

Seventh and Eighth Grade Arts Options

Middle School Musical Theatre

In this class, students will participate in the full production of a classic musical theatre piece. Girls will spend the year singing, dancing, and acting in the show to prepare for a final performance. The implementation of design elements such as set, costumes, and props will also be a task for the students throughout the year. Show selections will give opportunities for discovery in studies of culture, theatrical history, and literature. This course will give ample opportunity for students to stretch their theatrical competence and confidence in performing.

Middle School Dance

This course is open to seventh and eighth grade students as part of their Performing Arts training. Students in this course will focus on learning movement fundamentals through the dance elements of time, space and energy. Students will gain an awareness and reverence for the physical body, as well as its athletic and expressive capabilities. Students will experience these elements through the study of various styles of dance (jazz, hip hop, modern, ballet, musical theatre, and various social dances). Introductory elements of vocabulary, history, choreography and performance will also be included in this course.

Production Design (8th–12th grades)

In this course, students will be responsible for crafting the “world” of each AGS theatrical production. Designing, building, and painting come together through four theatrical elements: sets, props, costumes/makeup, and lights. Students will collaborate with each other and a director to envision, design, and create the look and feel of each element of a stage production. The ideas and visions of the class will be developed and communicated through sketches, refined as scale white models, and then finally brought to life. **An eighth grade student wishing to take this course must have instructor approval.**

2D Foundations

This course provides students with a comprehensive understanding of the elements and principles of design as they apply to two-dimensional media. Media explored includes charcoal, linoleum block printing, pen and ink, oil pastel, and acrylic paint. Students experiment with understanding value to create form, explore line usage, and learn and apply basic color theory to works that encourage them to work independently and collaboratively. This course is open to seventh and eighth graders who have not previously taken the class.

3D Foundations

In this course, students are provided with a comprehensive understanding of the elements and principles of design as they apply to three-dimensional media. Through the use of a wide variety of three-dimensional media such as clay, wire, paper, and found objects, students learn to effectively communicate ideas and to analyze, interpret, and evaluate their own work as well as the efforts of others. Students learn about a variety of cultures, influential artists and art movements, keep a sketchbook, and develop verbal and written art criticism skills. This class is open to seventh and eighth graders who have not previously completed it.