Performing & Visual Arts Courses

Prerequisites, fees, auditions, including pass/fail, exams, and class caps

Dance

Dance 6 JACOBY (grade 6; class cap 24)
Introduction to Dance, 6th Grade, is focused on the beginning of all dance styles such as ballet, modern, contemporary, jazz, hip hop, tap, African, and salsa. Each student will learn the background and history of each style along with gaining the knowledge of the basic steps and movement to each style.

Intro to Dance (grades 7-12; Non-Performance; class cap 24) JACOBY
An opportunity for students to continue exploring a variety of dance styles, and a chance for new students to experience styles before moving towards a specific studio.

Beginning Tap JACOBY (grades 6-12; class cap 20)
An introduction to tap dance, open to all grades, with no previous tap experience required.
Tap shoes are required, but we can assist in supplying as needed.

Intermediate Tap JACOBY (grades 7-12; class cap 20 for Int/Adv)
An expansion on Beginning Tap.
Tap shoes are required, but we can assist in supplying as needed.
Prerequisite: beginning tap or teacher permission, and audition.

Advanced Tap JACOBY (grades 7-12; class cap 20 for Int/Adv)
An expansion on Intermediate Tap.
Tap shoes are required, but we can assist in supplying as needed.
Prerequisite: intermediate tap or teacher permission, and audition.

Beginning Ballet BLAUFUSS (grades 6-12; class cap: 25)
A class in ballet technique, focusing on the development of vocabulary, technique, flexibility, strength, musicality, and artistry. The primary goal being to develop an understanding and appreciation of the art form of ballet. Students will also get the opportunity to learn and perform ballet/contemporary ballet choreography.
Fees: Students must provide a black leotard and pink or skin tone ballet slippers.

***+Intermediate 1 Ballet BLAUFUSS (grades 6-12; class cap: 25; audition)**
A class building on the basics of ballet technique and vocabulary, pushing the dancer to advance their knowledge and execution. Students will dance every day and be expected to have previous knowledge of movement and vocabulary. Students will also learn and perform 3-6 numbers in the ballet show.
Prerequisite: Students need to have knowledge and have taken ballet prior to taking this class.
An audition with the instructor is also required.
Fees: Students must provide a black leotard and pink or skin tone ballet slippers.

***+Intermediate 2 Ballet BLAUFUSS (grades 6-12; class cap: 25; audition)**
The third level of ballet, a step below advanced. The intermediate 2 dancer has a high level of

technique and is striving to become an advanced dancer. This level requires dedication and the ability to quickly learn and execute choreography. Students will learn and perform 5-8 numbers in the ballet show, and will perform with the advanced level.
Prerequisite: Students need to have knowledge and have taken ballet prior to taking this class. An audition with the instructor is also required.
Fees: Students must provide a black leotard and pink or skin tone ballet slippers.

***+Advanced Ballet BLAUFUSS (grades 8-12; class cap: 25; audition)**
The advanced level is the highest level of ballet offered and it is for dancers who are serious and dedicated to their craft. Advanced dancers need to perform at a near professional level and are given many performance opportunities. The advanced dancer should have a high level of knowledge of ballet and vocabulary and the ability to quickly learn choreography as well as choreograph themselves. Advanced students learn and perform 8-12 numbers in the ballet show.
Prerequisite: Intermediate 2 Ballet, or equivalent knowledge and skills. An audition with the instructor is also required.
Fees: Students must provide a black leotard and pink or skin tone ballet slippers.

***+Advanced Pointe BLAUFUSS (grades 8-12; class cap: 25; audition)**
Pointe is a class for the intermediate 2 or advanced level dancers hoping to hone their skills in pointework. The pointe dancer is expected to have a near-advanced level of ballet technique and knowledge. They should be already approved for pointework by an outside studio teacher, or meet with the instructor to be approved for pointework. Students will perform on pointe and should expect to wear their pointe shoes a minimum of 4 out of 5 classes a week.
Prerequisites: Students must audition into the intermediate 2 or advanced ballet class to be eligible for pointe and to meet with the instructor before scheduling.
Fees: Students must be professionally fitted and purchase pointe shoes. They should expect to use a minimum of 2 pairs a year, but more likely 4.

Beginning Hip Hop PASKER (grades 6-12; class cap 24)
Beginning Hip Hop is focused on the beginning history of the style. It covers the importance of Hip Hop along with the best technical beginning skills that the style endures. At the end of the semester, students will understand the true meaning of hip hop, be able to compare and contrast the style from now and then, and excel in beginning movement for them to move on to the intermediate/advanced level technically.

Intermediate Hip Hop 1 PASKER (grades 7-12; class cap: 24; audition)
Intermediate Hip Hop focuses on the history and today's world of hip hop. The students will understand the differences between the two centuries along with the education of difficult movement within the style. Students will learn and study all advanced movement of Hip Hop along with practicing their own choreography within the subject.
Prerequisite: Beginning Hip Hop or prior training. An audition is also required.

Intermediate Hip Hop 2 PASKER (grades 7-12; class cap: 24; audition)
(TBD)
Prerequisite: Beginning Hip Hop or prior training. An audition is also required.

Advanced Hip Hop PASKER (grades 8-12; class cap: 24; audition)
Advanced Hip Hop dancing and choreography, including strength training, flexibility and endurance. The cultural impact of hip hop, and influential artists is also studied. For students who have successfully completed Intermediate Hip Hop.
Prerequisite: Intermediate Hip Hop or prior training. An audition is also required.

