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WALNUT HILL

SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

J-TERM 2026

COURSE CATALOG

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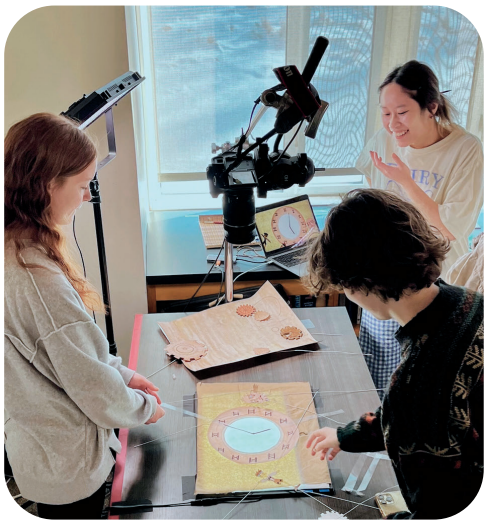
WHAT IS J-TERM?

Immediately following Winter Break, J-Term is Walnut Hill's annual student-centered January term during which time our entire student and faculty communities engage in classes and activities that encourage all to:

- EXPLORE unfamiliar and intriguing subjects, concepts or art forms;
- EXPERIMENT within a space where it is safe to fail and make mistakes;
- INNOVATE by creatively considering and applying alternative thinking or approaches to familiar practices; and
- NURTURE OUR COMMUNITY through personal self-care, collaborative creation, and community service.

With student agency placed at the forefront of J-Term programming, students are provided with a variety of ways in which to contribute to the school community and development of the educational program in a leadership capacity, including as a Student Teacher or Teaching Assistant, or by joining the J-Term Planning Team.

Likewise, faculty and staff are invited to propose and pilot courses in any subject, including those outside of their main area of instruction or work, giving them the space and support in which to explore their interests alongside our students in a laidback learning environment.







PROGRAM CONTACT

The J-Term program is managed by Erin Young, Associate Director of Educational Programs. Connect with Erin at eyoung@walnuthillarts.org or in her office in ATC 221.

SCHEDULE & COMPONENTS

Program Dates

The 2026 J-Term program will be taking place January 12 through 29. There will be no classes on Friday, January 30 so students and faculty may prepare for the start of the spring semester on Monday, February 2. Rehearsals and/or performances may take place on this day at the discretion of the Arts departments.

A PDF J-Term Calendar can be found on pages 17-19.

Courses & Drop-in Sessions

The J-Term schedule consists of four main sections: Project courses, Flex Periods, Explore classes, and Arts. Information about these offerings can be found starting on page 6.

Monday Assemblies

Each Monday of J-Term, expanded Assemblies showcase recognized field creatives, giving the entire Walnut Hill community the opportunity to experience their expertise first hand, and engage in open dialogue around living and creating in the world today.

This January, we are thrilled to welcome the following guests to Walnut Hill:

JANUARY 12: J-TERM KICK-OFF with TERRI LYNE CARRINGTON & ENSEMBLE



credit Michael Goldman

Terri Lyne Carrington is a NEA Jazz Master, Doris Duke Artist, and four-time Grammy award-winning drummer, composer, producer, and educator. She serves as founder and artistic director of the Berklee Institute of Jazz and Gender Justice, as well artistic director for both the Next Jazz Legacy program (a collaboration with New Music USA). She has performed on more than 100 recordings, and has toured and recorded with Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter, Stan Getz, Esperanza Spalding, and many others. Carrington holds honorary doctorates from York University, Manhattan School of Music and Berklee College of Music. The renowned 2019 release Waiting Game from Terri Lyne Carrington + Social Science earned the Edison Award for music and a Grammy nomination.

This year, Carrington released the critically-acclaimed album We Insist 2025!, a poignant re-imagining of Max Roach's Freedom Now Suite. It both honors Roach's original masterpiece and furthers Carrington's passion for using jazz as a tool for social activism.

