TALON ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS

Unleash Talent / Discover Artistry / Find Purpose

# 2025-2026

# Course Description Book

Francisco Javier Calvo, Executive Director of Performing Arts

SANTA MARGARITA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL 22062 Antonio Parkway, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688

TALON ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS

Unleash Talent / Discover Artistry / Find Purpose

**2025-2026 Courses**

## Acting

- Acting 1
- Acting 2
- Stage Movement/Dance for the Actor 1
- Ensemble Acting
- From Page to Stage: Putting it Together
- Principles of Directing
- Voice & Diction for the Actor

## Triple Threat & Musical Theatre

- Acting 1
- Acting 2
- Stage Movement/Dance for the Actor 1
- Stage Movement/Dance for the Actor 2
- Musical Theatre Solos/Song as Monologue 1
- Musical Theatre Solos/Song as Monologue 2
- Group Musical 1
- Group Musical 2

## Technical Theatre & Design

- Stagecraft 1 Foundations/Construction Techniques
- Stagecraft 2 Foundations in Computer Assisted Design
- Production Practicum
- From Page to Stage: Putting it Together

## Vocal Performance

- Music Theory, Musicianship & Ear-training Levels 1 & 2
- AP Music Theory
- Vocal Techniques (Levels 1, 2, 3, 4)
- Applied Study (Private Lessons) and/or Ensemble
- Piano
- IB Music SL

## Instrumental Music (Solo Performance/Music in Media)

- Music Theory, Musicianship & Ear-training 1&2
- AP Music Theory
- Intro to MIDI/DAW
- Applied Study (Private Lessons) and/or Ensemble
- Piano
- IB Music SL

## Theatre Electives

- Musical Theatre Vocal Performance
- Voice & Diction for the Actor
- Group Musical 1
- Group Musical 2
- Tap Dance
- Improvisation
- Beginning Makeup
- Basic Stagecraft

## Technical Theatre & Design Electives

- Beginning Makeup
- Intermediate Makeup
- Stage Management
- Principles of Directing
- Scenic Painting (Required for Set Design Specialization)
- Projection Design
- Sound Recording Techniques
- Mixing Sound for a Musical
- Costume Lab – Costume Construction/Patterns/Sewing (Required for Costume Design Specialization)
- Computer Assisted Design and Modeling

## Vocal Performance Electives

- Intro to MIDI/DAW
- Aquila Cantorum
- Vocal Jazz
- Score Reading
- Improvisation
- Composition
- Advanced Composition
- Opera Scenes
- Vocal music for Children

## Instrumental Music Electives

- Jazz Band
- Small Ensembles /Chamber Music Workshop
- Film Scoring
- Recital/Solo Literature/Repertoire Class
- Improvisation
- Composition
- Advanced Composition
- Orchestration and Arranging

TALON ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

# THEATRE

**The theatre conservatory program in the Talon Academy of Arts offers high school students of all levels from the newest beginner to the most advanced opportunities to explore their creative potential in theatre arts within a nurturing yet disciplined environment. The Pre-Professional training program is designed as a sequential four-year training program in theatre arts. Students may select one of the following tracks:**

**Acting Track**

**Triple Threat/Musical Theatre Track**

**Technical Theatre and Design Track**

Each track has required **core courses** as well as electives from which to choose. There is the opportunity for Year 3 students to take electives from different tracks to expand their training. In certain instances, there may be a cross- over of students from different tracks combined in the same class. ***In year one and two there are no elective options.***

Students in the TAPA Theatre Conservatory meet 3 days per week. 1 hour on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and a 4-hour rotation on Thursdays. (CHANGE AS NEEDED)

## YEAR ONE ACTING AND TRIPLE THREAT MUSICAL THEATRE TRACK CORE COURSES YEAR ONE

**ACTING 1**: (YEAR LONG) (*Acting and Triple Threat Musical Theatre Students)* In this foundational class, students focus on exploring Acting Principles, Techniques and Genres. Students are introduced to the fundamentals of theatre including vocabulary, audition technique, voice and diction, makeup and basic stagecraft. Over the course of the year, students focus on character development through contemporary monologues, scene study, ensemble work and improvisation.

