

NWTA



Northwest Talent Academy



Summer 2024 Programs

Monticello, MN

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Community Ed Director



Dates:

Monday - Thursday

June 17 - 21
 (No classes 6/19)

June 24 - 27

July 8 - 11

July 15 - 18

Times:

8:30 - 11:30 AM

12:30 - 3:30 PM

8:30 AM - 3:30 PM



Location:

Monticello High School
5225 School Blvd.

Why NWTA?

Because all children deserve to have their learning needs met, including our high potential students!

Northwest Talent Academy is dedicated to meeting the needs of those identified high potential learners by providing unique challenges in a fast-paced and engaging educational environment.

NWTA offers a wide variety of educational and enriching opportunities, covering subjects from STEM to music to creative thinking, and much more. Programming is designed to pique interests, develop passions, and make education both exciting and enticing for our high-potential learners.

Welcome to our sixth year of NWTA!

We are thrilled to have your child join us this summer! It has been an incredible journey to provide the gifted and talented and high potential students of the northwest suburbs with an experience of a lifetime! NWTA started with an idea to bring summer programming closer to our area outside of the Twin Cities. In just six years, we have grown from one school district and a handful of classes to offering over forty classes for TEN school districts this year! Thank you to all of the parents, staff, school districts, and community members who have supported our program!

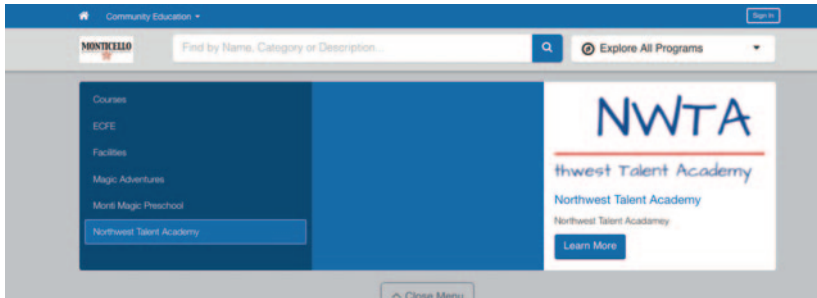
Jenine Severson
 NWTA Coordinator

Leanne Goerz
 Assistant Coordinator

Registration



monticello.ce.eleyo.com



Search Northwest Talent Academy or find it with the explore all programs.

Once you land on the course catalog you can view all available classes.

Locations, prices and availability are listed.

If the class is full it will show a waitlist.

Review your program and check out.

Registration Deadlines:

Early Bird Discount from February 5-March 8 is a \$10 off all classes discount.

Classes determinations will be made the week of March 18. Classes that do not meet the minimum number of participants, will be cancelled. Students will be given a chance to move to a different class that is running the same week or a full refund will be given. (Additional fees may apply)

Starting March 18, only partial refunds (50%) will be given for classes cancelled by the participant, if above the minimum number of students to run the class. Students may move to a different class that is running without penalty if minimum enrollment has been met.

After April 9, no refunds will be given for classes cancelled by the participant or changes to schedules.

NWTA Member Directory

Annandale
Becker
Big Lake
Buffalo Hanover Montrose
Delano
Elk River Area Schools
Foley
Maple Lake
Monticello
St. Michael/Albertville

Lunch is not provided. Please pack a lunch, snack and water bottle for your child.



We will have a supervised lunch from 11:30 - 12:30 for students taking two half day classes and full day classes.

Parent drop off time is 15 minutes prior to class.

Pick up time is at the end of class.



NWTA June 17-21 Schedule



Class Name	Days	Times	Grades	Fee
Amazing Authors!	M/Tu/Th/F	12:30-3:30 PM	4-8	\$146
Art That Makes a Change	M/Tu/Th/F	8:30 AM-3:30 PM	4-8	\$280
Birds of a Feather: Field Biology	M/Tu/Th/F	8:30-11:30 AM	5-8	\$136
Born to Chase Bugs! For Young Entomologists	M/Tu/Th/F	8:30-11:30 AM	2-4	\$146
Cakeology- Ordinary to Extraordinary	M/Tu/Th/F	8:30-11:30 AM	2-8	\$150
Cakeology- Ordinary to Extraordinary	M/Tu/Th/F	12:30-3:30 PM	2-8	\$150
Culture Craze & Food Frenzy!	M/Tu/Th/F	8:30-11:30 AM	2-8	\$150
Culture Craze & Food Frenzy!	M/Tu/Th/F	12:30-3:30 PM	2-8	\$150
Duct, Duct, Tape!	M/Tu/Th/F	8:30 -11:30 AM	2-5	\$146
Duct, Duct, Tape!	M/Tu/Th/F	12:30-3:30 PM	5-8	\$146
Edible Experiments	M/Tu/Th/F	8:30 -11:30 AM	4-8	\$150
Edible Experiments	M/Tu/Th/F	12:30-3:30 PM	4-8	\$150
Escape if you DARE!	M/Tu/Th/F	8:30 -11:30 AM	5-8	\$136
Escape if you DARE!	M/Tu/Th/F	12:30-3:30 PM	2-5	\$136
Flashback Fashion Through the Decades!	M/Tu/Th/F	8:30-11:30 AM	4-7	\$136
Game On: Exploring Science Concepts through Board Games	M/Tu/Th/F	12:30-3:30 PM	5-8	\$136
Get to Know the Ukulele	M/Tu/Th/F	8:30-11:30 AM	3-5	\$130
Let's Get KNIT-ty	M/Tu/Th/F	8:30-11:30 AM	4-8	\$136
Memories in Stitches! (Crafting Your Own Memory Pillows)	M/Tu/Th/F	12:30-3:30 PM	3-8	\$136
Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies A Tale of Tights, Fights and Footlights	M/Tu/Th/F/W June 17-27	8:30-11:30 AM	3-8	\$270
STOP! Motion>> Movies!	M/Tu/Th/F	8:30-11:30 AM	5-8	\$136
STOP! Motion>> Movies!	M/Tu/Th/F	12:30-3:30 PM	2-5	\$136
Sensational Succulents	M/Tu/Th/F	12:30-3:30 PM	4-8	\$140
Sign Language is for Everyone	M/Tu/Th/F	12:30-3:30 PM	2-8	\$130
The Artist in YOU!	M/Tu/Th/F	8:30-11:30 AM	2-8	\$150
The Artist in YOU!	M/Tu/Th/F	12:30-3:30 PM	2-8	\$150
Wizardsing World of Hogwarts	M/Tu/Th/F	8:30-11:30 AM	2-5	\$146
Worm Poop! -Ewww	M/Tu/Th/F	8:30-11:30 AM	2-4	\$136