JANUARY 26: MLK DAY ASSEMBLY with PETER D. COOK



A Principal Designer for HGA, Peter D. Cook has an outstanding portfolio of design leadership and award-winning projects throughout the United States—particularly in the D.C. area—encompassing museums, memorials, embassies, libraries, cultural and learning centers, and mixed-used corporate and neighborhood master planning. Among Cook's high-profile projects are the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of African American History and Culture, Watha T. Daniel / Shaw Neighborhood Library, Embassy of South Africa, and Saint Elizabeths East Gateway Pavilion. In 2021, Cook was named to the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts by President Biden. He is a member of the American Institute of Architects, Washington, D.C. Chapter and the National Organization of Minority Architects.

Vocal Studio Classes

New to the J-Term program this year, students receiving private vocal instruction will participate in two collegiate-style vocal studio classes with their private instructor and other students of that instructor. These Monday classes will allow students to continue to exercise their voice, while building the skill of receiving and offering critique in a group setting, preparing them for conservatory-level instruction.

The J-Term Showcase

Thursday, January 29, is a campus-wide day of student exhibits, performances and presentations. Families are invited to attend events throughout the day and take part in the festivities alongside their students. No regular classes take place on this day, though rehearsals make take place in the evening.

Senior-Friendly Classes

January is a busy time for seniors who are traveling for college or company auditions, interviews or visits. To accommodate these anticipated absences, some J-Term classes are designated as Senior Friendly classes to highlight the appropriateness of these courses for these students. These are non-sequential courses from which a student's occasional absence will not have a negative impact on their ability to engage in the learning when they are present, or the ability of the class to move towards a collaborative goal in their absence.

J-TERM POLICIES

Course Selection & Student Placement

The deadline for J-Term 2026 course selection is Thursday, November 20. Using the course selection form, students will select their top 5 Project course choices, and top 4 Explore class choices. Seniors have the choice to opt out of Explore classes; PG students have the choice to opt of of Project and/or Explore classes.

All students will be placed in one of the classes they have selected; they will not be placed in a course they did not select on their registration form. Every effort will be made to place students in one of their top course selections. Course placement from prior J-Terms is used as a reference for equity throughout the placement process. Some courses are extremely popular, meaning that only a small percentage of students selecting those courses will be placed in their top choice. Students who do not submit their Course Selection Form by the November 20 deadline will be placed based on availability. Student Teachers and Teaching Assistants will be automatically placed in the courses they are leading or supporting.

Drop/Add Period

Project: Students may not drop or add a Project course once they have been placed. Project courses are required for all students in grades 9-12; they are optional for PG students.

Explore: Students in grades 9-11 will have until the end of day Wednesday, January 14 to switch their Explore class if availability allows; as Explore is required for these grade levels, there is no option to completely drop Explore. Seniors and PG students, for whom participation in Explore is optional, will have until the end of day Wednesday, January 14 to drop, switch or add an Explore class. After January 14, students will not be able to drop, add or switch classes and they will receive a Pass/Fail grade for the classes in which they have been placed.

Grading & Academic Weight

Students will receive a Pass or Fail grade for their J-Term classes at the end of the semester. These grades will be included on the student's transcript but will not factor into their GPA. Course goals and expectations will be shared by faculty members at the start of each course and discussed to ensure student understanding of the expectations and rubric used for assessment. Arts classes will be graded based on the rubric specific to each department.

Student Teachers and Teaching Assistants are graded on their performance in their respective roles, and receive a note on their transcript indicating their level of leadership in the classroom.

Attendance

All students registered for a J-Term course are expected to attend each class period unless excused. Students are responsible for communicating with their teachers when they need to be absent. As usual, all absences must be excused through the standard channels (Health Center, College Counseling, Arts Department, Student Life). Parents of day students are expected to communicate any student absences within 24 hours to Attendance@walnuthillarts.org.

The following attendance guidelines apply to J-Term:

- Students who receive 4 or more unexcused absences in a J-Term course will receive a Failing grade for the course.

- Students who receive 6 or more total absences in a J-Term course will be withdrawn from the course and receive a W on their transcript.