**STAGE MOVEMENT FOR THE ACTOR 1:** (YEAR LONG) (Acting and Triple Threat Musical Theatre Students) - In this physical and aerobics class, the student will explore a variety of movement forms for the stage and Film/TV. Students will be introduced to Musical Theatre Movement, Movement for the Actor, Stage Combat, strength building exercises, flexibility exercises and cool down. Over the course of the year the student will have a composition of dances, choreography and new abilities to apply and enhance their stage craft.

**FROM PAGE TO STAGE: THE FUNDAMENTALS OF THEATRE PRODUCTION:** (YEAR LONG) *(Acting and Technical Theatre & Design Students)* A well-rounded theatre maker understands the creative production process and the elements of theatrical storytelling. In this course, students will be introduced to the design concepts of lighting, sound, scenic design from page to stage and the basic operation of lights & power tools.

**MUSICAL THEATRE SOLOS/SONG AS MONOLOGUE:** (YEAR LONG) *(Triple Threat Musical Theatre Students Only)* This class focuses on the process of preparation and performance of various styles of musical theatre show tunes from the Golden Age of Broadway musicals (1940's – 1950's) including

Rodgers and Hammerstein, Lerner and Loewe, Jule Stein, Frank Loesser and more. Emphasis will be placed on individualized song selection to develop a student's vocal technique and repertoire. Students will learn how to analyze a song's lyrics as it relates to character development. Students will learn basic musical theatre audition technique.

**ENSEMBLE ACTING:** *(Acting Students Only)* In this course, students will develop their skills through group activities, improvisation, movement, and theatre games designed to develop concentration, listening, and ensemble building.

**GROUP MUSICAL 1:** (YEAR LONG) (*Triple Threat Musical Theatre Students Only)* Students will build upon the concepts from Musical Theatre Solos/Song as Monologue class to apply to Duet and Group scenes and musical numbers of different styles and period. This class incorporates musical theatre dance.

## YEAR TWO ACTING AND TRIPLE THREAT MUSICAL THEATRE TRACK CORE COURSES

**ACTING 2:** (YEAR LONG) (*Acting and Triple Threat Musical Theatre Students)* Building on the concepts from Acting 1, students will delve into scene study, character analysis, acting principles and techniques, style and genre. Students will explore the acting techniques of Konstantin Stanislavski, Michael Chekhov, Utah Haugen and more through intensive scene study from Shakespeare to modern dramatists.

**GROUP MUSICAL 2:** (YEAR LONG) (*Triple Threat Musical Theatre Students Only)* Students will build upon the concepts from Musical Theatre Solos/Song as Monologue class to apply to Duet and Group scenes and musical numbers of different styles and period. This class incorporates musical theatre dance.

**MUSICAL THEATRE SOLOS/SONG AS MONOLOGUE 2:** (YEAR LONG) *(Triple Threat Musical Theatre Students Only)* Expanding on the process of preparing musical theatre solos from the Golden Age, in this class, students will work on pre- contemporary musical theatre repertoire (1970's – 1990's) including composers such as Stephen Sondheim, Andrew Lloyd Weber, Stephen Schwartz, Boublil, Schoenberg and more.

**STAGE MOVEMENT AND DANCE FOR THE ACTOR 2** (YEAR LONG) *(Triple Threat Musical Theatre Students*) In this physically challenging and rigorous aerobics class, students will advance their skills in art forms related to more experienced theatre activities. Students will receive intermediate to advanced instruction in Musical Theatre Dance, Movement for the Actor, Jazz, Ballet, Tap, Stage Combat, strength building exercises, flexibility exercises and Yoga. At the end of the year the student will have a powerful physical and mental knowledge of physical self-awareness, dances and choreography that will prepare them to excel in several forms of performing arts. *This class can be taken as an elective for Acting Track Students in Year 3*