NWTA June 24-27 Schedule



Class Name	Days	Times	Grades	Fee
Art That Makes a Change	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30 AM-3:30 PM	5-8	\$280
Birds of a Feather: Field Biology	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	5-8	\$136
Born to Chase Bugs! For Young Entomologists	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	2-4	\$146
Chocolate Lovers Need Only Apply	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	2-5	\$150
Chocolate Lovers Need Only Apply	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	5-8	\$150
Culture Craze & Food Frenzy	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	5-8	\$150
Culture Craze & Food Frenzy	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	2-5	\$150
Edible Experiments	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	4-8	\$150
Edible Experiments	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	4-8	\$150
Escape if you DARE	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	2-5	\$136
Escape if you DARE	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	5-8	\$136
ExploraCoSpaciVRse	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	3-6	\$130
ExploraCoSpaciVRse	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	3-6	\$130
Festive Foodie	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	4-8	\$150
Festive Foodie	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	4-8	\$150
Flashback Fashion Through the Decades!	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	4-7	\$136
FUN-damentals of Film & Photo Editing	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30 AM-3:30 PM	2-8	\$140
Game On: Exploring Science Concepts through Board Games	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	5-8	\$136
Gelli Print: Mixed Media	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	2-5	\$136
Gelli Print: Mixed Media	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	5-8	\$136
Jewelry Junkie	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	4-8	\$140
Jewelry Junkie	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	4-8	\$140
Lyricism Unleashed: Creating and Combining Music and Poetry	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30 AM-3:30 PM	5-8	\$226
Memories in Stitches! (Crafting Your Own Memory Pillows)	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	3-8	\$136
Operation Exploration!	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	2-3	\$140
Scholarly Writing and Composition 101	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	5-8	\$126
Scholarly Writing and Composition 101	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	5-8	\$126



NWTA June 24-27 Schedule



Class Name	Days	Times	Grades	Fee
Sensational Succulents	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	4-8	\$140
Sign Language is for Everyone	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	2-8	\$130
The Artist in YOU!	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	2-8	\$150
The Artist in YOU!	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	2-8	\$150
Video Games, Coding, Robotics, Oh My!	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	2-5	\$146
Video Games, Coding, Robotics, Oh My!	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	2-5	\$146
Wizarding World of Hogwarts	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	2-5	\$146



NWTA July 8-11 Schedule



Class Name	Days	Times	Grades	Fee
Cakeology Through the Seasons	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	2-8	\$150
Express Yourself With Your Own Hand-Painted Jean Jacket!	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	5-8	\$136
FUN-damentals of Film & Photo Editing	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30 AM-3:30 PM	5-8	\$226
Franken-Craft: Sew Your Own Monster	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	5-8	\$136
Harry Potter EXTREME!	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	5-8	\$140
Harry Potter EXTREME!	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	2-4	\$140
Lyricism Unleashed: Creating and Combining Music and Poetry	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30 AM-3:30 PM	5-8	\$226
Operation Exploration!	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	2-3	\$140
Outwit, Outlast, Outplay- Survivor NWTA Style!	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	5-8	\$150
Outwit, Outlast, Outplay- Survivor NWTA Style!	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	2-5	\$150
Red, White, and Blue Service Quilt	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	2-5	\$140
Red, White, and Blue Service Quilt	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	5-8	\$140
STOP! Motion>> Movies!	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	2-5	\$136
STOP! Motion>> Movies!	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	5-8	\$136
Sign Language is for Everyone	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	2-8	\$130
Stitch Art Workshop	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	4-8	\$146



NWTA July 8-11 Schedule



Class Name	Days	Times	Grades	Fee
The Disney World Experience	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30 AM-3:30 PM	5-8	\$250
World Traveler	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30 AM-3:30 PM	3-6	\$250
craftASTIC!	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	4-8	\$140
craftASTIC!	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	4-8	\$140
日本での生活 (Life in Japan)	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	5-8	\$126



NWTA July 15-18 Schedule



Class Name	Days	Times	Grades	Fee
Express Yourself With Your Own Hand-Painted Jean Jacket!	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	5-8	\$136
Franken-Craft: Sew Your Own Monster	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	5-8	\$136
Furry Friends Toys & Treats!	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	5-8	\$130
Furry Friends Toys & Treats!	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	5-8	\$130
Harry Potter EXTREME!	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	2-4	\$140
Harry Potter EXTREME!	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	5-8	\$140
Jewelry Junkie	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	4-8	\$140
Let's Jam! Learn the Ukulele	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	5-8	\$130
Multiplication Mania & Challenge Builds with Logic	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	2-4	\$130
Operation Exploration!	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	2-3	\$140
Outwit, Outlast, Outplay- Survivor NWTA Style!	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	2-5	\$150
Outwit, Outlast, Outplay- Survivor NWTA Style!	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	5-8	\$150
Playing with Paper	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	5-8	\$155
Scholarly Writing and Composition 101	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	5-8	\$126
Sign Language is for Everyone	M/Tu/W/Th	12:30-3:30 PM	2-8	\$130
The Disney World Experience	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30 AM-3:30 PM	5-8	\$250
日本での生活 (Life in Japan)	M/Tu/W/Th	8:30-11:30 AM	5-8	\$126



Amazing Authors!-Grades 4-8

Write your own book!

Through the study of picture book story elements, we will identify and analyze the characters, plot, conflict and setting of a wide selection of much-loved folk and fairy tales. We will then manipulate those story elements to create our own fractured versions of classic stories. We will learn how authors make their writing come alive for readers by showing versus telling and using sensory details. The week will end with an author's celebration of our original stories!

Instructor: Michelle Thompson

Art That Makes a Change-Grades 5-8

Have you ever wanted to do something so impactful that the world changes? Now is your chance! There are people in your community who will be forever changed by art that YOU create. This class is an opportunity for you to create art for local businesses to proudly display. Two days will be spent working on a 2D art piece for a business that works with the student and gives them inspiration on what they want to display to give new perspective to their customers and make their day. Two more days will be spent on a 3D piece to be delivered as a surprise, to a business of the student's choice, portraying the true meaning of community and giving. This class nurtures both your artistic skills and the concept that the smallest act can truly change the world.