Beginning Ethnic TOLSON (grades 6-12; class cap: 24)
Includes dance study concentrating on non-European styles, including West African, Javanese and contemporary Indian amongst others, with some cultural studies. Focus on Technique, Progressions, West African Dances, History, Acro-Partnering, Performance, Choreography

***+ Intermediate Ethnic TOLSON (grades 7-12; class cap: 24; audition)**
Continued study of Ethnic styles, with influences of Yoga, Acro-Partnering, Performance, Choreography. The Afro-Caribbean Ensemble pairs with the Ethnic drumming class for Summer and School-Year Outreach Programs.
Prerequisite: Beginning Ethnic or prior training. An audition is also required.

***+ Advanced Ethnic TOLSON (grades 8-12; class cap: 24; audition)**
Continued study of Ethnic styles, with influences of Yoga, Acro-Partnering, Performance, Choreography. The Afro-Caribbean Ensemble pairs with the Ethnic drumming class for Summer and School-Year Outreach Programs.
Prerequisite: Intermediate Ethnic or prior training. An audition is also required.

Modern Dance TOLSON (grades 6-12; class cap: 24)
Students will learn basic movement based on several modern dance styles. Students will work on flexibility, strength and expression of movement. Students will begin working on improvisation through dance with verbal cues, advancing their skills to eventually include lifting and bearing weight with a partner. Students will start creating their own dances based on time, space and energy.
Non-dance majors are encouraged to come and explore Laban Movement analysis to enhance creative movement applicable in all areas of performing arts.
Fees: Students need to provide black pants and white t-shirt.

Acro-Partnering TOLSON (grades 8-12; class cap: 24; audition)
This course focuses on the key elements of Acro Yoga- Dance, including roles such as Base (supports), Flyer (elevated), and Spotter (ensures safety). Students will engage in drills for alignment, dynamic movements, counterbalancing, and flows. Students will learn fundamental and advanced tumbling, limbering (like bridges), and balancing techniques. Dance Integration: Combine acrobatic elements with musicality, emotional expression, and classical dance lines for choreography. Body Awareness: Develop control, discipline, and spatial awareness. Safety will be emphasized through proper technique, communication, and risk management.
Prerequisite: Completion of Intermediate level dance class and audition.

Yoga TOLSON (grades 7-12; class cap: 24)
A course designed for the practice of yoga, with flexibility and strength building activities. Suitable for both the dancer and those seeking physical education credit. Technique/Practice Asanas, History/ Health- research and lecture, Acro-Partnering, Choreography- Minimal with minimal performance responsibilities.

Beginning Stage RENY (grades 6-12; class cap: 30)
A beginning level dance course that focuses mainly on jazz and tap technique, but also covers musical theater and contemporary. Open to anyone interested in dance!

***+ Intermediate Stage 1 RENY (grades 7-12; class cap: 26; audition)**
Intermediate stage 1 covers the dance styles of jazz, contemporary, musical theater and tap. Open to all grade levels, but must audition with the teacher before enrolling.
Prerequisite: Intermediate level of jazz technique

***+ Intermediate Stage 2 RENY (grades 7-12; class cap: 20; audition)**
Intermediate stage 2 is the third level of stage dance classes that cover the styles of jazz, contemporary, musical theater and tap. High level of technique is expected and must audition with the teacher before enrolling in class.
Prerequisite: High intermediate level of jazz technique. An audition is also required.

***+ Advanced Stage RENY (grades 8-12; class cap: 18; audition)**
This course is offered to the most advanced dance students in the styles of jazz, contemporary, musical theater and choreography. These students dance for two hours a day, and perform in many productions throughout the year. Very dance intense class with warm-ups and technique- high level of dedication required. Must audition and be approved by the teacher to enroll.
Prerequisite: Intermediate Stage. Must be a versatile dancer in the styles of jazz and contemporary. An audition is also required.

Martial Arts CRAMER (grades 6-12; class cap 20)
Toledo School for the Arts Seiwa Kai Goju Ryu Karatedo
芸術のためのトレド学校 誠和会剛柔流空手道
Karatedo at TSA is taught as a traditional Japanese martial art. Students will be studying Goju Ryu (Hard Soft Style) which is one of several traditional Okinawan/Japanese styles practiced around the world. Students participate in all of the following activities: Conditioning (Junbiundo, 準備 運動), Basic Techniques (Kihon, 基本), Art (Kata, 型), Self-Defense (Bunkai, 分解) and Sport (Jiyu Kumite, 組手).

Advanced Martial Arts CRAMER (grades 8-12; class cap 20; instructor approval)
For students who have completed at least one year of Martial Arts study, an additional course to further develop their skills.
Prerequisite: Martial Arts, instructor permission.

Music

Music 6 (3 sections; grade 6; class cap: 24) THOMAS/BECKER-FONG/MUNSON
This introductory music course will set a foundation in music theory, music fundamentals, and piano performance. Students do not need prior music experience or instruction, but those who do, have the opportunity to work at their own level. The course is project-based, allowing students to work individually to acquire a working knowledge of music reading/ notation, piano performance skills, and a glimpse into the

music industry.