**PRINCIPLES OF DIRECTING:** (YEAR LONG) (Acting Students) Building on Page to Stage, students in this class will learn how to approach a script as a director and the role of the director in the collaborative process working with designers and actors. The focus will be on the process of understanding how to interpret a text, break down a script and to tell a story using theatrical elements including lighting, sound, set design, and stage composition. Students will learn how to apply the technique of Viewpoints to stage direction with actors. *This class can be taken as an elective for Triple Threat Musical Theatre Students in Year 3*

**VOICE AND DICTION FOR THE ACTOR:** (Acting Students) In this class, students will be introduced to a variety of vocal training methods focused on improving projection, articulation, diction, pacing and melody for stage acting. Students will cultivate deep physical awareness, exploring and developing the body's relationship to healthy vocal production, vocal freedom, and integrated, unrestricted emotional connection.

## YEAR THREE ACTING AND TRIPLE THREAT MUSICAL THEATRE TRACK CORE COURSES

**ADVANCED ACTING TECHNIQUES:** In this class, students will investigate the art and craft of acting by exploring, experimenting and applying a range of techniques by practitioners such as Stanislavski, Meisner, Chekhov, Bogart and more.

**DEVISED THEATRE:** Devising is a group collaboration in response to a stimulus leading to the creation of an original performance. Devising in drama demands inventiveness, an understanding of the rules of structuring a piece of theatre and a readiness to collaborate with others. Students in this class will learn a variety of devising techniques to create an original 10-minute theatre piece.

***Students who plan to audition for college programs would begin Mentorship/Individual Coaching (See Mentorship Description) Or select up to three electives.***

## YEAR THREE ACTING AND TRIPLE THREAT MUSICAL THEATRE TRACK ELECTIVE COURSES

**IMPROVISATION:** (SEMESTER COURSE) This course is an in-depth study of improvised scene work. Students will explore the primary tools for creating improvised scenes and developing full characters. Students will be encouraged to make strong emotional and character choices. This course emphasizes character development through exercises and scene work, while introducing advanced improv theory and technique. Students will also review/reinforce basic concepts. Students will learn to communicate effectively, both verbally and non-verbally; develop and build critical listening and collaborative skills and think and solve problems quickly and appropriately on the spot. Through collaboration, communication, and performance activities, students will engage in improvisation as a stand-alone art form and as an acting methodology. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

**MUSICAL THEATRE VOCAL PERFORMANCE:** (SEMESTER COURSE) This course enables musical theatre students to focus on vocal production, and the development of a healthy vocal foundation for the study of singing techniques for theatre. Students will be introduced to advanced tenants of musical theatre singing through the use of exercises, assignments, musical theatre repertoire, play/concert attendance and written assignments. This class may require students to participate in extra rehearsals and performances beyond the school day.

**PRINCIPLES OF DIRECTING:** Students in this class will learn how to approach a script as a director and the role of the director in the collaborative process working with designers and actors. The focus will be on the process of understanding how to interpret a text, break down a script and to tell a story using

theatrical elements including lighting, sound, set design, and stage composition. Students will learn how to apply the technique of Viewpoints to stage direction with actors.

**VOICE AND DICTION FOR THE ACTOR:** In this class, students will be introduced to a variety of vocal training methods focused on improving projection, articulation, diction, pacing and melody for stage acting. Students will cultivate deep physical awareness, exploring and developing the body's relationship to healthy vocal production, vocal freedom, and integrated, unrestricted emotional connection.

**INTRODUCTION TO PLAYWRITING:** In this class, students will be introduced to the process of writing a 10-minute play. In this hands-on guided workshop, students will explore writing for the theatre through practice, discussion and feedback focusing on the major components of dramatic structure, action, dialogue, and character. The workshop culminates in a staged reading of the original works. Maximum enrollment: 10 students.

**TAP DANCE:** This course covers beginning tap dance technique, tap vocabulary, dance combinations and rhythmic patterns while developing musicality and basic performance skills. Opportunities are available to perform, in order to better appreciate tap dance. Choreography and improvisational group projects/presentations are developed over the course of the semester.