Tardies

The standard tardy policy remains in effect throughout J-Term (3 tardies equals one unexcused absence).

J-TERM 2026 COURSE CATALOG

The deadline for course selection is Thursday, November 20.

If you have not submitted your J-Term 2026 Course Selection Form by the end of the day on November 20, you will be placed according to class availability. To ensure you have a choice in your class assignments, you must submit your course selection form on time!

Students will learn of their course placements on Tuesday, December 16.

⭐ = Led by Student Teacher 😊 = Senior Friendly Class

PROJECT

Tuesday-Friday, 9:00-10:40am
Required for: Grades 9-12
Optional for: PG students

Project courses are guided by Academic faculty, and sometimes Arts faculty or staff, or in partnership with student co-teachers or Teaching Assistants. Courses are designed to nurture students' creativity, problem solving abilities, input and agency. Project courses are primarily action-oriented, with activity and "doing" at the center. With a focus on process over product, failure and mistakes are expected along the way!

Please select your top five Project courses on your Course Selection Form.

Art in Stride: 10 Winter Walks 😊

Artists, philosophers, and even Stanford researchers have suggested a strong positive correlation between daily walking and creativity, but what do we at Walnut Hill find to be true? In this class, we will embark on ten guided daily walks, always leaving from and returning to campus, no matter the weather, with the goal of deepening our understand about the connection between daily movement and creativity. Our project will also be practical: formulating guidelines for fellow Walnuts on how to safely embark on long cold-weather walks as well as a map of realistic walking routes nearby campus.

Arts & Crafts for Mental Health, Community & Kindness ⭐ 😊

This creative, hands-on course explores how art making can nurture mental well-being, build community, and inspire acts of kindness. Through a variety of accessible projects—such as wellness journals, affirmation cards, community art pieces, and kindness rocks—students will experience how creativity can calm the mind, connect people, and spread positivity.

Arts & Community

Watch a video about this class! Arts & Community is a course that aims to make art more accessible in the community. In this class we will split into groups based on artistic expertise or interest (primarily in majors) and learn how we can teach or show this to our local Natick community. Whether this means reading a children's book about Ballet to a group of kids or performing a music piece or teaching an art class at an elderly home, this course will teach you how to interact with various age groups and expand our Walnut Hill identity by impacting our community in a positive way.

Creative Collaboration Through Dungeons & Dragons

Join us for a roleplaying adventure! Together we will design unique and personalized characters, build an epic fantasy world, and play through the story as our characters! Whether you've played Dungeons and Dragons for years, or you've never heard of it, we happily welcome you! So, if you, too, yearn to zap some mind flayers and other abominations to oblivion, sign up now! It is thine nerdly duty! NOTES: We are looking for two people in the class to be Dungeon Masters; these two would ideally be experienced. Also, if you sign up, please be committed to attending. The campaign is more fun of we're all there to participate.

Dishing It Out: Cooking for the Community

Watch a video about this class! Do you think cooking with friends is fun? Cooking with friends to help others is fun and feels good too! We'll be working with a Natick organization, Family Promise Metrowest, to prepare meals for their clients. FPMW provides housing, career training, and other services to local families experiencing homelessness or the threat of homelessness. Based on the families they are serving in January, we will budget, plan, recipe test, and cook dinners that fulfill their dietary needs. The goal will be to provide one meal per week during J-term.

Engineering Maquettes II: 3D Clay Modeling of a Vehicle

We will continue with our exciting journey for creative minds! In this hands-on projects course, participants will explore the enchanting world of modeling, acquiring the art of transforming polymer clay and other materials into a three-dimensional creation: a vehicle like a spaceship or a motorcycle, or a human or human-like character. The course strengthens a mix of inspiration, physics engineering and imagination, allowing each artist to develop their own style. Beginners in the art of modeling clay are welcome!!!

Film Scoring

Do you love music and movies and want to see how they work together? In this course, we'll break down iconic film scenes and the scores that bring them to life, looking at how sound

Film Scoring (continued)

shapes emotion, story, and character. You will get hands on experience, collaboratively scoring a short film yourself. No music or film background needed, just curiosity, creativity, and some popcorn.