Beginning Band THOMAS (grades 6-12; class cap: 40)
This ensemble class develops playing proficiency and includes several performance opportunities for beginning-to-junior high level wind players. Students will learn professional skills needed as woodwind and brass performers in concert band, full orchestra, small ensembles, and as soloists. Students are encouraged to continue performing as junior high-to-high school level players. Public performance is a major requirement of the course.
Fees: Travel and event fees apply as warranted

***Intermediate Band THOMAS (grades 6-12; class cap: 40; audition)**
This ensemble class develops playing proficiency and includes several performance opportunities for junior high level wind players. Students will learn the professional skills needed as woodwind and brass players in concert band, full orchestra, small ensembles, and as soloists. Students are encouraged to continue performing as high school level players. Public performance is a major requirement of the course.
Prerequisite: Audition required.
Fees: Travel and event fees apply as warranted

***Studio Winds THOMAS (grades 6-12; class cap: 40; audition)**
This ensemble class develops playing proficiency and includes several performance opportunities for high school level wind players. Band students will learn professional skills needed as woodwind and brass performers in concert band, studio/symphony orchestra, jazz/pop combo, small ensembles, and as soloists. Students are encouraged to continue performing as college or professional players. Public performance is a major requirement of the course.
Prerequisite: Audition Required
Fees: Travel and event fees apply as warranted

Beginning Chorus BECKER-FONG (grades 6-12; class cap: 40)
This beginning level course focuses on learning fundamentals of music and vocal technique through group instruction using choral literature. Students receive instruction on proper posture, breathing and breath support, and voice placement (chest and head voice). Students will identify the parts of written music: treble and bass clef, time signature, note names, intervals, and signs and symbols. Solfege is used for sight reading and audiation. Assignments investigate the history and composers of choral music. Students will demonstrate and identify the four main elements of music: melody, rhythm, harmony, and form. The group will perform regularly, enabling the students to apply the basic principles of performance etiquette: dress, professionalism, focus and preparation.
Prerequisite: Audition Required

Intermediate/Advanced Chorus BECKER-FONG (grades 6-12; class cap: 40; audition)
Chorus is offered as a two level course at the intermediate and advanced levels, focused on vocal technique, music fundamentals, choral repertoire, and performance. Students receive instruction on proper posture, breathing and breath support, voice placement, tone, and intonation. Repertoire addresses music history and composers of choral music. All chorus members will perform regularly, enabling the students to apply the basic principles of performance etiquette: dress, professionalism, focus, preparation, and audience sensitivity. The

intermediate level focuses on music reading skills and solfege as a tool for sight reading and audiation.
Prerequisite: Audition required and music reading & sight-singing exam

Beginning Orchestra MUNSON (grades 6-12; class cap: 40)
This ensemble course is designed for students with 0-2 years of playing experience on violin, viola, cello or double bass. Students will learn foundational orchestral skills including basic bowing technique, music reading, and tuning. Approximately 3-4 performances per school year.
Fees: Travel and event fees apply as warranted.

***Intermediate Orchestra MUNSON (grades 6-12; class cap: 40; audition)**
This ensemble course is designed for students with 2-4 years of playing experience on violin, viola, cello or double bass. Students will review foundational orchestral skills, and learn intermediate skills including shifting, and vibrato. Approximately 3-4 performances per school year.
Prerequisite: Audition required.
Fees: Travel and event fees apply as warranted.

***Advanced String Orchestra/Studio Orchestra MUNSON (grades 6-12; class cap: 40; audition)**
This ensemble class develops playing proficiency and includes several performance opportunities for high school level string players. Students will review foundational, and intermediate skills, and will learn advanced techniques including complex rhythms, shifting and bowing. Orchestra students will learn professional skills needed as string performers in a string orchestra, studio/symphony orchestra, jazz/pop combo, small ensembles, and as soloists. Students are encouraged to continue performing as college or professional level players. Public performance is a major requirement of the course.
Prerequisite: Audition required.
Fees: Travel and event fees apply as warranted

Chamber Music MUNSON (grades 8-12; class cap: 16; audition)
Chamber Music is offered to students in the Studio Winds/ String Orchestra in collaboration with the instructor. Student-led and instructor-led chamber and small ensembles will prepare a variety of repertoire for student advancement and for public performances.
Prerequisite: by audition or instructor permission only

Beginning Guitar HEER (grades 6-12; class cap: 16)
This ensemble course is designed for students with less than 1 year of guitar experience. Students will learn foundational guitar skills, including open chords, power chords, scales, and more. Electric bass players with less than 1 year of experience may register for this class.
Fees: Guitar picks, tuner, and a capo

Intermediate Guitar HEER (grades 6-12; class cap: 16 for Int/Adv combined; audition)
This ensemble course is designed for students with 2-3 years of guitar experience. Students will review foundational guitar skills, and learn intermediate techniques, including barre chords, improvisation, and more. Electric bass players with 2-3 years of experience may audition for this class.
Prerequisite: Audition required
Fees: Guitar picks, tuner, and a capo

***Advanced Guitar HEER (grades 6-12; class cap: 16 for Int/Adv combined; audition)**
Advanced Guitar moves into more complex songs, multi-part guitar ensembles, and more advanced improvisation. Many students in guitar also participate in Jazz and Pop Combos/Commercial Music. The music and skills covered in the class enable new material even if taken multiple times!
Prerequisite: Intermediate Guitar or Audition

***Intermediate Jazz Combo MADRAZO (grades 8-12; class cap: 16; audition)**
Intermediate Jazz Combo is for advanced players who are new to Jazz. Subjects covered are Improvisation, accompanying in various Jazz styles, music theory, history of jazz, and playing in a band. The group plays a minimum of two concerts with the Advanced Jazz Combo. Outreach performances are also possible depending on achievement level and availability.
Prerequisite: Advanced Guitar or by audition.