**BASIC STAGECRAFT:** See Stagecraft 1 description.

**TECHNICAL THEATRE DESIGN:** A well-rounded theatre maker understands the creative production process and the elements of theatrical storytelling. In this course, students will be introduced to the design concepts of lighting, sound, and scenic design from page to stage.

**BEGINNING MAKEUP:** In this hands-on class, students will learn the elements of makeup design and application including basic corrective for the stage, old age, special effects techniques, zombie face, black eyes, bruises, knife wounds, bullet wounds and bloody scars.

## COURE CURRICULUM - TECHNICAL THEATRE AND DESIGN TRACK

### YEAR ONE TECHNICAL THEATRE AND DESIGN TRACK

**STAGECRAFT 1 – FOUNDATIONS/CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES** (YEAR LONG) *(Acting and Technical Theatre & Design Students)* A well-rounded theatre maker understands the creative production process and the elements of theatrical storytelling. In this course, students will be introduced to the design concepts of lighting, sound, scenic design from page to stage and the basic operation of lights & power tools. Must be taken concurrently with Production Practicum.

**PRODUCTION PRACTICUM:** In this course, students will learn practical application of stagecraft. Students will build sets. Must be taken concurrently with Stagecraft 1-Foundations/Construction Techniques.

### YEAR TWO TECHNICAL THEATRE AND DESIGN TRACK

**STAGECRAFT 2: FOUNDATIONS IN COMPUTER ASSISTED DESIGN** (YEAR LONG) *(Acting and Technical Theatre & Design Students)* This course 2 will examine the relationship between the performing arts, the

technical requirements necessary to undertake a theatrical production, as well as the requirements for supervising all technical aspects of a theatrical production. Study will include detailed play and performance analysis, scene design, set construction, lighting, sound, properties, and house management. Emphasis will be placed on developing leadership skills necessary for working as a "Crew Lead" in the theatre.

**TECHNICAL THEATRE DESIGN:** A well-rounded theatre maker understands the creative production process and the elements of theatrical storytelling. In this course, students will be introduced to the design concepts of lighting, sound, and scenic design from page to stage.

## TECHNICAL THEATRE AND DESIGN TRACK ELECTIVES

**BEGINNING MAKEUP:** In this hands-on class, students will learn the elements of makeup design and application including basic corrective for the stage, old age, special effects techniques, zombie face, black eyes, bruises, knife wounds, bullet wounds and bloody scars.

**INTERMEDIATE MAKEUP:** This course is designed for students with a basic understanding of makeup application, delving deeper into intermediate techniques and creative expression. Explore the transformative art of theatrical makeup in our high school intermediate course. This hands-on class delves into the intricacies of creating characters through makeup, building on foundational skills. Students will learn techniques in contouring, aging, fantasy, and special effects makeup. Through practical applications and creative projects, students will develop a nuanced understanding of how makeup contributes to character development on the stage. From historical re-creations to imaginative looks, this course empowers students to express their creativity while honing the technical expertise required for theatrical makeup artistry.

**STAGE MANAGEMENT:** This immersive experience dives into the essential aspects of behind-the-scenes magic, offering hands-on training in the art and science of stage management. Students will learn the intricacies of coordinating rehearsals, managing props and sets, and ensuring smooth transitions during performances. Through practical exercises, they'll develop organizational skills, problem-solving abilities, and effective communication techniques crucial for a successful production. From cue calling to crisis management, this course provides a comprehensive understanding of the pivotal role stage managers play in bringing a theatrical vision to life.

**SCENIC PAINTING:** This course offers an exciting journey into the art of transforming a blank canvas into captivating backdrops that bring stories to life on stage. Students will explore various painting techniques, color theory, and texture application to create stunning and realistic scenic elements. From rustic landscapes to elaborate cityscapes, participants will learn to capture the essence of diverse settings. The class combines hands-on projects with theoretical knowledge, fostering creativity and critical thinking. This course is required for set design specialization.

**PROJECTION DESIGN:** Students will dive into the art of creating visually stunning and immersive experiences through the use of projections in live performances. From understanding basic technical aspects to mastering advanced techniques, participants will develop the skills needed to bring stories to life on stage. This hands-on course covers the principles of projection mapping, content creation, and

integration with live performances. Through practical projects and collaboration with fellow students, aspiring designers will gain proficiency in utilizing technology as a powerful storytelling tool.

