



Performing Arts Offerings 2021-2022

Grades 5 & 6

Music

Prairie Singers - Yearlong

Open to all 5/6 singers, Prairie Singers helps students to develop their voices, musicianship, creativity, and teamwork. As we explore various styles, we work on vocal technique and music reading. Prairie Singers combines with Prairie Voices for December and May performances. 6th graders can also participate in the March WSMA District Music Solo and Ensemble Festival.

Beginning Band - Yearlong

The beginning instrumental music program is the point where many of the performance-based skills introduced in general music classes are put in action. Students with a wide variety of ability levels and interests are enrolled in the typical beginning instrumental music program on wind and percussion instruments. Students enrolled in the beginning instrumental music program will be introduced to concepts and techniques that will be further developed in Intermediate Band and Symphonic Orchestra. The Beginning Band participates in the winter Tunes and Treats concerts, the spring Finale concert, as well as, the spring Concert in the Park.

Intermediate Band - Yearlong

The Intermediate Band is a continuation of many of the performance-based skills introduced in the Beginning Band class. Students with at least one year of experience on their chosen instrument are enrolled in Intermediate Band. Students enrolled in the intermediate instrumental music program will develop concepts and techniques that will be further developed in the Symphonic Orchestra. The Intermediate Band participates in the winter Tunes and Treats concert, the spring Finale concert, as well as, the spring Concert in the Park.

Beginning Strings - Yearlong

The Beginning Strings class introduces students to the traditional orchestral instruments. Students can choose between violin, viola, and cello, learn the basic techniques and skills to play these instruments, and also begin learning to play as an ensemble. Concepts and techniques learned in Beginning Strings will be further developed in Intermediate Strings and String Ensemble. The Beginning Strings participate in the winter Tunes and Treats concert, the spring Finale concert, as well as, the spring Concert in the Park.

Intermediate Strings - Yearlong

The Intermediate Strings class continues the basic skills and techniques learned in Beginning Strings. Students with previous experience playing a string instrument and reading music are also welcome to join Intermediate Strings. Focus is put on strong ensemble playing and musical

interpretation. The Intermediate Strings participate in the winter Tunes and Treats, the Finale concert, as well as, the spring Concert in the Park.

Theatre

Beginning Theatre (S1)

Students will be introduced to the world of theatre and performance. We will move through units of theatre vocabulary, improvisational acting games, creating characters, and scene study. Students will study multiple types of acting, such as puppetry, masks, and physical acting styles.

Original Production (S1)

In the Original Production class, students will have the opportunity to learn the art of playwriting, music composition, and choreography to write an *actual* play along with the movement and music to accompany it. The last step is to combine all these elements to put the production on stage! The students in this class will then be cast in the show, which will be recorded and shared with families or performed live. This course is perfect for students who enjoy creative writing, creative movement, and creating compositions of their own to be featured in the 5/6 Production!

Musical Cast (S2)

Students with a strong interest in music and theatre work towards the performance of a kids or junior musical production. Students progress from auditions to song preparation to stage blocking/choreography to memorized performance. Students in the cast *must* be available for all scheduled performances. Minimal after-school rehearsals will be a required part of participation in this class.

Grades 7 & 8

Music

Symphonic Band - Yearlong

The Symphonic Band is the link providing transition between the introductory skills in the Beginning and Intermediate Ensembles and the more highly developed performance-intensive program found in high school. Students with a wide variety of ability levels and interests will be enrolled in the 7/8 instrumental music program. The program continues to stress the pedagogical aspects begun in the beginning and intermediate courses. In addition, students will be provided with a study of music encompassing greater depth both technically and musically. Many aspects of student development, such as individual responsibility, self-discipline, goal setting, and the ability to work with others will be emphasized. Performance opportunities, including evening concerts, master classes, clinics, and festivals will be provided - achieving a balance between pedagogy and performance. The Symphonic Band participates in Ardent Arts, the Jubilate concert, as well as the spring Finale concert.

String Ensemble - Yearlong

The String Ensemble is the link providing transition between the introductory skills in the Beginning and Intermediate Ensembles and the more highly developed performance-intensive program found in high school. Students with a wide variety of ability levels and interests will be enrolled in the 7/8 instrumental music program. The program continues to stress the pedagogical aspects begun in the beginning and intermediate courses. In addition, students will be provided with a study of music encompassing greater depth both technically and musically. Many aspects of student development, such as individual responsibility, self-discipline, goal setting, and the ability to work with others will be emphasized. Performance opportunities, including evening concerts, master classes, clinics, and festivals will be provided - achieving a balance between pedagogy and performance. The String Ensemble participates in Ardent Arts, the Jubilate concert, as well as the spring Finale concert.

