

# MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Music expresses the highest values of a culture. It provides the means for expressing thoughts and feelings through performance and composition. Music is a creative art through which all people can enrich their lives, both by self-expression and response to the expression of others. Music teaches critical thinking skills important in today's workplace: self-discipline, teamwork, problem-solving skills, self-esteem, and self-expression. The Music Department offers a variety of courses designed for students with varying degrees of interest and talent. Included are courses which any student may elect regardless of music background, as well as courses for the more advanced student.

## **23100(H) / 23101(CP) BAND**

Honors/ College Prep

(1 credit)

Band is offered for students with prior experience on a band instrument who have attained the level of proficiency necessary to read band literature. Students will have the opportunity to improve playing techniques and music reading abilities through the study and performance of a wide variety of band music. Both in school and out of school performances are scheduled during the year, as well as occasional special rehearsals for which attendance is required. While emphasis is placed on cooperative effort, daily home practice is expected. Accelerated assignments and differentiated grading are given to those students requesting honors credit

Prerequisite: Prior instrumental experience. (Full year course open to grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

## **23110(H) / 23111(CP) CONCERT CHOIR**

Honors/ College Prep

(1 credit)

This course offers students the opportunity to refine their singing skills through an emphasis on proper vocal techniques, sight reading, ensemble singing and performing. Repertoire will include, but is not limited to the following genre: madrigals, classical, folk, multicultural, jazz, contemporary and musical theater. Daily practice will be expected in order to improve skills.

Students will also have the opportunity to audition for the Southeastern District Senior Festival Chorus. Enhanced assignments are required for Honors credit.

(Full year course open to grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

## **23200(H) / 23201(CP) ADVANCED CHORAL STUDY: POP & JAZZ CHOIR**

Honors/ College Prep

(1 credit)

This course is split into two explorations of choral performance. The first exploration looks at today's pop hits and demonstrates how the choral style of arrangement can create an enduring and powerful re-imagining of today's popular music. In the second exploration, Jazz, singers will be performing vocal jazz music, with an emphasis on sight reading and ensemble performance. Students will learn a variety of jazz music, both a cappella and accompanied. Students will also improve their creative musical skills by learning how to vocally improvise (scatting).

Prerequisite: 75% or better in Concert Choir or departmental approval. This choir will perform a minimum of one concert per semester. (Full year course, open to grades 10, 11, 12)

## **23121 GUITAR I**

College Prep

(.25 credit)

This course is designed for beginning guitar students. The course will consist of group and individual instruction in basic guitar skills with an emphasis on learning to read music. No prior music experience is required. Students must supply their own instrument for this class. There is no performance requirement, but opportunities for group or individual performance at school concerts will be available and encouraged. (Quarter Course, open to grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

## **23131 GUITAR II**

College Prep

(.25 credit)

This course is offered for students who want to advance their guitar skills. Sight reading, scales and fingering techniques are just some of the topics the course will cover. Students will learn in an ensemble setting, while improving their own individual skills. Students must supply their own instrument for this class. There is no performance requirement, but opportunities for group or individual performance at school concerts will be available and encouraged.

Prerequisites: 75% or better in Guitar I or departmental approval. (Quarter Course, open to grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

## **23141 PERCUSSION**

College Prep

(.5 credit)

This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of percussion performance. Topics and activities will include basic techniques of stick control and hands on instruction with many different kinds of percussion instruments such as snare, timpani, mallet percussion, and accessories. There is no prior drumming experience required. There is no performance requirement. (Semester course, open to grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

**23151 PERCUSSION II**

College Prep

(.5 credit)

This course is for students who wish to advance their understanding of percussion. Drum set, mallet playing, rhythm reading, will be some of the topics the course will cover. Students will learn in an ensemble setting, while improving their own individual skills. Students must supply their own sticks and music folder for the class. There is no performance requirement, but opportunities for group or individual performance at school concerts/events will be available and encouraged.

Prerequisites: Percussion I or permission from instructor. (Semester course, open to grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

**23161 PIANO I**

College Prep

(.25 credit)

This course will consist of group and individual instruction in basic piano skills with an emphasis on learning to read music. No prior music experience is required. Students will not need to supply their own instrument for this class. There is no performance requirement, but opportunities for group or individual performance at school concerts will be available and encouraged. (Quarter Course, open to grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

**23171 PIANO II**

College Prep

(.25 credit)

This course is designed for students who want to advance their piano skills. Students will learn intermediate pieces, improve their sight reading skills and work in advanced music theory. Students will not need to supply their own instrument for this class. There is no performance requirement, but opportunities for group or individual performance at school concerts will be available and encouraged.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Piano I or departmental approval. (Quarter Course, open to grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

**23181 FUNDAMENTALS OF MUSIC TECHNOLOGY I**

College Prep

(.5 credit)

This course is designed to introduce students to the basic use of music technology. Students will learn basic musical terms and musical notation while producing, creating, arranging, publishing, and recording music. (Semester course, open to grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

**23240(H) / 23241(CP) FUNDAMENTALS OF MUSIC TECHNOLOGY II**

Honors / College Prep

(.5 credit)

This course is a continuation of Fundamentals of Music Technology I. Students will explore more intricate musical composition, such as expanded harmony, chord progression and inversion. Topics will emphasize various musical styles, including 12 bar blues and modern compositional techniques.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Fundamentals of Music Technology I or departmental approval. (Semester course open to grades 10, 11, 12)

**23191 MUSIC THEORY I**

College Prep

(.5 credit)

This course will focus on the basics of music theory in which students will study musical notation, rhythm, scales, harmony and ear training. An introduction to basic piano skills will also be featured.

Prerequisite: Prior musical experience recommended, but not required. (Semester course, open to grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

**23250(H) / 23251(CP) MUSIC THEORY II**

Honors / College Prep

(.5 credit)

This course continues the study of music theory with an emphasis on songwriting and composition. Students will use computer software to create original works of music, while improving their skills on the piano. Enhanced assignments are required for Honors credit.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Music Theory I or departmental approval. (Second Semester course, open to grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

**23309 AP MUSIC THEORY**

Advanced Placement

(1 credit)

The content of this course is based on the recommendations of the College Board for the AP Music Theory course. It is a rigorous course for the highly motivated music student and it has been designed to help students prepare for the AP Music Theory test. Topics include an advanced study of score analysis, advanced ear training, orchestration, and counterpoint with relation to composition.

Prerequisite: Students must attain a grade of 75% or better in Music Theory I & Music Theory II or departmental approval. In order to earn AP credit in this course the student must take the AP exam. (Full year course, open to grades 10, 11, 12)

**23221 CAREERS IN MUSIC**

College Prep

(.5 credit)

Students will explore career in music through hands on learning, music technology, music reading and field research. Guest speakers and field trips will provide 21<sup>st</sup> century experience to students considering a career in music. (Semester course open to grades 10, 11, 12)

### **23231 INSTRUMENTAL TECHNIQUES**

College Prep

(.5 credit)

This is a course designed for students who have previously taken private lessons on guitar, piano, or percussion who would like to attain a portion of the ensemble experience required within the fine arts academy. It is recommended for students looking to apply their knowledge from a guitar basics, piano basics or percussion basics class in an ensemble setting. Students will be arranged into groups based on musical taste and ability. A variety of musical genres, styles, and techniques will be offered to improve student's ability to play well with others. Music reading, notating, improvising and creating will be required for success. Regular home practice is also required.

Prerequisite: Previous instrumental experience. (Semester course, open to grades 10, 11, 12)