**SOUND RECORDING TECHNIQUES:** This course focuses on the creation of immersive soundscapes and the incorporation of realistic sound effects. From capturing ambient sounds to engineering impactful moments, students will gain proficiency in recording techniques, sound editing software, and the technical aspects of sound reproduction. Unleash your creativity as you bring scripts to life through the nuanced art of audio, mastering the skills necessary to complement live performances with a symphony of carefully crafted sounds.

**MIXING SOUND FOR A MUSICAL:** Students will embark on a hands-on journey, learning the art of seamlessly blending audio elements for a magical musical experience. From orchestrating harmonious symphonies of orchestra instruments to fine-tuning the vocals of every cast member, participants will master the intricacies of audio production. Dive into the technical aspects of sound design, discovering the secrets behind crafting immersive auditory landscapes. This course not only hones technical skills but also nurtures a deep appreciation for the pivotal role sound plays in bringing musicals to life on stage.

**COSTUME LAB:** This hands-on experience will guide you through the entire process, from conceptualizing costume designs to mastering the techniques of pattern-making and stitching. Unleash your creativity as you design and create costumes that enhance storytelling on the stage. This course provides a platform for self-expression and practical skills. Join us in discovering the fusion of creativity and craftsmanship in the captivating realm of theatrical costume design. Required for Costume Design Specialization Students.

**COMPUTER-ASSISTED DESIGN AND MODELING**: This dynamic program empowers students with the skills to bring theatrical productions to life through cutting-edge digital tools. From designing intricate set layouts to crafting detailed costume concepts, students will delve into the world of 3D modeling, rendering, and animation. Through hands-on projects, they'll learn industry-standard software to visualize and refine their artistic visions. This course not only nurtures technical proficiency but also cultivates a deep understanding of how technology enhances the storytelling experience on stage.

## VOCAL PERFORMANCE

### VOCAL MUSIC CURRICULUM OVERVIEW - Grades 9 - 12

The Vocal Performance Conservatory is designed as a college preparatory program focused on vocal arts. The Vocal Performance Conservatory program in the Talon Academy of Arts offers all levels of study and is available to all students regardless of ability or proficiency. Our comprehensive program allows our students to explore their creativity, celebrate music, grow in faith, and share their talents with the community. Modeled after well-established national collegiate vocal-arts programs, the classical voice conservatory curriculum is balanced between performance-focused classes and academic

music courses. Students also benefit from the knowledge, experience, and high level of education of our faculty.

Students in the TAPA Vocal Performance Conservatory meet 3 days per week. 1 hour on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and a 4-hour rotation on Thursdays. (CHANGE AS NEEDED)

**VOICE CLASS/DICTION**: This course is designed to improve each student's singing voice and help develop the ability to sing successfully in front of others. During the course of study, students will learn the fundamentals of healthy vocal production which includes the following: 1) basic anatomy and physiology of the voice; 2) proper posture and breathing to sing; 3) even scale; 4) good tone production; and 5) care of the voice. Specific vocal exercises will be given that address the basic characteristics of the singing voice such as: pitch and intonation stability, range, flexibility, rhythm, articulation, phrasing, diction, expression and gaining confidence.

**MASTER CLASSES:** In addition to the wide variety of music courses and performances, students are also exposed to the professional world of music through ongoing master classes, guest lecturers, field trips, and collaborations with various professional ensembles and performers.

**MUSIC THEORY/MUSICIANSHIP/EAR TRAINING 1 & 2:** This course will cover the fundamental aspects of music theory including the study of intervals, rhythm, meter, chord construction, keys/key signature, time signature, and form. Supplemented with the theory lessons will be ear training exercises that correspond to the appropriate theory lesson. Such topics will also be discussed through the examination of musical examples from multiple genres of music. The goal of this course is to introduce students to the fundamentals of music theory, further mastering their ability to understand and play their instrument and develop their musicianship. Students who complete this course will be able to: read music, grasp a solid and fundamental understanding of the basic aspects of music (pitch, timbre, rhythm, meter, harmony, texture, and form), Identify different types of intervals, chords, and keys, and compose and harmonize an original melody using diatonic harmony.