Instructor: Morgan Lanners

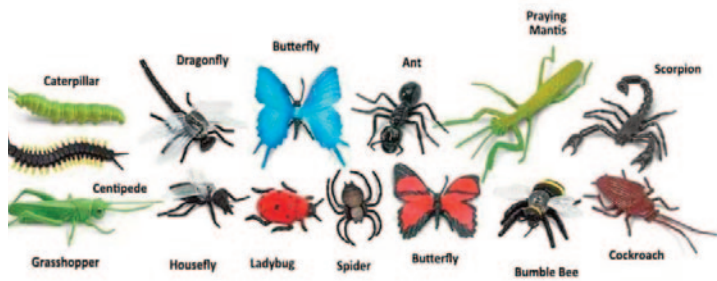
Class Descriptions



Birds of a Feather: Field Biology-Grades 5-8

Calling all birders! Join us on a captivating journey into the avian world with our Birds of a Feather class! Immerse yourself in the art of bird identification by sight and sound; practice using binoculars for up close views; and develop research and data collection skills. Whether you're a novice or a seasoned bird enthusiast, let's unlock the wonders of feathered creatures and cultivate a deeper connection with nature and how we affect it. This will be an eye (and ear) opening class!

Instructor: J McClelland



Born to Chase Bugs! For Young Entomologists- Grades 2-4

B.U.G.S..... did someone say BUGS?!?!?! Oh to explore the fascinating world of insects! From butterflies, to bees, learn about their different body parts, lifecycles and why insects are essential to our environment. Engage in hands-on activities like bug hunting, examining specimens and building and exploring insect habitats. Join me for a week filled with exploration and discovery of the incredible world of all things insects.

Instructor: Makayla Bozoian



Chocolate Lovers Need Only Apply-Gr. 2-8

Are you ready to be surrounded by chocolate treats, chocolate themed science activities and a literary biography that revolve around chocolate? In this four day course you will participate in a book study about Milton Hershey that will give students the opportunity to take events from the story and explore them in cooking lessons, science experiments and art projects. We will also explore the history of the cacao bean, take a virtual field to Hershey PA, sample chocolate foods and so much more!

Instructor: Tammy Knutson

Class Descriptions



Cakeology Through the Seasons-Grades 2-8

If Cakeology isn't enough....there is Cakeology Through the Seasons! Four days, four seasons! A year of fun in just 4 days! You do not need to take Cakeology before taking this class.

Instructor: Melissa Farnam



Cakeology- Ordinary to Extraordinary-Gr. 2-8

It's time to make that ordinary cake EXTRAordinary! Meet me in the kitchen this summer when we will learn new ways to make cakes get the wow they deserve.

Instructor: Melissa Farnam

Class Descriptions



Culture Craze & Food Frenzy!-Grades 2-8

Marrant! Divertido! 好玩! Spaß! That's how you say "Fun!" in many languages! This course will expose students to many different cultures including learning traditions, popular activities, entertainment, and most importantly food! Students will get to create/ sample food items that represent each culture. Don't miss out on a busy and exciting week "traveling" around the world!

Instructor: Summer Schmidt



Duct, Duct, Tape!-Grades 2-8

Are you ready to do all things Duct Tape? In this course we will learn the history of duct tape, make some pre-planned projects and design projects from brainstorming to sketching to creating. Some of our pre-planned projects may include wallets, lunch bags, school supplies and jewelry. Each day we will focus on one of four topic ideas: 3D, Sculpture, Clothing/Accessory & Art Piece. Students will be given choices every day to determine what they would like to work on based on the day's topic. Being creative and having fun is the focus of this four day course!

Instructor: Tammy Knutson

Edible Experiments-Grades 4-8

Wouldn't science class be more fun if you could EAT your experiments?? In this class you will be encouraged to play with your food, create with your food, and eat your experiments! All experiments will be edible, being brave enough to try them is a different challenge!

Instructor: Evangeline Froelich



Escape if you DARE!-Grades 2-8

Puzzles, clues, mystery...you'll experience these and more in this exciting Escape Room class! We will work as a team to solve a classroom mystery, then let your creativity shine while you work with teammates to create your own escape room! Your sleuthing skills will be put to the test as you solve your classmates' Escape Rooms! Enter...if you dare!

Instructor: Megan Kallinen

Class Descriptions



ExploraCoSpaciVRse!-Grades 3-6

Take a journey to the ExploraCoSpaciVRse! We will explore existing virtual worlds and environments before becoming creators and engineers in the the metaverse. In this class, you will integrate 3D design thinking and computational thinking to individually and collaboratively create immersive VR environments, stories and games. Showcase your design and digital storytelling talents, develop your coding skills, and contribute positively and responsibly to our CoSpaciVRse.

Instructor: Megan Bateman



FUN-damentals of Film & Photo Editing-Gr. 5-8

Lights, Camera, Action!

Ever heard of WeVideo, Pixlr, or Canva? Of course you have! But do you use them to their full potential? Let's come together to learn the basics of editing video and photos and create fun projects. If that's not enough, we will work on script writing, film studying, and acting skills.

Instructor: Luke Feierabend



Express Yourself With Your Own Hand-Painted Jean Jacket!-Grades 5-8

"Where did you get that jacket?" Be prepared for everyone to ask you that question. Whether you're shoveling popcorn into your mouth at the movies or enjoying a pontoon ride at sun-down, this jacket will wrap around you like a warm hug. It will be the perfect expression of YOU. Learn the best techniques for painting on denim. So grab your favorite jean jacket from home and get ready to customize your jacket and hone in your new painting skills!

Instructor: Morgan Lanners

Festive Foodie-Grades 4-8

Spending time with others usually involves some delicious food, so in this class we'll learn about fun and festive foods to share with others for holidays and celebrations. From appetizers to charcuterie to decadent desserts, this class will give you all the recipes and skills you need to wow everyone at your next gathering.

Instructor: Julie Stella



Flashback Fashion Through the Decades!- Grades 4-7

A glimpse into the fashion trends of our lives....and your grandparents! This class will take us all the back in time to the roaring 20's and into present day. Decade by decade we will uncover the styles and trends of the time, and of course take time to design the outfits of our dreams through sketches, collages, and much more! No fabric or sewing required! If you have a love for clothes and a passion for fashion and how it came to be, this is the class for you!