***Advanced Jazz Combo MADRAZO (grades 10-12; class cap: 16; audition)**
Advanced Jazz Combo develops the skills to perform on the professional level. Music theory, advanced improvisation, accompaniment, and the practical skills needed to perform for the public are covered and mastered. Jazz repertoire is also built. There are many outreach performances outside of school for the public. Most of our Advanced Jazz students are able to play professionally!
Prerequisite: Intermediate Jazz Combo or by audition

Beginning Percussion DESMOND (grades 6-12: class cap: 20)
The purpose of beginning percussion is to introduce the basic techniques needed to play both pitched and non-pitched percussion. Emphasis will be placed on rudiment mastery and sight-reading on mallet (bells) instruments. Aside from daily lessons, students enrolled in beginning percussion will also participate in rehearsing and performing percussion ensemble music.

***Intermediate Percussion DESMOND (grades 7-12; class cap: 20; audition)**
The purpose of intermediate percussion is to continue to introduce and practice the techniques needed to play both pitched and non-pitched percussion. Emphasis will be placed on rudiment mastery and sight-reading on mallet (bells) instruments. Aside from daily lessons, students enrolled in intermediate percussion will also participate in rehearsing and performing percussion ensemble music.
Prerequisite: Audition required

***Advanced Percussion DESMOND (grades 8-12; class cap: 20; audition)**
The scope of this course is large. While in Advanced Percussion you will study all of the techniques that are commonly utilized as a professional percussionist. In addition to daily rehearsals, you will also be responsible for a weekly private lesson during which you will study solo techniques and dedicate private time to some of the more challenging passages in your current ensemble literature.
Prerequisite: Audition required

***Advanced Percussion Ethnic DESMOND (grades 8-12; class cap: 20; audition)**
In this course, we will study and perform percussion music that is not rooted in western culture. It is my intent that students that take this class not only understand how to play non-western

percussion instruments, but that they also understand the roles of ethnic percussion in western musical environment. In this class, there will be heavy emphasis on steel drum performance, but we will also perform and discuss other areas of non-western percussion.
Prerequisite: Audition Required

Drum Set DESMOND (grades 6-12; class cap: 12; audition)
For the drummer specifically interested in set playing, covering basic and advanced skills in rock, jazz, and other styles. Drum set is common to all forms of commercial and popular music, and the skills required are distinct from percussion and percussion ensemble playing. Students focus on playing set and developing the multi-limb coordination required to be a good set drummer. Various styles of music which use drum set are explored.
Prerequisite: Instructor permission required

Beginning Piano BECKER-FONG (grades 6-12; class cap: 24)
An introduction to piano and music theory, no previous experience required.
Students will be given group piano instruction with one-on-one coaching, music history lessons, and music theory lessons.

Intermediate/Advanced Piano BECKER-FONG (grades 6-12; class cap: 24; audition)
This course is an extension of beginning piano, private piano lessons and music studies. Advanced students must be proficient at the piano above the Intermediate level. Intermediate students should be proficient at the piano above the beginning level. Students will be given one-on-one and group piano instruction, music history lessons, music theory lessons, arts integration opportunities, and performance opportunities.
Prerequisite: Students must be at or above the Early Intermediate level of piano playing. Audition with instructor.

***Beginning Commercial Music/Pop Combo HEER (grades 6-12; class cap: 16; audition)**
This course provides students an opportunity to learn basic skills for performing in a rock and pop music ensemble. Students learn aspects of working as a group, music theory, developing good habits for rehearsal and preparation. Students learn skills needed to perform and arrange songs in various commercial music styles.
Prerequisite: Audition

***Intermediate Commercial Music/Pop Combo MADRAZO**
This course provides students an opportunity to build skills for performing in a rock and pop music ensemble. Students develop aspects of working as a group, habits for rehearsal/preparation, music theory and improvisation. Students learn skills needed to perform and arrange songs in various commercial music styles.
Prerequisite: Audition

***Advanced Commercial Music/Pop Combo MADRAZO**
Advanced Pop Combo develops the skills to perform on the professional level. Music theory, improvisation, working as a group, performing/arranging songs and the practical skills needed to perform for the public are covered and mastered. Popular music repertoire is also built. There are outreach performances outside of school for the public. Most of our Advanced Pop students are able to play professionally!
Prerequisite: Audition

Music Composition 1 (grades 8-12) THOMAS
This course will introduce and develop individual students' skills in music writing as commonly employed by composers and arrangers in the music industry. Music reading and work in common musical forms and styles will be the foundation for students to work creatively and develop commercial and artistic understanding and applications. Students will work to understand the steps to create their own compositions. A variety of historical and commercial musical styles will be studied. Students will learn music writing software as part of the course.
Prerequisites: Instructor Permission

Music Composition 2 (previously titled "Music Seminar") THOMAS
Building on the techniques and skills in music theory and music composition fromMusic Composition 1, this course is designed to help students prepare for professional or collegiate level music careers by building skills in music theory, career and employment skills, and communication skills. Real-world, hands-on projects and assignments reflect the actual standards in college, the industry, and community. Students are challenged to work independently and take the initiative as would occur in the music business.
Prerequisite: Instructor permission.