Herstory in Heels: Drag Heritage and Persona Crafting

This course will explore the rich history of drag as an art form, following its cultural impact and evolution as a poignant form of artistic expression and source of queer joy. The study of the history and intersectionality of drag, as well as the lives of past and present drag icons will aid students on a journey of self-discovery as they work to create their own drag persona, and participate in the drag show at the end of the term!

Home Economics: Reimagined

Are you excited about living independently? Are you ready to live independently? In this course, discover skills typically taught in Home Economics for dwelling upkeep, sewing, budgeting, and more! Join us in a Game of Life IRL, where you'll hop straight into a simulated economy, fit with unexpected life events, adventures, and so many twists and turns! In this class, reimagine what a home economics class can be through participating in simulated real-life scenarios that you'll get to play out with your classmates! Create tangible products, like quilts, sandwiches, and more.

Introduction to Culinary Fermentation and Preservation

Are you interested in cooking? Ancient history? Doomsday prepping? If you answered yes to any of those questions, you should consider joining our class! Introduction to Culinary Fermentation and Preservation will explore different modes of food preservation through a number of fun practical projects, including sourdough, pickles, and jam. In addition to completing a daily hands-on project, we will learn about the fascinating science of fermentation and the history of preserved foods - did you know that evidence of sourdough bread dates back to 3700 BCE? Take a chance, and jam out with us!

Introduction to Darkroom Photography for Non-Majors

Have you ever been interested in exploring photography beyond the digital world? Are you looking for a mindful, stress-free analog practice to fill your J-term? With no prior knowledge needed, this immersive class juxtaposes the rise of digital photography while embracing old-fashioned techniques and intentional processes. Experience the magic of watching your images come to life in the darkroom, learn the fundamentals of shooting with a film camera, developing your own film, and printing photos that you can proudly showcase in a low-stakes final portfolio.

Japanese Language, Art, and Culture

Are you curious about the Japanese language? Do you have an interest in learning more about the culture and art of Japan? If so, this course is for you! We will spend time each day learning the Japanese alphabets and basic characters (kanji), while also looking into different Japanese art forms each day, from anime to kabuki, kintsugi pottery to Hayao Miyazaki's works.

Lines, Lenses, Legacy: Capturing the Heart of J-Term

In this project course, students will capture and curate the stories behind other J-Term projects. Students will explore modes of documentation of their choice, including photography, videography, sketching, interviewing, writing, social media and more, to record and interpret the J-Term experience. Throughout the course, students will learn from content professionals from the fields of media, journalism, and marketing to acquire strategies for collecting representative content and crafting compelling narratives. They will have the opportunity to apply these skills in fieldwork, visiting other project sites to observe, record, and interview participants before editing, writing, and assembling collected materials into cohesive, meaningful stories that highlight the school's J-Term experience. The student's final products may be featured in a variety of Walnut Hill publications, media, and web pages.

Walnut Hill Read-a-thon 2026 😊

Do you love to read or want to read...but never have the time? Maybe you devoured books when you were younger, but haven't finished a book outside of school in years. Join the Walnut Hill Read-a-thon to awaken or rediscover the joy of reading! Our project will include a shopping spree at a local bookstore, daily immersion in books of your choice, and working together to create a literary magazine inspired by your reading. Be prepared to read independently for an hour or more each day!

Yoga & Mindfulness for Artists 😊

In this class, we'll explore yoga and meditation to see how these practices impact our artistic work and overall health. We'll engage in daily mindfulness-related exercises, such as yoga, meditation, tai chi, sound baths, walking in nature, playing games, journaling, and making art. We'll experiment to see how these practices help us do things like: manage stress, regulate emotions, enhance creativity, improve focus and sleep, and connect with others. At the end of the month, students will have the tools they need to to practice mindfulness on their own, and the skills to lead a basic yoga or meditation session with friends.