Instructor: Linnea Kline



Franken-Craft: Sew Your Own Monster- Grades 5-8

MONSTER... MONSTER... Did someone say MONSTER?!?!? For this class you will need to dig deep and let your creativeness take over! The sky's the limit as you learn the basics of applique, embroidery, and sewing, to design and create your own MONSTER PLUSH. Your monster will consist of a face and body! Using the different techniques you will make it as SCARY CUTE as you want! No experience is necessary, but those with experience will get an opportunity to exercise and improve their skills. If you love to use your creativity to make things... this class is definitely the one for you!

Instructor: Alex Osterberg

Class Descriptions



Furry Friends Toys & Treats!- Grades 2-5 PM & Grades 5-8 AM

Do you have a special furry friend in your life... one that deserves a little extra love... well then this is the course for you! Throughout our week we will be learning how to make toys and treats for the dogs and cats you love! If you don't have a special furry friend in your life... no worries... we will package them up and donate them to a local animal shelter!

Instructor: Rebecca Herbert



Game On: Exploring Science Concepts through Board Games-Grades 5-8

Biology? GAME ON!! Can you achieve the most health points at the end of Cytosis or Cellulose to claim victory? Will you outgrow your competition with pea plants of specific genetic characteristics in Genotype? How well can you balance your ecosystem with bird species in Wingspan? Are you able to outproduce the competition in Monarch migration from Mexico in Mariposas? Join us and find out!

Instructor: J McClelland



Gelli Print: Mixed Media- Grades 2-5 PM & Grades 5-8 AM

Who is ready for some MIXED MEDIA fun?? We will be learning the craft of Gelli Printing using a variety of tools: brayer, gelli rolls, acrylic paints, stencils, and embossing! You will have an opportunity to design a wooden box and personalized journals. So if CRAFTING and CREATING are your thing... be sure to come check us out because this class is the one for YOU!

Instructor: Rebecca Herbert



Get to Know the Ukulele-Grades 3-5

This is your chance to learn to play the amazing instrument called the ukulele! In this class, we will learn to play the popular instrument, learn to tune, chord and read tablature. We will spend time getting to know one another, learning strumming patterns and chords and of course, we will be playing together! Come learn to play the ukulele with me this summer!

Instructor: Rebecca Hoover

Class Descriptions



Harry Potter EXTREME!-Grades 2-8

Ever dreamed of attending Hogwarts? Come dressed in your favorite Wizarding apparel or Hogwarts House colors! Don't know which House you are in? No problem - the Sorting Hat will tell you where you ought to be! Throughout the week, we will also feast on Wizarding World snacks, wrack our brains in trivia, try our hand at Muggle Quidditch, conquer puzzles in a Potter-themed escape room, and more! Harry Potter superfans won't want to miss out on this experience of a lifetime!

Instructor: Megan Kallinen



Jewelry Junkie-Grades 4-8

Calling ALL jewelry lovers! Do you love the look of jewelry and love to wear ALL the jewelry? I have got the class for you! JEWELRY JUNKIE! In this class we will explore various types of jewelry making using different types of materials. You will create your own individual types of jewelry that you can wear yourself or if you are so inclined you can share with others. Some of the jewelry projects we may explore include: metal stamping, clay jewelry, friendship bracelets, beaded bracelets, and friendship pins. I am excited to share my personal love of jewelry to YOU!

Instructor: Denise Lorentz



Let's Get KNIT-ty-Grades 4-8

Knitting is an extremely FUN and REWARDING activity. It will bring you joy with your accomplishments and through gift giving. It helps with memory and focus. It is relaxing, and knitting is a skill you can use and develop throughout your life! In this class, you will learn the fundamentals of knitting including casting-on, some beginning stitches, following a basic pattern, casting-off, and finishing. We will practice techniques by beginning a washcloth in class, which will give you the confidence and knowledge to create bigger projects at home. Come join us for this delightful and satisfying creative opportunity!

Instructor: Chelsie Cabak



Let's Jam! Learn the Ukulele-Grades 5-8

Have you ever wanted to learn to play the ukulele? In this class, you will learn everything you need to know to get started playing this amazing instrument. You will learn how to handle, care for and tune, how to play several chords and even begin writing your own music for the ukulele! We will spend time chording along with popular recordings, learning the basics of playing Ukulele and even creating our own music! I would love to have you join us! At the end of the week, you will have the option to share the music you create at a culminating mini concert.

Instructor: Rebecca Hoover

Class Descriptions



Lyricism Unleashed: Creating and Combining Music and Poetry-Grades 5-8

Embark on a captivating journey that transcends the boundaries of artistic expression in "Lyricism Unleashed," a unique course that intertwines the realms of music and poetry. In this course, students will immerse themselves in the enchanting combination of musical and poetic expression. You will be analyzing popular songs, writing your own poetry and putting it to music, AND making your own musical beats and adding lyrics to it! Join Miss Solwey in this transformative experience where words and music harmonize to create a symphony of inspired creativity. If you enjoy music, writing, or a combination of both, this class is for you! **Please bring your own earbuds or headphones to connect to devices**

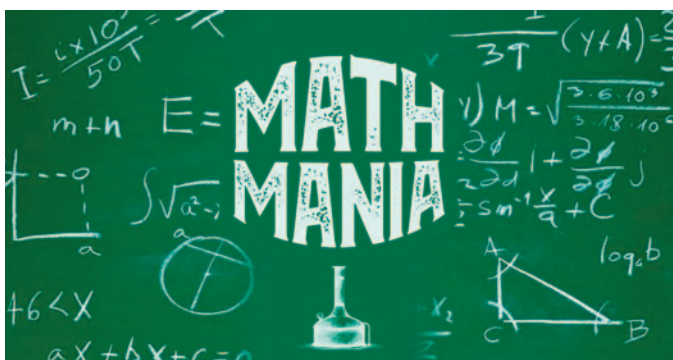
Instructor: Madison Solwey



Memories in Stitches! (Crafting Your Own Memory Pillows)-Grades 3-8

Who doesn't have outgrown t-shirts from camps, school, or sports? So grab four to eight of your old t-shirts that bring back great memories. Get ready to snip, snip, snip! We will have fun learning sewing machine basics and creating your very own memory pillow! At the end of the week, you will go home with your pillow full of cherished memories!