**APPLIED STUDY (PRIVATE LESSONS):** Applied voice is the study of singing from the standpoints of technique, literature, and performance. Principles of vocal technique based on established vocal pedagogy will be studied alongside literature appropriate for the developmental level of the student. Repertoire in English and at least one other language will be studied each semester. Performance skills in formal and informal settings will be studied.

**PIANO CLASS:** This course is designed to develop basic keyboard and musicianship skills including technique, sight reading, harmonization, accompaniment, theory, and piano repertoire. By the end of the course, students will be able to develop proficient knowledge, skills and understanding in piano performance.

## VOCAL PERFORMANCE ELECTIVES

**VOCAL JAZZ:** Students will delve into the art of jazz singing, honing their vocal techniques and developing a deep appreciation for the genre's improvisational spirit. Through a blend of theory and practical application, participants will learn the fundamentals of jazz harmony, scat singing, and ensemble performance. The course will cover iconic jazz standards, fostering an understanding of the historical context and cultural impact of this musical genre. Emphasis will be placed on individual expression, fostering creativity within the framework of jazz tradition.

**SCORE READING:** This course delves into the art of deciphering musical notation, equipping students with the skills to read and interpret sheet music proficiently. From understanding key signatures and time signatures to recognizing musical symbols and dynamics, students will gain a comprehensive foundation in score reading. Engaging with a variety of genres and compositions, participants will analyze complex musical pieces, honing their ability to translate written notes into captivating auditory experiences.

**IMPROVISATION:** This course is designed to cultivate creativity and enhance musical intuition. Students will delve into various genres, including jazz, blues, and contemporary styles, learning to improvise individually and collaboratively. Through hands-on activities, students will develop a solid understanding of improvisational techniques, scales, and rhythmic patterns.

**COMPOSITION:** This course is designed to unleash the creative potential within students as they delve into the fundamentals of composing original music. From understanding musical notation and structure to experimenting with various genres and styles, students will develop a comprehensive skill set in crafting their unique musical pieces. Through hands-on projects, students will learn to express emotions, stories, and themes through composition, fostering their individual artistic voices.

**ADVANCED COMPOSITION:** Students will delve into advanced theory, honing their skills in harmony, counterpoint, and orchestration. Through hands-on projects, they'll experiment with cultivating a personal style. Students will analyze iconic compositions, gaining insights into the techniques employed by renowned composers. Emphasizing both individual creativity and collaborative exploration, this class provides a platform for students to showcase their original compositions.

**OPERA SCENES:** This course invites students to explore the art of musical storytelling through the execution of captivating opera scenes. Students will refine their vocal and dramatic skills, learning to embody the characters and emotions that define this unique art form. Through collaborative rehearsals and performances, participants will develop a deep appreciation for opera. Join us on a transformative journey where creativity meets tradition, and experience the magic of bringing operatic stories to life on the stage.

## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC: Solo Instrumental Music Performance track *or* Music in Media track

### INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC CURRICULUM OVERVIEW - Grades 9 - 12

The Instrumental Music Conservatory is designed as a college preparatory program focused on students who wish to study a musical instrument. The instrumental music conservatory program in the Talon Academy of Arts offers all levels of study and is available to all students regardless of ability or proficiency. We seek to offer the highest quality instrumental music training by engaging students in creative, thought-provoking, and artistic aspects of music making regardless of ability and experience. Our comprehensive program allows our students to explore their creativity, celebrate music, grow in faith, and share their talents with the community. Modeled after well-established national collegiate music programs, the conservatory curriculum is balanced between performance-focused classes and academic music courses. Students in this conservatory are immersed in the fundamental elements of

music, such as theory, history, applied study, and piano classes as well as classes focused on solo and ensemble music. Students also benefit from the knowledge, experience, and high level of education of our faculty.