FLEX

Tuesday-Friday, 10:45-11:25am
Required for: Select students
Optional for: Most students

Flex periods provide time for students to receive extra help, brush up on skills before the spring semester, and keep themselves in academic practice. Flex periods are ungraded and optional, though some students may be required to attend specific sections of Math. Students will be notified by the Math department if this is the case. Flex periods are typically offered in ELL, French, Spanish and Math. The College Counseling will also be offering some sessions for senior students.

No course selection is required for Flex Periods.

Drop-in ELL Practice with Ms. P

Students in ELL can stop by to maintain and strengthen their English skills!

Drop-in French Practice with Madame ZC

Stop by for open support in any level of French! Brush up on vocabulary, get a refresher after a long break in language study, conduct a grammar review through Francophone songs, or play French-language games.

Drop-in Spanish Practice with Profe Meehan

Stop by for help with any level of Spanish, or to keep in practice with your language skills!

Math Practice with Math Faculty

Flex periods in all Math classes will be offered throughout J-Term by members of our Math faculty. Some students will be invited to attend these sessions regularly in support of their ongoing learning. Email notification will be provided to these students in advance of the Winter Break. All students wanting extra Math help are welcome to drop in!

College Counseling

Senior students can sign up for college meetings, or practice their interviewing skills with mock interviews! College Counseling will send out Calendly invites to seniors for these sessions throughout J-Term.

EXPLORE

Tuesday-Friday, 11:30am-12:30pm or 12:10-1:10pm
Required for: Grades 9-11
Optional for: Grades 12/PG

Taking place opposite lunch, Explore classes are opportunities for students to - you guessed it - explore! Try something new! Explore classes have a single subject focus that is most often an entry level pathway to a new area of study, allowing students to test out arts skills outside of their major, explore academic subjects new to them, or learn skills that will help them establish healthy lifestyles and good citizenship. Classes are taught by faculty, staff and/or students.

Please select your top four Explore classes on your Course Selection Form.

10 Poems in 10 Days

This class will teach you how to create a poem in 45 minutes or less. Each session will start with a prompt designed to help you generate a poem by the end of class. We will explore poetic forms, Surrealist practices, and playful techniques. Along the way, we'll share our work and discuss how the approaches we use can be a part of a sustained writing practice. At the end of J-Term you'll leave with a chapbook of your work.

Community Building Through Nintendo Games

Watch a video about this class! Nintendo: Exploring Community through Digital Media In this course, students will use popular Nintendo games such as Just Dance, Mario Kart, Super Smash, and Overcooked to create connectivity, collaboration, and fun. Nintendo games opens up the conversation about how digital media brings people together and builds community in a relaxed and inclusive environment.

CPR & First Aid Certification Training

CPR (CardioPulmonary Resuscitation) and First Aid is a class where we learn how to provide life saving care to people having heart attacks, strokes and other life threatening conditions. Students who successfully complete this class will earn American Red Cross certification in CPR and First Aid--a nationally recognized certification that is valid for two years.

Cumbia: A History of Music, Dance & Culture

This course tells the many stories of cumbia, through music, dance, writing, film, fashion, and photos. Through studying the roots and history, students will then together analyze how cumbia has impacted different cultures, and how different cultures have impacted cumbia through group discussions. This course is hands-on and highly interactive, giving students the opportunity to play music even if they have never touched an instrument, dance with no prior experience required, and showcase and perform what they learned.

Empty Bowls Challenge, Part 3

NOTE: Open to VA students with ceramics experience only

The Empty Bowls Challenge (Part 3) is a creative community engagement project where participants craft handmade ceramic bowls to raise awareness and funds to combat hunger in our community. Participants not only develop artistic skills but also contribute to a meaningful cause, with proceeds from bowl sales supporting The Natick Service Council and raising awareness for food insecurity in our community. Join us in shaping art that supports our neighbors, and be a part of meaningful change through the power of pottery.

Intro to Stretching & Conditioning

Feeling like you're not active enough while involved with your art? Or do you want to expand on exercising and learn what's right for your body? Well, then this course is for you! In this class, students will explore how the body works, learning how to condition and strengthen themselves through personalized exercises and routines. These routines will include cardio, beginner to advanced core, beginning arm, leg, and back strengthening, as well as simple stretches for the whole body. By the end of the course, each student will design their own customized routine to continue improving strength, flexibility, and overall wellness beyond the classroom. And lastly, we will be having fun with games, treats, music, and more!

