

West Valley Middle School

Yearlong Related Arts Descriptions

2024-2025

Sixth Grade Year Long Related Arts Classes:

6th Grade Beginning Band - Level 1

6th grade band is a hands-on performance based class. Students rehearse and perform music on brass, percussion or woodwind instruments. Band instruments include flute, clarinet, bass clarinet, various saxophones, trumpet, French horn, euphonium, tuba, and all percussion instruments. Students learn basic level quality tone production, how to read beginner level musical notation and perform level 1 band music, both in a group and individually. A variety of musical styles are explored. The 6th grade band performs at least 2 concerts per year and several optional performance activities are available. No experience is required.

6th Grade Chorus

Chorus is a performance-based vocal music course open to all students with an interest in singing and music. The goals of this course are to develop confidence in singing, foster student musicianship, and explore music history and culture through the study and performance of a variety of choral music. Students will learn basic music theory, music literacy skills, foundations in healthy vocal technique, and appropriate performance etiquette. All Chorus will perform three mandatory concerts throughout the school year at Bearden High School Auditorium. Dates for these concerts will be communicated in the course syllabus at the beginning of the school year. No experience is required.

6th Grade Orchestra

6th grade orchestra is a performance based class ideal for anyone who has ever wanted to play a stringed instrument (e.g. violin, viola, cello, or bass). We focus on learning to hold the instrument properly, how to make a great sound, and how to read music. We cover music of all styles. We generally perform two concerts per year with other outside performance opportunities available. No previous experience is required.

Seventh Grade Year Long Related Arts Classes:

7th Grade Advanced Art

7th Grade Advanced Art is designed for the highly motivated student who wishes to participate in an Art class for the entire school year. The course provides students with an opportunity to improve upon their skills in the conceptualization and production of art through hands-on exploration, artmaking, and reflection.

7th Grade Band - Level 2

7th grade band classes are hands-on performance based courses comprised of brass, percussion and woodwind instruments. Band instruments include flute, double reeds, clarinet, bass clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, euphonium, tuba, and all percussion instruments. Students rehearse and perform a variety of musical styles within the level 2 range, building on the skills developed in prior year. The 7th grade band performs at least 3 concerts per year and there are several optional performance opportunities. One year of previous experience is required.

7th Grade Chorus

Chorus is a performance-based vocal music course open to all students with an interest in singing and music. The goals of this course are to develop confidence in singing, foster student musicianship, and explore music history and culture through the study and performance of a variety of choral music. Students will learn basic music theory, music literacy skills, foundations in healthy vocal technique, and appropriate performance etiquette. All Chorus will perform three mandatory concerts throughout the school year at Bearden High School Auditorium. Dates for these concerts will be communicated in the course syllabus at the beginning of the school year.

7th Grade Orchestra

7th and 8th Grade Orchestras are performance based classes. We focus on intermediate and advanced techniques of string playing. We cover music of all styles. We generally perform at least two concerts per year with other outside performance opportunities available. Previous experience is recommended.

Peer Tutoring

Peer Tutoring is intended to help you become more effective as a peer and advocate for people who have various learning needs or moderate to severe intellectual and physical disabilities. Peer tutors play an important role in helping people with disabilities develop a social network- a group of friends they can spend time with, go places and do things with, and who will help them meet new friends.

7th Grade Year Long Physical Education

Physical education plays a major role in the overall education of children. Students continue to increase their physical abilities. They develop personal skills as they participate in team and group sports/games while increasing their knowledge and skill in lifetime activities. Students will: demonstrate a greater proficiency in skills needed to participate in team and individual sports and games; demonstrate knowledge of the rules and explain strategies for various sports and games; continue to demonstrate good sportsmanship and be helpful to classmates; demonstrate movement and exercises that improve physical fitness; increase knowledge and skills for lifetime activities; achieve and maintain a health- enhancing level of physical fitness; develop a life-long awareness of a physically active lifestyle.

Eighth Grade Year Long Related Arts Classes:

8th Grade Band - Level 3

8th grade band classes are hands-on performance based courses comprised of brass, percussion and woodwind instruments. Band instruments include flute, double reeds, clarinet, bass clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, euphonium, tuba, and all percussion instruments. Students rehearse and perform a variety of musical styles within the intermediate level 3 range, building on the skills developed in prior years. The 8th grade bands perform at least 4 concerts per year and there are several optional performance opportunities. Two years of previous experience is required.

8th Grade Chorus

Chorus is a performance-based vocal music course open to all students with an interest in singing and music. The goals of this course are to develop confidence in singing, foster student musicianship, and explore music history and culture through the study and performance of a variety of choral music. Students will learn basic music theory, music literacy skills, foundations in healthy vocal technique, and appropriate performance etiquette. All Chorus will perform three mandatory concerts throughout the school year at Bearden High School Auditorium. Dates for these concerts will be communicated in the course syllabus at the beginning of the school year.

8th Grade Orchestra

7th and 8th Grade Orchestras are performance based classes. We focus on intermediate and advanced techniques of string playing. We cover music of all styles. We generally perform at least two concerts per year with other outside performance opportunities available. Previous experience is recommended.

8th Grade Year Long Physical Education

Physical education plays a major role in the overall education of children. The skills learned in physical education develop children physically and provide skills for success in the classroom. Students continue to develop physical skills in both individual and team sports and physical

fitness activities. Students will: develop advanced strategies for competitive and non-competitive games and activities; understand the difference between competitive sports and lifetime activities; observe and explain the characteristics of advanced skills in sports and games; demonstrate good sportsmanship and communication skills; participate in the assessment of physical fitness and create a plan to improve weak areas; achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness; develop a lifelong awareness of a physically active lifestyle.

Peer Tutoring

Peer Tutoring is intended to help you become more effective as a peer and advocate for people who have various learning needs or moderate to severe intellectual and physical disabilities. Peer tutors play an important role in helping people with disabilities develop a social network- a group of friends they can spend time with, go places and do things with, and who will help them meet new friends.

High School Credit Classes

Spanish 1

Introductory language courses are for students who are interested in acquiring knowledge of the Spanish language and culture. The curriculum includes the study of the culture and basic communicative skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Recommended for 8th grade students who read and perform language arts skills and math skills above grade level.

Visual Art 1

Visual Art 1 provides 8th grade students with the opportunity to earn a high school credit in the visual arts while still in middle school. This course is designed to fast-track students that are interested in art and design so that they may begin taking upper-level art courses earlier in their high school experience. As such, Art 1 is an intensive class that builds on the concepts, techniques, and media use introduced earlier in the middle school art curriculum. In general, students in Art 1 will engage in art production across a wide range of media, novel approaches to conceptualization, and aesthetic criticism through project-based assignments.