run for 40 minutes during one of three sessions each day after school (3:15-3:55, 4:15-4:55, & 4:55-5:35).

Lessons run for 9 weeks concurrent with the enrichment schedule for that day of the week.

There will be two semesters of lessons offered during the year, culminating in an optional recital in June.

All lessons are \$630 per semester.

PIANO

Monday, Tuesday, Friday

Zoe Cassotis

Wednesday & Friday

Piroozi Cooper

Tuesday

Angela Girvan

Beginner only



Grade 1-8

UKULELE & GUITAR

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Tony Scally

Friday only- 3:15-3:55 PM & 4:15-4:55 PM

Tuesday

Angela Girvan

Beginner Only

During school day

Chris Messina

Grade 4-8 only



Grade 1-8



ORCHESTRAL PERCUSSION

During school day
Chris Messina

Grade 4-8



OBOE

Wednesday and Friday
Piroozi Cooper

Grade 4-8



VIOLIN, VIOLA

Tuesday, Wednesday
Elana Lekach

Grade 1-8

FLUTE

Tuesday
Angela Girvan

Wednesday and Friday
Piroozi Cooper



Grade 4-8

CLARINET & SAXOPHONE

Tuesday
Angela Girvan



Grade 4-8

TRUMPET, TROMBONE & BARITONE

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
Ed Moderacki



Grade 4-8

MUSIC INSTRUCTORS

ZOE CASSOTIS

Piano

Zoe is a pianist and teacher, with solo piano performances across musical styles, including Renaissance, Baroque, Romantic, Impressionism, Classical Jazz, and Stride Piano. In addition, she has recorded 2 CDs of Classical, Stride Piano and Standards selections, available on YouTube and CDBaby, including Lizst's piano transcription of the Rossini's "William Tell Overture", J.S. Bach's "Italian Concerto" and George Gershwin's "An American in Paris". A third set of music, "Mix and Match", was released in March 2022. For over twenty years, Zoe has taught children and adults privately at all levels across multiple genres in Bergen and Rockland Counties.

PIROOZI COOPER

Piano, Flute, Oboe

Piroozi attended the Manhattan School of Music where she studied Oboe and English Horn with Thomas Stacy of the New York Philharmonic and minored in Piano. She also attended New York University and holds certification as a Kindermusik instructor as well as attaining Montessori training for 3-6. She earned her Masters degree in Education and has performed as a musician in several orchestras and festivals including the New York Chamber Symphony, the Garden State Philharmonic, the American Chamber Symphony Orchestra, Opera New England and the Tanglewood Festival Orchestra. Her passion is teaching and she teaches Early Childhood Education at New York University. Her music students have performed at Steinway Recital Hall.

ELANA LEKACH

Violin, Viola

Elana received her violin degree from Rutgers, where she was a recipient of the Marryott Music Scholarship. Her teachers have included world-renowned soloists. Upon graduation she freelanced actively in the NYC metro area. Her performances have taken her throughout North America. Elana has taught violin for more than 20 years to students of all ages and levels. Her students have been concertmaster, principal viola, and section players in Bergen Youth Orchestra, Region 1 Orchestra, and New York Youth Symphony. Some of her students have earned performance degrees and have gone on to successful performance careers.

ANGELA GIRVAN HENDERSON

Flute, Clarinet, Sax, Beginner Piano & Ukulele

Angela is a NJ certified K-12 Music Teacher with a bachelor's degree in Music Education. As a music educator in Paramus Public Schools, Angela taught elementary vocal, instrumental, and general music at Stony Lane Elementary School for six years before transitioning to her current Director of Bands position at East Brook Middle School in 2018. Angela joined The Village School community as a music lesson instructor in 2016. She identifies the unique learning needs and strengths of each individual so she can prescribe fun, practical exercises to help students build musical skills and establish a lifelong love of music.

CHRIS MESSINA

Guitar, Ukulele, Drums, Orchestral Percussion

Chris is a multi-instrumentalist, composer, and educator who performs and teaches throughout NY and NJ. In his private teaching practice, he teaches piano, percussion, guitar, ukulele, and electric bass as well as composition, songwriting, and recording. Chris pursued his education from New Jersey City University and graduated with a BA in Music Education. Certified by the state of NJ to teach music from kindergarten through grade twelve, he has taught general music, directed multiple vocal and instrumental ensembles, created courses in songwriting and piano techniques, and most recently chaired the arts department at a local Performing Arts School. Chris is excited to share his enthusiasm for music education with the Village School students and hopes to help inspire a future generation of musicians.

EDMUND MODERACKI

Brass- Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone

Ed holds education degrees from Montclair State College and Hunter College (CUNY). A performer on cornet, euphonium and tuba, he taught music in the River Vale schools for 45 years. He performs throughout Bergen County on brass instruments and is a member of the Ridgewood Symphony Orchestra and the Teaneck Community Band. A member of the executive board of the Music Educators of Bergen County, he is also the conductor of the Community Band of Waldwick.

TONY SCALLY

Guitar, Ukulele

Tony has been teaching in North Jersey for over forty years. He has taught guitar and ukulele at The Village School for 7 years. He has been a member of numerous bands and performed at various Music Festivals over time. Please visit millsoundmusic.com for his full resume and samples of his music.

“There should be music in the child’s environment, just as there does exist in the child’s environment spoken speech. In the social environment the child should be considered and music should be provided.”

Maria Montessori

Contact Us



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#thevillageschooldifference



www.thevillageschool.net

**Enrichment Programs
For All Ages & Interests**