Journal Makers

Watch a video about this class! Journal Makers continues the Walnut Hill Academic Journal, You Are Here! We will explore what an academic journal is, learn the key components, and practice collecting and curating submissions of student writing and visual art. You will consider themes, audience, and how our journal presents itself in print and potential online formats. By the end, we will be on our way to creating the second issue!

Principles of Social Psychology: A Hands-on Introduction

In this class, we will explore how the presence of other individuals and groups of people impacts a person's behaviors, thoughts, and feelings. Researching and studying how people change their behavior to align with the social situation at hand, we will examine how taking cues from other individuals informs how people behave in new or uncertain situations, and the effect these cues may have on them.

SAT Prep with the WH Tutoring Team

NOTE: Open to current juniors only

Standardized testing season is upon us! In this SAT Prep class, students will attend 5 sessions of Math and 5 sessions of English strategy and practice classes. These classes will provide students with an overview of the test (digital format), useful strategic advice, and opportunities to hone their test-taking skills in preparation for this exam. An SAT review book will be provided for each student, and there will be options to continue SAT tutoring beyond J-Term.

Tarot 101 & The Art of Divination

If you missed out on this course last J-Term, fear not, because we are back! With significant changes based on student feedback, we are excited to explore the Tarot cards, what they mean, and their histories as divinatory devices spanning back nearly 600 years. This course will include a collaborative dialogue on how we, as artists, can adapt older practices to our current set of needs and wants as a society or as individuals. For this reason, the deck we are using is a deck made by artists from this milennia. Taught by two tarot enthusiasts, this class is for anyone and everyone with an interest or curiosity around the subject — no experience necessary. This class will be engaging for current readers of all levels, including students who took this course last year (fear not, everyone will be getting a new tarot deck to learn on this time around).

The History of the American Movie Musical

Are you a fan of musicals? Are you a fan of movies? Well, even if you aren't, this class is for you! Dive deep into the history of, arguably, the greatest American artform of the 20th century - the movie musical! We'll watch clips from movies such as Wicked, Cabaret, KPop Demon Hunters, La La Land and more! Through this medium, you'll also gain an understanding of America's rich film history, as well as the cultural climate these films were made in. This is a beginner level class, so no prior knowledge is needed!

Understanding Your Vote: American Politics

Have you ever opened your phone and been weighed down by the headlines? Have you always wanted to be civically engaged but never known where to start? Or have you always been interested in politics and want a space to collaborate with like-minded peers? Well then this is the place for you! Throughout this course we will be exploring the ins and outs of American democracy, what it means to be civically engaged, where we all fit into the complicated web of government, and how to affect the change you want to see on the world. Through discussions and group activities we will explore the successes and setbacks of Amerian politics and how your voice can make a difference. Whether you are new to politics or have aticipating the day you could vote for as long as you remember; this class is for you.

Zine Making: Self Empowerment & Activism Through Arts

Dive into the colorful, creative world of zines and collage! In this hands-on course, you'll explore the history of zine-making, explore activism through zine-making, experiment with collage techniques, and create personal, expressive works of art. Whether you're an experienced artist or a beginner, this class invites you to craft your own self-published zines and collaborate with others in a supportive community.

ARTS

Monday-Friday, 2:05-6:30pm
Required for: All students
Optional for: None

Afternoon arts class activities are determined by each arts department, and vary from discipline to discipline. These activities offer students an intensive-style opportunity to focus on developing particular skills and exploring new areas within their major, and may range from enhanced training to collaborative, department-wide projects. Some projects may continue beyond January, culminating in performances or showcases taking place in the spring semester.

Students are automatically registered for their departmental activities.