Instructors: Jaci Decker



Multiplication Mania & Challenge Builds with Logic-Grades 2-4

Hey, what do you call friends who like math? Alge-bruhs!

Building a solid foundation of multiplication fact fluency doesn't have to be boring and full of flashcards. Come join me at NWTa to make math friends and get ready for more challenging math in future years. It will be a week of card and dice games, physical competition, digital games and tricks to fluently fly through your facts. We will also take time each day to build growth mindset through individual and team based challenge builds and logic puzzles. I can't wait to see you this summer at NWTa!

Instructors: Brenna Lavalier-Kortenkamp

Class Descriptions



Operation Exploration!-Grades 2-3

It's time to GET OUTSIDE! Put on your socks and shoes as we explore the wonders of nature. From crafting to kite flying and hammocking to snacking we will enjoy a week of exploration and experiences in our natural world with an emphasis on scientific inquiry and critical thinking.

Instructor: Gina Schoon



Outwit, Outlast, Outplay- Survivor NWTa Style!-Grades 2-8

If you have a competitive edge, determination and like trying new things- Come be the next NWTa survivor! Students will work independently and with groups to compete many challenges that require different skills. Along with challenges, students will need to have an open mind and create alliances (positively). To see who can "Outwit, Outlast, and Outplay", learning basic survival skill is going to be a necessity!

Instructor: Summer Schmidt

Playing with Paper-Grades 5-8

Come with creativity and leave with a variety of personal masterpieces all made using paper as our medium. We will explore collage art and create our own collages to create a sketch book cover with your own personal flair displayed on the front. We will get messy using paper mache to create our own masks. We will spend time challenging the dexterity of our fingers as we take on the art of paper folding, origami. Some of the other things we will dabble in include creating a pocket journal from paper bags, mixing drawing and collage, designing and creating personalized ink stamps and exploring picture books where illustrators create art with paper scraps and other items found in their environment. Come join me for a week of creativity!

Instructor: Brenna Lavalier-Kortenkamp



Red, White, and Blue Service Quilt- Grades 2-5 AM & Grades 5-8 PM

Ever want to do something kind for a veteran in our community?? Well here is your chance! Together we will be making a quilt with a Red, White, and Blue theme! Every student will build one special block of the quilt. At the end of our week when it all comes together, we will gift it to a veteran to honor them.

Instructor: Rebecca Herbert

Class Descriptions



Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies--A Tale of Tights, Fights and Footlights - Gr. 3-8

Over the course of two weeks of morning classes, we will work on auditioning, acting, singing and dancing--culminating with a performance! The first week of class will focus on terminology, technique, auditioning, acting, character work, blocking, memorization, choreography and becoming familiar with the music. The second week will focus on singing and rehearsing to put the show together. *Students are required to attend both weeks in order to perform in the musical.

Parents and families are invited to attend a performance on the final day of class!

Instructor: Jaci Decker, Michelle Thompson





STOP! Motion>> Movies!-Grades 2-8

Have you ever heard of STOP MOTION MOVIES???

Get your creative juices flowing by making one of your own! You will create individual scenes and small movements.... and by taking ONE picture at a time of each movement, then stringing them all together, it will make a short movie. If this sounds like fun... then BOY do we have the class for you!!! You will learn the basics and have time to create and produce your own stop motion movies. Stop Motion Animation is a technique used to bring still objects to life on a screen. Remember this is all done by moving an object in small increments while capturing one movement in each frame at a time. When all the frames are played in sequence it shows movement and makes a super cool movie! Come join the fun!!!

Instructor: Kelly Jurek

Scholarly Writing and Composition 101-Gr. 5-8

Sharpen your pencils... get your creative juices flowing while learning to build on your writing and research skills! You will learn how to collect and write expository (factual information) paragraphs, which we will later develop into short essays - helping you to know what good research writing looks like! During the second week we will dive deeper into these writings and apply new skills (MLA style and citing research) when learning how to turn these into manuscripts!!! Our research topic for June will be on Alexander the Great, and in July on Henry VIII. If you enjoy writing and learning more about history... this is the class for you!!

Instructor: Elnara Browsers

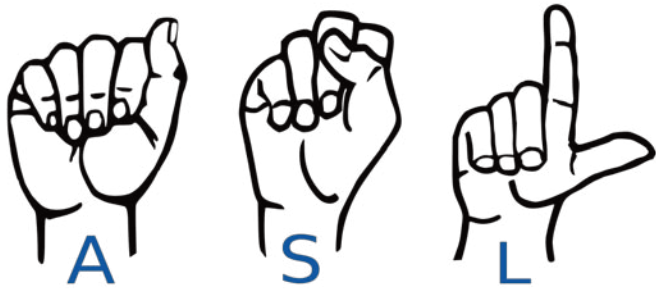
Class Descriptions



Sensational Succulents-Grades 4-8

Nature is a work of art, and in this class we will take a close-up look at the designs of some of the world's most beautiful plants: succulents! We will investigate the unique characteristics that allow these varieties to thrive in various climates around the world and we'll learn about the benefits they provide for the earth and organisms around them. Each day we will celebrate both science and art as we inspect, observe and create together. As a final project, each student will design and plant a succulent garden to take home and enjoy in their own environment.

Instructor: Nancy A Kopff



Sign Language is for Everyone-Grades 2-8

Learn sign language the fun way. We will learn the basics from the alphabet to music. During the class we will learn to talk with each other using only our sign language, play games and even learn some songs using our feelings and sign language. This class will be fun and exciting with some practical uses for everyday and for everybody.

Instructor: JoLynn Larson

Stitch Art Workshop-Grades 4-8

Learn how to read a pattern and create beautiful designs using simple stitching and colorful thread. First you'll master the basics and then choose your own projects to complete for yourself or to give as gifts.

Instructor: Julie Stella

The Disney World Experience-Grades 5-8

Did someone say Disney?? Please come along as we embark on our journey to "The Disney World Experience". We will be taking a deep dive into all things Disney. Your scholar will be simulating a real trip to Florida. Each day we will be learning about a different Disney park/attraction and making an iconic snack/food item that comes from that destination. The magic doesn't stop there! The class will be taking virtual tours in each park and getting to experience all that Disney has to offer. Including rides! This is a fully immersive experience that has something for everyone. Whether you are a Disney fanatic or are wanting to learn more...Please Be Our Guest!