***Musical Engineering (grades 10-12; capped at 12) MADRAZO**
Students begin with the basics of engineering live sound and producing music electronically. They create , capture, edit, mix, and synchronize music tracks, incorporating them into audio and video. They study acoustics, reflection, reverberation, and all of the ways recording and electronic mixes are used in commercial recordings, and how to produce those effects themselves. The studio generates recordings of student work throughout the year.
Prerequisites: Instructor permission; limited repeats

World Music (grades 9-12) MUNSON/MADRAZO
This year-long course explores global musical traditions, with a particular emphasis on musical migrations, cultural exchanges, and the rich tapestry of the African diaspora. Students will not only study musical history and theory but also engage in practical music-making and cultural understanding.
Prerequisites: Instructor permission

Theatre

Theatre 6 TOTH
This is an introductory class required for all 6th graders with a focus on extending each student's ability to speak in public, as well as their basic understanding of theatre as an art form. Students will accomplish this task by reading plays, improvising scenes, studying various performance aspects and learning to constructively criticize staged work. The role of the actor is also explored in this class through both written work and performance. Students will explore various theatre jobs in design, technical and creative positions, as well as be introduced to basic theatre terminology and etiquette.

Acting 1 Jr. (grades 6-8, class cap 16 if possible) MCMULLEN
Designed to introduce 6th, 7th and 8th graders to the basics of acting: movement, vocalization, improvisation, ensemble work, character development, monologues, scene study, script analysis, Shakespeare, theatre styles and audition techniques.

Acting 2 Jr. (grades 7 & 8, 6th by permission/audition) LEFEVRE
Students in Acting 2 build on their knowledge from Acting 1. They explore writing and creating their own pieces, blocking notation, movement, vocalization, improv, script analysis, and monologue work. Students in Acting 2 also explore Shakespeare in depth as well as Commedia Dell' Arte, creating original, ensemble pieces for both genres.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Acting 1, or teacher discretion by audition.

Acting 3 Jr. (grade 8) TOTH
This course builds on the skills learned in Acting 1 and 2 and applies them to more performance based projects. Students will present a one act play in the Spring or Fall, as well as working on a variety of self-written scene work and integration projects throughout the year.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Acting 2 or teacher discretion by audition.

Theatre Arts 1 (grades 9-12) MCMULLEN
A first step in pursuing Theatre as a major, the goal is to create an uniform cadre of students in both performing and technical theatre. TA1 explores the many different jobs in this collaborative art form, both on stage and behind the scenes.

Theatre Arts 2 (grades 9-12) LEFEVRE
Theatre Arts 2 focuses on acting outside of your comfort zone. Building on the acting fundamentals from junior high or Theatre Arts 1, students explore character development, headshots and resumes, as well as expanding their monologue repertoire. Students also study theatre history in depth and participate in the Story Pirates production.
Prerequisite: Acting 1-3 in junior high or Theatre Arts 1, or teacher discretion by audition.

***Intermediate Acting (grades 11/12) TOTH**
This course builds on the basic Theatre foundation with emphasis on character development, audition preparation, building a repertoire of appropriate material, text analysis and play reading Advanced Acting: The culminating course for TSA acting students, the course includes performing in student directed projects, the presentation of a comprehensive portfolio, and the opportunity to visit New York City bi-annually.
Prerequisite: Theatre Arts 2

***Advanced Acting (grade 12) LEFEVRE**
Advanced Acting is the culminating course for TSA acting students. The course includes performing and directing projects Story Pirates, the opportunity to visit New York City bi-annually, and the presentation of a comprehensive portfolio that is both digital and physical. Students looking to receive a theatre certificate will also complete a senior project.
Prerequisite: Intermediate Acting

***Musical Theatre (grades 9-12; capped at 14) LEFEVRE**
Students will work on solo performances, duets and ensemble musical songs, as well as studying musical theatre history across many decades, genres and significant composers and lyricists.

Last update: 9/21/26 JMQ

Prerequisite: Audition, plus one full year of acting class, and one full year of choir, or instructor permission.

Costume Foundations Jr. (grades 6-8; capped at 18) PATCHETT
Costume Foundations introduces the student to hand sewing, machine sewing, serging, basic costume design, renderings, and other costumer's possibilities. Students will complete at least four projects over the course of the year. Some time will be dedicated to working on TSA productions as needed.

***Costume Technology (grades 9-12; capped at 18) PATCHETT**
Costume Tech introduces the student to hand sewing, machine sewing, serging, basic costume design, renderings, and other costumer's possibilities. Students will complete at least four projects over the course of the year. Some time will be dedicated to working on TSA productions as needed. *Being on a tech crew is strongly suggested as part of the course. If not possible, alternate assignments will be completed.*

Costume Design (grades 10-12; capped at 18) PATCHETT
Costume Design reinforces the skills of hand sewing, machine sewing, serging, costume design, renderings, and other costumer's possibilities. Students will research and demonstrate an understanding of the various fashion trends throughout the decades. Students will complete at least four projects over the course of the year. Some time will be dedicated to working on TSA productions as needed. Lab hours outside of the classroom are required and will add up to no less than nine hours per quarter.
Prerequisite: Costume Tech and instructor permission

Fundamentals of Theatre Tech (formally** *Junior Theatre Technology**) **(grade 7th & 8th; capped at 18) JOHANNES**
A class for junior high students who have an interest in the technical and backstage world. The students explore a mix of both the practical and creative elements of the technical theatre.

