

MUSIC

SYMPHONIC BAND

Grades: 9-12

Prereq: Grade 8 Band

Credit: .5

Symphonic Band meets every other day for a full period. The emphasis is on building skills learned in eighth grade band and introducing students to high school band literature. Students are required to attend lessons once a cycle and all concerts scheduled. This course can be applied toward a Music or Fine Arts sequence.

CONCERT BAND

Grades: 9-12

Prereq: Grade 8 Band

Level 3-4 Skills

Credit: .5

Concert Band meets every other day for a full period. Diverse literature is covered and includes NYSSMA levels 3 and 4. Students are required to attend lessons once a cycle and all concerts scheduled. This course can be applied toward a Music or Fine Arts sequence.

WIND ENSEMBLE

Grades: 10-12

Prereq: Grade 9 and/or Concert Band

Level 4-6 Skills

Credit: .5

The Wind Ensemble meets every other day for a full period. Upper level wind band literature is covered and includes NYSSMA levels 4-6. The commitment level of expectation of the student in this group is at a higher level than students participating in Concert Band. Students are required to attend lessons once a cycle and all concerts scheduled. This course can be applied toward a Music or Fine Arts sequence.

CHORUS

Grades: 9-12

Prereq: None

Credit: .5

Chorus meets every other day for a full period. Students will learn a variety of music styles with an emphasis on good vocal techniques and sight reading skills. Students who are not in any other performing group will be scheduled for a lesson once a cycle. Students are required to attend all concerts scheduled. This course can be applied toward a Music or Fine Arts sequence.

MUSIC IN OUR LIVES

Grades: 9-12

Prereq: None

Credit: 1

This one year course is designed to meet the requirement for one unit of high school Arts credit. Students will be listening to many different types of music (pop, rock, jazz, rhythm and blues, classical, non-Western, etc.), learning the fundamentals of music composition, performing using computer keyboard laboratory or traditional instruments, and learning about various types of careers in the music field. Students will be producing a special interest project by the conclusion of the class. This course can be applied toward a Music or Fine Arts sequence.

MUSIC THEORY I

Grades: 10-12

Prereq: Previous Music Experience and Permission of Instructor Credit: 1

This elective course deals with the elements of musical structure. It is designed for those students who may wish to pursue a sequence in music, for those who wish to develop insights into the structural content of music, or, for those who wish to acquire a more thorough awareness of music through the theoretical principles which underlie it. Basic content includes: scales and key signatures, rhythmic studies, melodic and harmonic organization, form and style, sight singing, dictation, basic composition and rudimentary keyboard skills. This course is required for a Music sequence and can also be applied toward a Fine Arts sequence.

MUSIC THEORY II

Grades: 10-12

Prereq: Music Theory I Credit: 1

This full year, upper level course is a continuation of the course content presented in Music Theory I with an emphasis on composing and evaluating the structures of music. Four part harmony and advanced classical chord structures are emphasized at this level. This course can be applied toward a Music or Fine Arts sequence.

APPLIED MUSIC CREDIT

Grades: 10 - 12

Prereq: Approval of music staff and an accredited private instructor Credit: .5

Applied Music Credit is based on the New York State plan to award one half credit of study for participation in advanced private study of classical music on a musical instrument (including voice). Credit for such participation shall be upon the recommendation of the student's music teacher, shall be approved by the District Music Coordinator and High School Principal, and shall be consistent with the goals and objectives of the school music program. Students are to apply for this program at the beginning of the school year, log weekly practicing (5 hours per week required), receive quarterly evaluations from private instructors, and are to perform in an end of the year recital and/or participate in a NYSSMA Solo/Ensemble event in the spring.

INTRODUCTION TO JAZZ IMPROVISATION AND THEORY

Grades:

Prereq: High school students who play an instrument at an intermediate to advanced level. Students interested in the course should be advised to see the instructor before enrolling

Credit: .5

This course will focus on the art of jazz improvisation. Students will learn the techniques and concepts necessary to learn to improvise over chord changes found in jazz and other forms of popular music. This will be a performance-based class where students will immediately take the concepts learned and apply them to their instruments. The course will also incorporate historical, cultural, and theoretical aspects of jazz and contemporary music.