Dance

Regular dance training will continue with classes taking place during normal class hours. The annual Student Choreographic project will also kick off, allowing students to step into the role of choreographer, casting and directing their peers in their works. Student choreographers will partner with one or more students from a different department to foster true collaboration between art majors. This is a time for students to explore their creativity and test out their ideas.

All students participating in the Student Choreographic project will be allotted time during the Explore Block to work with their collaborators from other departments. Facilitated by Cynthia Lucas and Mica Romulo, this Explore period will count as each participating student's Explore class. Student Choreographic performances will take place February 20-21, 2026.

Music

The Music Department's annual January Project aims to build community through group projects with renowned guest artists, culminating in a special concert on Monday, January 26 at 7pm in the Keiter Center for the Performing Arts:

- String players will be working and performing with The Parker Quartet, Walnut Hill's Quartet-in-Residence, on chamber music selections by Popper, Schnittke, Schubert and Mendelssohn.
- Grammy-winning jazz drummer Terri Lyne Carrington will be leading workshops for students in the Jazz & Contemporary Arts program, leading to a performance conducted by program leader Mark Tipton.
- The entire music department will join together for a performance of excerpts from Vivaldi's "Gloria" for choir and chamber orchestra, led by Will Cooper.

Theater

Theater students will participate in grade-focused training that both hone their craft at particular stages in their educational arc as young actors, and highlight their accomplishments to date:

- Freshman/Sophomore Revue: This course is designed to teach 9th and 10th grade theater students the principles of rehearsal, show practices, and performance standards. Students work through various ensemble and dance pieces from a selection of Broadway musicals that culminates in a demonstration known as "Froshmore: The Freshman/Sophomore Revue". The demonstration will be presented on Thursday, January 29th at 7:30pm in the Keiter Center for the Performing. Instructors: Nicole Soriano, J. Kathleen Castellanos, Maria LaRossa
- Musical Theater Dance Intensive: 11th and 12th grade theater students will walk through foundational skills of dance while exploring original choreography from past Broadway Musicals. Iconic choreographers that are studied include Bob Fosse, Jerry Mitchell, Michael Bennett, and more. Instructors: Maria LaRossa, Stephen Agosto
- The Alexander Technique: 11th and 12th grade theater students take a deeper look at the work of F. Matthias Alexander and body alignment. The work is meant to open up the body for stage work and release tension to maximize the movement of emotion through the physical instrument. The course is taught by licensed Alexander Practitioner and Walnut Hill Faculty member, Paul D'Agostino.
- The Cottage: Rehearsals for the Theater Department's Winter Play, The Cottage, will take place and will admit students by audition only. The play is part of the "Walnut Hill in Boston" series and is directed by Theater Department Faculty member, Brian Demar Jones. Playwright Sandy Rustin will join students for a zoom Q&A to discuss writing style, farce, and effective performances.

Visual Art

During J-Term, the Visual Art Department will offer three weeks of creative learning and art-making experiences for our VA students. The program begins with two days of artist workshops and visiting artist talks on January 12–13, offering students a chance to explore new techniques and perspectives. Our workshop artists and presenters will be a mix of our own VA faculty and special guests including VA alumni.

In the central portion of the program, inspired by a visit to the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston on January 14th, students will form and work in small collaborative groups to reflect on their shared experiences and create artwork based on each groups collective vision. Each group will take turns presenting their finished work to the Visual Arts students and faculty on Friday, January 23.

Visual Art (continued)

After the collaborative art-making part of our program, additional workshops and artist talks will take place on January 26 and January 27. In addition, glaze workshops for our yearly Empty Bowls fundraiser are scheduled on both of those afternoons as well. The J-Term experience will conclude with a department wide clean up and set up to prepare for semester two and of course a party to celebrate our amazing Visual Art students. In the early Spring there will be an exhibition of J-Term work made by our VA majors in the Pooke Gallery.

Writing, Film & Media Arts

In January, WFMA students will begin the Script to Screen process in preparation for their "Walnut Hill in Boston" event at Coolidge Corner in May. This includes students working with partners to develop pitches and scripts which they will workshop and revise. They will also engage in the pre-production work of casting, location scouting, creating shot lists, and production schedules.