***# Production Technology (grades 9-12; capped at 18) JOHANNES**
A class for students interested in the technical and backstage world. Students will be provided with a basic knowledge of many technical theatre elements in a hands-on approach.

***Theatrical Design (grades 10-12; capped at 18) JOHANNES**
This course introduces advanced theatre students to design within theatrical and commercial productions. The students explore the facets of scenic, lighting, and sound design.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Production Technology

Stage Makeup (grades 8-12; capped at 16) TOTH/MCMULLEN
An introduction to stage makeup including "basic" stage looks, characters, old age, animals, special effects, and more. Design principles, light and shadow, and how makeup has been used historically will also be explored.
Prerequisite: Students should have knowledge of their own skin sensitivities, including any potential allergies to latex.
Fees: Ben Nye Theatrical Creme Makeup Kit TK-3 $105; FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

***# Video Production (grades 9-12) AHERNE**
The goal of this course is to prepare students for a collegiate level film studies and production course. In blending theory with technique, the students learn to create independent and collaborative videos using Final Cut Pro X and a variety of digital devices. With a focus on the relationship between form and content, students gain the understanding of critical analysis and cinematic expression by means of discussions, essays/reviews and the creation of various kinds of videos. Class size is limited.

***Video Production 2 (grades 10-12) AHERNE**
This course will further prepare students for a collegiate level film studies and production course, and for employment in the video production field. In blending theory with technique, the students learn to create independent and collaborative videos using Final Cut Pro X and a variety of digital devices. With a focus on the relationship between form and content, students gain the understanding of critical analysis and cinematic expression by means of discussions, essays/reviews and the creation of various kinds of videos. Work with community clients may be included. Class size is limited.
Prerequisite: Video Production

***Video Production 3 (grades 11/12) AHERNE**
This advanced course builds upon the skills learned in Video 2, preparing students for collegiate level film studies and potential industry employment. Students will continue critically analyzing cinematic expression by watching and discussing historic works and creating various genre focused videos, culminating to an end of year digital portfolio. Video 3 students manage the TSA Film Festival and work with community clients may be included. This course is a requirement for a Video major certificate and an internship in the department. Class size is limited.
Prerequisite: Video Production 1 and 2

Visual Arts

Visual Arts 6 (grade 6) HORVATH
This class is designed to help students become better artists and more proficient at observational drawing skills. Students are taken through the process of learning to see objects in a way that helps them draw realistically rather than symbolically. They will learn to utilize the right hemisphere of the brain to improve observational drawing. The class covers various drawing mediums as well as techniques such as contour drawing and shading.

Art Explorations: Around the World (grades 6-8) ROSE
Art Explorations is an art elective for junior high visual art students. This class is offered to students in grades 6th-8th. In this version of Art Explorations, students will learn about the traditional art of non-Western cultures from around the world while improving their art skills with a wide variety of mediums.
Part of a three year rotation. This course will only be available once for students during grades 6-8.

Art Explorations: Discovering Media (grades 6-8) ROSE
Art Explorations is an art elective for junior high visual art students. This class is offered to

students in grades 6th-8th. This course covers a variety of both 2- and 3-dimensional methods and materials, while introducing students to American artists of the 20th Century.
Part of a three year rotation. This course will only be available once for students during grades 6-8.

Art Explorations: Past & Present (grades 6-8) ROSE
Art Explorations is an art elective for junior high visual art students. This class is offered to students in grades 6th-8th. This course focuses on the history of European art from Ancient Rome to Impressionism. Part of a three year rotation. This course will only be available once for students during grades 6-8.

Art Foundations (grades 9-12) ROSE
In this class students will explore the basic fundamental elements of visual images through various art media including drawing, painting, sculpture, and mixed media. There is a strong emphasis on the history and architecture of the Western Art World. Time periods and styles covered include: Jewish, Early Christian and Byzantine Art, Middle Ages, Renaissance, Baroque and Rococo, Neoclassicism, Romanticism and Realism, Art of Late 1800s. Observational drawing is taught, utilized and reinforced daily. Students are expected to keep an artist journal and complete specific requirements every quarter.

Studio 1 (grades 9-12) HORVATH
Studio 1 covers early 20th century European art movements through a combination of lectures and art projects incorporating a variety of mediums. Drawing skills and compositional techniques are emphasized and enhanced throughout the year-long course.
Prerequisite: Art Foundations, passing 3 years visual art electives in grades 6-8, or by instructor permission.

Studio 2D (grades 10-12) HORVATH
Studio 2D develops students' two-dimensional skills and portfolios. The class focuses on advanced techniques in drawing, printmaking, collage, painting, and mixed 2D mediums. A weekly out-of-class sketchbook assignment is due each week and is expected to include observational drawing practice. Emphasis for projects and sketchbooks is on high-level observational drawing technique as well as development of a personal style. Studio 2D is offered on a 2-year rotation - in other words it may be taken two years in a row with different projects offered each of those years.
Prerequisite: Students are required to have taken/passed Studio 1 with a B or higher grade, or by instruction permission/portfolio review and art history exam process.
Studio 1 and Studio 2 may NOT be taken simultaneously.