Instructor: Katie Wayda

Class Descriptions



The Artist in YOU!-Grades 2-8

Calling all artists! This is your chance to dive right into your creative side and use a little imagination. We will explore many different types of art mediums such as: watercolor, acrylic, pencil and clay. You will have many opportunities to learn something new such as: writing poetry, card-making, how to create zentangles and mandalas, learn about cartoon character making and a little rock painting, too. During this art class you will have the chance to make several projects that demonstrate what you've learned and how you've used your imagination. This course will be fully supported as a process based art class where students will be able to watch, explore and grow! Let's dive in and create!

Instructor: Marcy Beal



Video Games, Coding, Robotics, Oh My!-Gr. 2-5

Want to make your own video game that your family and friends can play? How about program a robot to reenact the epic battle of your favorite book (Harry Potter versus You Know Who anyone?!) Or make your own communication device?! If so, this class is for you! Join us as we learn all about computer science in a fun hands-on way! We will do activities both on screen and unplugged, working on our design & critical thinking skills while building our teamwork and problem solving strategies. We will link computer science with art, science, geography and more. Each student will design and build a video game, program a robot and create devices using micro:bits. This course is for beginners to confident users and beyond!

Instructor: Sara Norman

Wizards World of Hogwarts-Grades 2-5

Have you ever wondered what it would feel like to enter the wizarding world? Come join us as we explore Hogwarts and all things Harry Potter! Which house would best suit you—are you a brave Gryffindor, loyal Hufflepuff, clever Ravenclaw, or ambitious Slytherin? We will explore the houses at Hogwarts, as well as create potions, cast spells, and learn the secrets of the wizarding world. We will explore, research, make crafts, and play games during our week together at Hogwarts. Let's begin our adventures together and put your wizarding skills to the test.

*If you register for this class, please have some prior knowledge of Harry Potter.

Instructor: Remy Berning

Class Descriptions



World Traveler-Grades 3-6

Do you like to do projects and try food inspired by other countries? How would you like to tantalize your taste buds with your own bento box creation, design your own charcuterie board, make Brazilian candy, and put together Mexican fruit cups? You won't just fill your belly in this class! Do you love to learn about different places from around the world? In this group you will learn about places like Mexico, Japan, Brazil, and France! You will also create art and play games to deepen your understanding of these places such as make a mosaic, do origami, make string art on wood, and have a chili pepper race. If preparing food, doing art and playing games inspired by different countries from around the world sounds fun, then this class is for YOU! To top it off, you will get to research and write about a country YOU are interested in and learn about more countries from other students!

Instructor: Stacey Rosa

Worm Poop! -Ewww-Grades 2-4

Have you ever wondered... what happens to the food you throw away? Does all of that labor and energy to grow these delicious foods just get wasted? Luckily, we have a humble, efficient friend to the rescue... the worm! Now, this is no ordinary worm. This worm, is the red wiggler, a worm that can eat its body weight in food scraps and convert them into one of the best organic fertilizers known to man (aka Black Gold!). You'll learn about the impact of food waste on the environment, what foods these worms can convert to fertilizer, and engage with the engineering design process to create a home that promotes worm reproduction and food scrap conversion. You can even take your newfound knowledge and start your own vermicompost (worm poop) business! Oh, and be ready to get your hands dirty :)

Instructor: Jeremiah Swenson



craftASTIC!-Grades 4-8

Do you like being creative? Want to see if you have a creative side? Then this is the class for you! craftASTIC will tap into various types of crafting to explore what crafts you may be interested in and like. We will make a seasonal pom pom gnome garland, complete a canvas art project, card making, bottle cap key chain and a make your own memory book. Another project that may be included is rock painting and sharing that kindness with others. Students will learn and use a cricut machine to complete some of the projects.

Instructor: Denise Lorentz

Class Descriptions



日本での生活 (Life in Japan)-Grades 5-8

Do you take your shoes off before entering your home? Do you say a short blessing before every meal? If you said yes to either of these things, your life is already more similar to a Japanese student than you thought! Come along with May Sensei and learn all about what life is like on the other side of the globe. From school life to pop culture, we will explore different aspects of Japanese culture, learning some of the language along the way. At the end of the week we will create our own floats for the Gion Matsuri festival and have delicious street food-esqe snacks. If you like anime or manga, this is the experience for you! さあ行こう みんなさん! (Let's go everyone!)

Instructor: Matilyn May

Michelle Thompson

Michelle Thompson holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education with concentrations in vocal music, theater and French from the College of Saint Benedict and a Master of Arts in Education from Saint Mary's University. She has taught in the Monticello School District for 27 years, teaching 1st, 3rd, 5th and 6th grades, specializing in gifted education. She currently teaches 6th grade reading at Monticello Middle School, coaches the MMS Speech Team, co-directs the middle school drama club and judges high school speech and One-Act competitions. Outside of school, Michelle performs often with Buffalo Community Theater and spent many years serving on the BCT Board of Directors. She also sings in church and with the Wright County Chamber Choir.

Morgan Lanners

Hello! My name is Morgan and I have been creating artwork in Monticello since I was a young girl. I am a local artist who specializes in pet portraits, community outreach artwork, and custom painted denim jackets. I received my Bachelors of Art in Graphic Design at Concordia College where I was also awarded their Art Scholarship Award for four consecutive years. I also have a passion for leadership, sports, and Spanish, and teaching and coaching. Want to see some of my own denim work? Check out @tundradenim on Instagram!

J McClelland

Dr. J McClelland of Maple Lake High School, has taught biology (grades 7-12) for over 20 years. He has taken a field ornithology course at the University of MN's Itasca Field Station, and taken part in the University of MN's Migratory and Urban Bird Institute more recently to promote the study of birds as a context for developing students' skills in scientific practices in the classroom. He is a self-proclaimed "Bird-Nerd" and loves sharing that interest with others. Along with his love of all things Birds, he is always eager to share the love of board gaming in the context of his passion for biology. Using board games in Science classes helps promote comradery, fun, and a sense of community.

Instructors



Makayla Bozoian

My name is Mrs. B and go figure because I love all things Bees and Bugs! I teach at BHM schools as the Elementary English Language Development Teacher. I speak Latin, Greek, French and some Spanish. I enjoy gardening, horse-back riding and hanging out with my small dog named Beans. I love to learn in my free time, books, games and podcasts are all high on my list of fun. I cannot wait to meet you!