In addition to the wide variety of music courses and performances, students are also exposed to the professional world of music through ongoing master classes, guest lecturers, field trips, and collaborations with various professional ensembles and performers.

Students in the TAPA Instrumental Music Conservatory meet 3 days per week. 1 hour on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and a 4-hour rotation on Thursdays. (CHANGE AS NEEDED)

**MUSIC THEORY/MUSICIANSHIP/EAR TRAINING 1 & 2:** This course will cover the fundamental aspects of music theory including the study of intervals, rhythm, meter, chord construction, keys/key signature, time signature, and form. Supplemented with the theory lessons will be ear training exercises that correspond to the appropriate theory lesson. Such topics will also be discussed through the examination of musical examples from multiple genres of music. The goal of this course is to introduce students to the fundamentals of music theory, further mastering their ability to understand and play their instrument and develop their musicianship. Students who complete this course will be able to: read music, grasp a solid and fundamental understanding of the basic aspects of music (pitch, timbre, rhythm, meter, harmony, texture, and form), Identify different types of intervals, chords, and keys, and compose and harmonize an original melody using diatonic harmony.

**INTRO TO MIDI/DAW:** This hands-on course teaches students how to create, edit, and manipulate musical instrument digital interface (MIDI) files to layer various tracks to create finished MIDI sequences. Students will learn compositional and editing skills using industry-standard computers and digital audio workstation (DAW) hardware and software. They will learn how to properly connect various pieces of audio and MIDI hardware and how to set up music applications. In addition to the hands-on curriculum, students will learn about the history of analog and digital synthesis and the evolution of the technology, focusing on the relationships between past and present technologies.

**APPLIED STUDY (PRIVATE LESSONS):** The applied instrumental course is the study of playing from the standpoints of technique, literature, and performance. Principles of performance technique based on established instrumental pedagogy will be studied alongside literature appropriate for the developmental level of the student. Repertoire from the classical period and at least one other style period will be studied each semester. Performance skills in formal and informal settings will be studied.

## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC ELECTIVES

**JAZZ BAND:** Students will delve into the fundamentals of jazz theory, improvisation, and ensemble playing, honing their skills on instruments such as saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, bass, and drums. Students will learn to interpret and perform iconic jazz standards while developing their own unique musical voice. The class fosters collaboration and creativity, providing a platform for students to express themselves through the exciting language of jazz.

**SMALL ENSEMBLES/CHAMBER MUSIC WORKSHOP:** This course is designed to cultivate your passion for music by providing a platform for intimate group performances and artistic expression. Dive into the

intricate art of chamber music as you explore various genres and styles, honing your ensemble playing skills. Through hands-on rehearsals, students will develop a deep understanding of musical dynamics, communication, and teamwork. This workshop encourages creativity while fostering a strong sense of musical community.

**FILM SCORING:** Students will learn to compose original musical scores that enhance the emotional impact of films. Dive into the fundamentals of music theory, orchestration, and sound design, gaining hands-on experience. Discover the art of synchronizing music with visual storytelling, analyzing iconic film scores, and understanding the role of music in creating atmosphere and tension. Through practical assignments and collaborative projects, you'll have the opportunity to bring your compositions to life and witness the transformative power of music in film.

**RECITAL/SOLO LITERATURE/REPERTOIRE CLASS:** This course is designed to cultivate a deep appreciation for diverse musical genres while honing students' performance skills. Delve into the art of selecting and interpreting solo pieces, from classical masterpieces to contemporary compositions. Develop technical proficiency, musicality, and stage presence through personalized guidance and constructive feedback. Students will embark on a journey of self-discovery as they navigate a curated selection of solo repertoire, refining their individual musical voice.

**ORCHESTRATION AND ARRANGING:** Designed for aspiring musicians and composers, this class delves into the intricacies of arranging music for orchestras, uncovering the secrets behind creating rich, harmonious sounds. Students will learn essential skills such as score analysis, instrument ranges, and effective instrumentation techniques. Through hands-on projects, they will have the opportunity to arrange music for various ensemble sizes, experimenting with different styles and genres.