Studio 3D: Ceramics (grades 10-12) MEEK
This High School ceramics course is designed for high school students seeking to develop a strong portfolio through in-depth exploration of hand-building and wheel-thrown pottery. Students refine technical skills including centering, throwing, trimming, altering forms, and advanced hand-building techniques while focusing on craftsmanship, concept development, and intentional design. The course emphasizes independent thinking, problem-solving, and the creation of cohesive bodies of work suitable for portfolios, exhibitions, and post-secondary applications. Students experiment with surface decoration, glazing, and firing methods while

studying contemporary and historical ceramic artists to inform their work. Regular critiques and written reflections support artistic growth, technical mastery, and the development of a personal artistic voice.
Prerequisite: Studio Art 1 (C- or higher), or equivalent, or by instructor permission.

Intro to Ceramics (grades 6-8) MEEK
In this introductory ceramics course, junior high students explore the fundamentals of working with clay through hands-on, creative projects. Students learn basic ceramic techniques such as hand-building (pinch, coil, thrown and slab), surface design, and glazing while developing craftsmanship and problem-solving skills. The class emphasizes creative expression, safe studio practices, and an understanding of the ceramic process from raw clay to finished fired artwork. Through guided projects and open-ended exploration, students build confidence, learn to critique their work, and gain an appreciation for ceramics as both a functional and expressive art form. Class size is limited.

***# Visual Creation & Entrepreneurship: Glass (grades 9-12) (cap: 20) PARR**
Students explore the medium of glass, and elements of design and production. Using a variety of techniques including slumping, screen-printing, and a wide variety of glass elements, they create kiln-formed work both for their personal achievement and for sale within the school's gallery/store. The basics of graphic design are included.

Studio Level 4: Portfolio Development (grade 12) HORVATH
Studio Art 4 provides students with the opportunity to create a strong portfolio for submission to college art programs, scholarship opportunities, and non-school art education facilities that require a portfolio for participation. Students will choose an overall thematic focus for their portfolio, and will generate their own project ideas based on a list of "challenge" topics. Students' out-of-class sketchbook assignments are expected to incorporate project ideas and exploration with high-level observational drawing. Photo and graphic design focus students are encouraged to enroll in Studio Art 1 and Studio Art 2 prior to participating in Studio Art 4, as the majority of work created will be in traditional 2-D media (drawing, painting, etc.). In addition to student-driven portfolio creation, students will engage in self-reflection and group critiques to prepare for the college and/or professional art world.
Prerequisites: Studio 1, 2, and 3, with instructor permission.

Graphic Design Jr. (grades 6-8) ALLEN
During the first semester, students will be studying the Microsoft Office Suite – Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel and Microsoft PowerPoint as well as hardware and Internet usage. During the second semester, students will explore the following software, Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, and iMovie. Instruction is geared toward educating and assisting the student in computer terminology and proper use, internet safety, keyboarding, formatting of documents, spreadsheet development, computer based presentations and other basic word processing and page layout applications. Exploration of the Adobe Creative Suite software will develop software knowledge. Design terminology and process will also be explored.

***# Graphic Design 1 (grades 9-12) ALLEN/PARR**
This broad spectrum course will teach software and hardware use through a variety of projects. Students will gain exposure to Adobe Design software, print and scanning hardware, and

technical processes used in the design industry. Beginning students spend the first year learning Illustrator, Photoshop and applying their creativity to build conceptual development skills. General topics explored include graphic print design, typography, and the use of digital photography, scanners and printers. Students work on projects that enhance their knowledge of typography, composition, components and conceptual processes which will include logo design, packaging design, poster design and a variety of projects that will enhance the creation of these products.
Prerequisite: Art Foundations, or 3 years visual art electives in grades 6-8, or by instructor permission.

Graphic Design 2-4 (grades 10-12) ALLEN/PARR
Building on their Design 1 experience, students will gain greater exposure to the use of software, hardware, and technical processes used in the design industry as well as working with clients while applying their creativity and building conceptual development skills. General topics explored will include graphic print design and typography along with the use of digital photography, scanners and printers. Students will be working on projects that enhance their knowledge of typography, composition, components and conceptual processes. Intermediate students will be working with clients from the school and perhaps from outside the school. GD levels 2-4 will operate as "independent studies" and students will be placed according to lab availability.
Prerequisite: Successful Completion of Graphic Design 1.

***Intro to Silk Screening/Visual Distribution (grades 8-12) PARR**
Exploration and application of silk screen design and techniques, as well as other 3D design and production practices such as GlowForge and 3D printing. Students will learn how to work with clients in order to analyze customer preferences to determine product creation, production, marketing and delivery. Class size is limited.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Graphic Design 1, Graphic Design Junior, Glass or permission.

***Introduction to Animation (grades 9-12) ALLEN**
This introductory animation course covers the basics of 2D animation and techniques needed for creating moving images. Students will explore storytelling through visual motion, character design, and observational drawing. This course will discuss the history of animation as well as observe current trends in the industry.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Graphic Design 1, or Art Foundations/equivalent.