Melissa Farnam

Hello my name Melissa Farnam, I work as a behavioral interventionist at Monticello Middle School. I am a mom of 4 and have a hobby farm. I have always loved baking. I have been making and decorating cakes for 25 years. I started out with just family and now I take orders for people for their special occasions. I love creating cakes and seeing my customers' excitement when they see their cake.

Tammy Knutson

Hello! I currently teach in the Elk River School District. In my 30+ years of teaching I have done it all from teaching early elementary students to middle school to working at the district level. I'm back in the classroom because I love taking lessons and spinning them into fun, creative ways to learn. I believe students learn best when given the experience of hands on opportunities. When not working with children I enjoy traveling with my husband and 4 dogs.

Summer Schmidt

Hello! My name is Summer Schmidt, and I am a current 1st Grade teacher at Big Woods Elementary in St. Michael. I am an avid traveler and absolutely love immersing myself into all cultures. I have a Spanish minor, therefore have so much to share with students! I participated in a Survivor challenge where I made it to the last challenge. Some even called me "Sumvivor". I love to stay busy, which we will be doing all week. When I am not teaching, I love to read, go on walks, and bake with my family.

Evangeline Froelich

Evangeline Froelich, Monticello Special Education Teacher, formerly a FACS teacher. I started pioneering food science classes in the high school before I switched over to special education. I love sparking the interest of students and challenging them to take what they know and apply it in a fun and memorable way. Fun fact about me...I collect cats and cars and love to talk about both!

Megan Kallinen

My name is Megan Kallinen, and I am a speech-language pathologist in Monticello. I am excited to be back for another summer of NWTA! I enjoy reading, knitting, and going on adventures.

Instructors



Megan Bateman

My mission is to empower our youth to be innovative designers and critical thinkers so that they may make meaningful and joyful contributions to our communities. I have a masters degree in EdTech and experience in many areas of education - including tech/media literacy, art, reading intervention, administration and curriculum writing. Currently, I work at a STEM school as the Data and Intervention Specialist. I enjoy tinkering with new technologies, theatre, reading, listening to music, and dancing. I am honored and excited to return to the NWTA for another year!

Luke Feierabend

Luke Feierabend - Monticello Middle School 7th Grade History Teacher - I spent 6 years as a tech ed instructor at Monticello High School and shared my love of amateur film and photo editing with students in elective courses. In my free time, I enjoy camping, fishing, hiking, traveling, cooking, live music, basketball, football and spending time with my family.

Julie Stella

My name is Julie Stella and I teach 4th grade in Rogers at Hassan Elementary. I live in Otsego with my husband and 2 daughters. In my free time I love to read, paddleboard, garden, cook, and be outside with my pup. I love to create new recipes and am an adventurous eater. Working with students at NWTA is always a highlight of my summer!

Linnea Kline

My name is Linnea Kline and I am a third grade teacher at Maple Lake Elementary. Growing up, I always had a passion for clothes and all things fashion. I loved putting my outfits together for school each day, and if I had a notebook in front of me I was most likely sketching the outfits of my dreams! To this day, I love expressing myself through clothes and learning all about them. With my love of fashion, I have a love of history. By creating a class that combines my two passions, I'm hoping I can reach the creative minds of some amazing kids!

Alex Osterberg

I am Alex Osterberg, a SPED teacher at MMS. I moved to Minnesota from Wisconsin in 2019. When I am not working, I love to spend time outside, or in my sewing room. I am passionate about using vintage and recycled materials in my quilting projects, to give the materials a new life, and reduce waste.

Rebecca Herbert

My name is Becky Herbert. I live in Otsego with my family... the humans and furry friends. I've been teaching for a long time, but I love teaching most when kids get to be doing stuff! I love animals, art, food, science, and math. Come and be with me as we enjoy our time together with learning along the way.



Instructors



Rebecca Hoover

Hi! My name is Becky Hoover and I have been teaching music in the Big Lake School District for 13 years. I would love to share my passion for music making with you! Music has always been an important part of my life, and over the years I have learned to play many instruments, but the ukulele has quickly become one of my favorites-and I hope to share that with you! I currently live in Elk River with my husband, Travis, my son, Liam and our lazy cat, named Boo.

Denise Lorentz

My name is Denise Lorentz. I am a Speech Pathologist at Monticello High School. I love to run, travel, craft and I LOVE jewelry! I also love to create jewelry for others! I have been a long time scrapbooker and I love all other types of crafts. I enjoy sharing my crafts with others in both giving as gifts as well as teaching others. "Crafting is not an art that is meant to be perfect but to be unique with each individual's touch of flair!"

Chelsie Cabak

Chelsie Cabak is an enthusiastic and passionate kindergarten teacher at Prairie View Elementary in Otsego. She loves helping students feel successful and develop lifelong skills for leadership and joy. She was a candidate for MN Teacher of the Year in 2019 for having "the biggest heart, the softest approach, and going far above and beyond to help every child meet the standards." She has also received her National Geographic Educator Certification for incorporating National Geographic scales, perspectives, and frameworks into her lessons and supporting students becoming explorers and changemakers for improving the world! When Mrs. Cabak is not in the classroom, she enjoys music, knitting, writing, learning Spanish, and spending time with family.

Madison Solwey

Hello! My name is Madison Solwey. I am an English teacher at STMA High School and have been teaching for 3 years. I have always been passionate about music and poetry. I was in band from 5th grade all the way through college (about 11 years!). A hobby of mine is making playlists to match books or moods I'm in. I am also working on my own poetry book right now and have actually already gotten a poem published! I want to teach this class because combining three of my favorite things, teaching, music, and poetry sounds like a fun way to spend my summer! Can't wait to see you in class :)

Brenna Lavalier-Kortenkamp

My name is Brenna Lavalier-Kortenkamp (Mrs. Lavalier-Kortenkamp) and I am a fourth grade teacher at Independence Elementary STEM in the Big Lake School District. I attended and graduated from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse with a degree in Elementary and Middle Level Education, Grades 1-8, with a minor in Broadfield Social Studies. I completed my Masters degree in Teaching and Learning from Saint Mary's University. During my nineteen years of teaching, I have taught third, fourth and fifth grades and spent a year as an intervention specialist. I also had the opportunity to coach the middle school math team at Prairie View Elementary in Elk River School District for five years.