***Photography 1 (grades 9-12) HOLBROOK**
Photography 1 presents a curriculum that covers the fundamentals of the photographic medium. Students will explore photographic art through the almost magical use of black and white film and darkroom based printing processes. Camera operation, composition construction, and controlled lighting techniques are covered, and applicable to digital camera photography as well. Development of the student's ability to express their ideas through the art form is an objective that is also focused upon in the course. Additionally, the course explores photographic processes from earlier times, the photos and lives of notable photographers, and the effect of photography on our culture. Cameras and consumable photographic materials (film, photo paper) are provided by TSA.

***Photography 2 (grades 10-12) HOLBROOK**
Photography 2 presents a curriculum that is aimed at increasing the student's skills in the use of the photographic medium, as well as furthering their skill development in artistic expression. Students will enhance their photographic imaging skills through the use of film and darkroom based printing processes, and the use of digital cameras and imaging software. Shooting assignments are undertaken in the studio and at existing locations. The course focuses on image making for fine art and commercial purposes. The course also explores photographic processes from earlier times, the photos and lives of notable photographers, and the effect of photography on our culture. Film cameras and consumable photographic materials (film, photo paper) are provided by TSA. Students must have a digital camera for use in the course. Acceptable digital cameras include small amateur cameras, DSLR, iPad, and cell phones with a camera feature.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Photography 1 (C- or higher), or by instructor permission.

***Photography 3 (grades 11/12) HOLBROOK**
Photography 3 presents a curriculum that is aimed at increasing the student's skills in the use of the photographic medium, as well as furthering their skill development in artistic expression. Students will enhance their photographic imaging skills through the use of film and darkroom based printing processes, and the use of digital cameras and imaging software. Shooting assignments are undertaken in the studio and at existing locations. The course focuses on image making for fine art and commercial purposes. The course also explores photographic processes from earlier times, the photos and lives of notable photographers, and the effect of photography on our culture. Film cameras and consumable photographic materials (film, photo paper) are provided by TSA. Students must have a digital camera for use in the course. Acceptable digital cameras include small amateur cameras, DSLR, iPad, and cell phones with a camera feature.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Photography 2 (C- or higher), or by instructor permission.

Photography 4 (grade 12) HOLBROOK
Photography 4 presents a curriculum that is aimed at increasing the student's skills in the use of the digital photographic medium, as well as furthering their skill in communicating through the medium. Students will enhance their photographic imaging skills through the use of digital cameras and imaging software. Limited film and darkroom work will also be included. Shooting assignments are undertaken in the studio and on location. The course focuses on image making for commercial and fine art purposes including high-end personal and corporate portraiture, and alternative fine art imaging. Film cameras and consumable photographic materials are provided by TSA. Students must have a digital camera for use in the course. Acceptable digital cameras include small amateur cameras, DSLR, iPad, and cell phones with a camera feature. Examination of photographs created by contemporary artists will also be undertaken throughout the course of the year.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Photography 3 (C- or higher), or by instructor permission.

Puppetry Arts & Performance (grades 7-12) ROSE
Introductions of additive sculpture and subtractive sculpture techniques in (may include but not limited to) ceramics, paper mache, wire, fabric, plaster and foam. A strong emphasis on art history, puppet history and practices. Ending the academic year with a collaborative, performance-based puppet display, with potential for additional performances throughout the year. Students are expected to keep an artist journal and complete specific requirements every quarter.

Career Technology and Business

Performing Arts

***Business of Arts & Communications (grades 10-12) ZINN**
There is a wide array of professions in industries related to arts and communications, and skills related to the business of the arts translate into many fields of business. From event management to tracking expenses, students learn the business side of visual, media and performing arts. Topics include marketing, branding, producing, promoting, booking, budgeting and merchandising, etc. Students learn and apply intellectual property rights, licensing, copyright, royalties, liabilities and contractual agreements. They learn how both profit and non-profit organizations businesses operate, and explore career options in and outside of the arts.

***Career & Culture – Performing Arts (grades 8-12; semester long) LEFEVRE**
In this career exploration course, students examine how music, dance and theatre disciplines connect to create a production. They compare and contrast different genres, social contexts and cultural aspects of dance, music and theatre throughout history. They learn the role of stagecraft and technical production, including new and emerging technology.

***Career & Culture –Media and Visual Arts (grades 8-12; semester long) AHERNE/PARR**
Visual design takes the form of charts, drawings, boxes and more. In this first course for the Visual Design and Imaging pathway, students gain a perspective of symbols, typography and product output. They acquire basic knowledge of today's role of graphics in communication industries. Focusing on the consumer, students analyze products and create their own designs for critique. They learn how safety, deadlines, teamwork and ethics relate to the work, and explore the various careers associated with the visual arts.

American Sign Language

ASL 1 (grades 9-11) ZINN
Students will receive an introduction to ASL which will cover the ASL alphabet, grammar, deaf culture and ASL etiquette, beginning vocabulary, and culminating in live interpretation opportunities. ASL 2 will be offered the following year and will expand vocabulary and interpretation practices. These courses will count as "foreign language" credits.

Senior Capstone Opportunities

Are available for 12th graders with instructor permission in the following courses:

- Dance (all genres)
- Musical Engineering
- Technical Theatre
- Costuming
- Video production

Last update: 9/21/26 JMQ

- Graphic Design/Silk Screen
- Visual Creation: Glass
- Development Department
- Arts Management: gallery, box office, social media

*denotes CTE class
+denotes a CTAG course for DANCERS in grade 11 only
# denotes a CTAG course for Video, Graphic Design, and Technical Theatre