Instructors



Jaci Decker

Jaci Decker got her Bachelor of Arts in K-12 Vocal/General Music Education from the University of MN Twin Cities. She taught music in the St. Cloud School District for 4 years and decided to stay home with her children. For 20 years she has led the Children's Choir at Riverside Church where she has put on several mini musicals. She has also led their Summer Production Boot Camp where they put on a musical with 1st-5th graders in a week every summer. For the past 19 years, she has run a piano studio out of her home. Jaci also accompanies choirs, directs music rehearsals for the high school musicals as well as substitute teaches in the Monticello School District. Jaci can often be heard saying that leading the kids choir and Production Boot Camp is her favorite thing to do besides being a wife to her fabulous husband and mom to her 4 children. Jaci had an aunt who sparked her interest in quilting at an early age and has made quilts for several family members over the years. She loves quilting and finds it to be something that is fun and therapeutic for her.

Gina Schoon

Hello my name is Gina Schoon. I live in Big Lake with my husband Logan and two year old son, Ledger. We have two goldendoodles Lav and Finch! I teach Kindergarten in Otsego at Prairie View Elementary. Prior to this role, I taught third grade in Minneapolis and taught outdoor preschool in Big Lake. Outside of the classroom I love being active and being outdoors! My love for learning and being outdoors is why I'm so excited to bring this class to you!

Kelly Jurek

My name is Kelly Jurek and I am currently an Art teacher at Big Lake Middle School. I went to college to be a teacher at SCSU University. Fun fact... During college I studied in England and lived in the Alnwick Castle (for real!) where some of the Harry Potter movie scenes were filmed. My passions are traveling, drawing, painting, photography, sewing, repurposing old furniture for new life, and just anything arts and crafts! Some hobbies I love to do are hunting, fishing, hiking, gardening, and playing pranks on my family. Over the years I have taught many art classes (including comic book graphics, basic drawing and painting, clay sculpting/Claymation, sewing, animated graphics, etc.).

Elnara Browers

Elnara Browers, STMA Middle School West teacher, author of "Persecution of Justice: The Yugoslavia Tribunal," Western Univ. Press, 2005

Nancy A Kopff

My name is Nancy Kopff, and I currently teach 3rd Grade at Maple Lake Elementary. In the past I have taught middle school science and once worked as a writer for a local newspaper. I love traveling, hiking, kayaking and biking because all of these bring me to new and beautiful places where I can do what I love most of all, photography! When at home, I enjoy spending time with my family, reading, baking and decorating.

Instructors



JoLynn Larson

My Name is JoLynn Larson. I am currently from Clearwater, MN but am a parent of a former Monticello Student that is deaf and together we taught sign language for community education for many years to connect her to her friend groups. I now work full time with Adults on the Autism Spectrum as an Employment Specialist for a small nonprofit bridging the gap to employment. I enjoy working with kids and bringing the joy and fun of sign language to their lives. I have 4 grandsons (all hearing) and all of them use sign language on a daily basis. I feel that it is a language that can be widely used with people even if they are not deaf or hard of hearing. Babies learn it and use it so why not everyone. I look forward to bringing the fun of this language to students again!



Marcy Beal

Hello! My name is Marcy Beal and I have taught 1st grade in the Monticello for nearly 25 years. I received my teaching degree from the University of Minnesota, Mankato back in 1995 and acquired a Masters of Arts in Education from St. Mary's University as well. Upon graduation from college, I was a long-term Art teacher in Monticello where I taught alongside my high school art mentor. I have taken several art courses in college and have always been drawn toward creative arts in my earlier years as well. *Fun fact: I have a cousin who is a well known animator that lives out in California and draws for Sony Pictures Animation. We have the love of music and art in our family and enjoy sharing it with others.

Katie Wayda

My name is Katie Wayda and I currently teach in Monticello. I have been very privileged to grow up into a Disney fanatic family. From my Grandma and Grandpa, to my Aunts and Uncles, all the way down to my cousins, we have all shared a love for Disney. I have been to Disney World several times throughout my life and I would love to share my passion with others.

Sara Norman

Hi! My name is Sara Norman and I am a former teacher for Becker and St Cloud School Districts. Most recently I have worked in Becker as a 5th Grade Teacher, Reading Specialist and as the coordinator for the Becker Middle School's Coding Club. I am now a Product Manager for a K-8 reading curriculum, working to bring high quality literacy resources to students and educators nationwide. Teaching and technology are two of my all time favorite things, and when they can come together I absolutely love it! I grew up a voracious reader & computer science super fan, so I love encouraging my students, and my own children, to explore their passions and see where our learning can take us! I have taught at NWTa for the last few summers and I absolutely love the great energy and people! Can't wait to see you this summer!

Instructors



Remy Berning

My name is Remy Berning, and I teach 1st grade in Monticello. I had the opportunity to teach a couple courses through NWTa last summer, and it was such a positive experience. I am looking forward to this opportunity again! I love the Harry Potter books and movies, so I cannot wait to explore the wizarding world with you. My other interests include spending time with my family, arts and crafts, reading, escape rooms, board games, and enjoying various outdoor activities. I also love animals; currently, my family has one dog, two cats, a hamster, a gecko, and chickens!



Stacey Rosa

My name is Stacey Rosa and I teach challenge classes at Little Mountain Elementary in Monticello. Some groups I lead are STEM, writing group, reading groups, creative/critical thinking groups and challenge math. This year, I also taught phonics and helped to lead the student council at LME! I love reading, gardening, crafting, hiking and learning in general! I also enjoy traveling and playing board games with my family of 5! I love learning something new and I enjoy growing that love of learning with my students!

Jeremiah Swenson

I teach 2nd grade at Rogers Elementary S.T.E.M. Magnet School. I have a Master's Degree in Teaching and Learning with a focus on Elementary Engineering. I'm a BIG fan of the Harry Potter book series (it's even my classroom theme!) and love to read, watch Minnesota sports (I even coach 3rd and 4th grade girls basketball), and enjoy traveling with my family in my free time.



Instructors



Matilyn May

My name is Ms. May; I teach English at STMA high school. I have always loved Japanese culture ever since I watched the anime Sailor Moon when I was 7 years old. I went on to take three years of Japanese in college and other courses relating to life in Japan. I plan to visit some day in the near future. Aside from keeping my Japanese language skills fresh, I spend my free time reading and watching Japanese reality tv shows (they are always so much fun and great practice too). I look forward to exploring other cultures with you all!