Prairie Voices - Yearlong

Open to all 7/8 students, Prairie Voices further develops breathing techniques for singing, vocal tone quality, musicianship, expressive singing skills, creativity, and teamwork. As we explore various styles, we work on vocal technique and music reading. Prairie Voices combines with Prairie Singers for December and May performances. Members of this ensemble can also participate in the March WSMA District Music Solo and Ensemble Festival.

Theatre

Musical Cast (S1)

Students with a strong interest in music and theatre work towards the performance of a full musical production. Students progress from auditions to song preparation to stage blocking/choreography to memorized performance. Students in the cast *must* be available for all

scheduled performances. After school rehearsals will be a required part of participation in this class.

Performance - Play Cast (S2)

Students will work on a one-act play that will be performed at the end of the semester for an audience. Students will be assigned a role in the play and rehearse for the final production. All rehearsals will be in class, except for one after school dress rehearsal and an evening performance.

Intermediate Theatre (S2)

Intermediate Theatre focuses on the study of comedic and dramatic acting, utilizing voice, body, and face, to create interesting characters. Students will explore improvisational acting, scene study, movement based acting, and self-expression. Additionally, students will learn a variety of acting techniques through scripted scenes and originally created material. Students will perform selected material at a final semester showcase.

Upper School

Music

Concert Choir I, II (.5 credit)

Open to all Upper School students, Concert Choir performs vocal music from a variety of style periods. Performances include the Ardent Arts Concert, Jubilate Concert, and Finale Concert. Choir students are encouraged to sign up for both semesters and repeat this class.

Symphonic Orchestra I, II (.5 credit)

In these ensembles, students master music for chamber orchestra and jazz ensemble. Performances include the Ardent Arts Concert, Jubilate Concert, and Finale Concert. Music students are encouraged to repeat this class.

Prerequisite: Students need to have achieved high school proficiency (Class B or better) on their instrument.

***AP Music Theory** (1 credit)

In AP Music Theory students study the structure, design, and language of music. In addition to historical perspective, the course content includes composing, sight singing, analysis, and dictation. This class is a college-level course open only to students with strong musical backgrounds. AP Music Theory is an academic class; however, if it is taken as a sixth academic class, it can fulfill one credit of the Arts graduation requirement. Students enrolled can register for the AP Music Theory Exam. **Prerequisite:** Instructor approval.

Technical Theatre

Introduction to Technical Theatre (.25 credit) - 1, 2

Open to all Upper School students, this class serves to provide students with a basic understanding of the different technical elements of a theatrical production. They will develop basic skills in construction, design, painting, props, and whatever else the current production may need.

Note: Enrollment limited to 15 with two teachers or 8 with one teacher.

Technical Theatre Workshop (.5 credit) - 1, 2

Students in this course will be responsible for creating the technical elements of the mainstage production for the semester. This includes, but is not limited to, construction, painting, lighting, props, and sound. Over the course of the semester, they will refine their abilities in all of these areas and gain a deeper understanding of the process of technical theatre.

Prerequisite: Introduction to Technical Theatre and/or approval of the instructor.

Note: Enrollment limited to 18 with two teachers or 10 with one teacher.

Theatre

Fall Play Cast (.5 credit) - 1

In this production ensemble class, students will rehearse and perform a One-Act Play. This One-Act will be presented at the "Wisconsin High School Theatre Festival" at various schools

throughout the state. All rehearsals will be in class except for a final dress rehearsal and festival performances.

Spring Play Cast (.5 credit) - 2

In this production ensemble class, students will rehearse, and perform a play that will be produced at the Prairie School at the end of the semester. All rehearsals will be in class except for a final dress rehearsal and school performance.

Video Production

Video Production (.5 credit) - 1, 2

From pre-production to principal photography and post-production, this course will dissect the nuances of video production and give a base of knowledge for creating high quality video. Students will learn how to operate cameras in order to design their scenes and sequences and produce compelling products. The course utilizes the platforms of Adobe Premiere Pro CC which is the industry standard in non-linear video editing. Additionally, by the end of this course, each student will have begun their own professional-grade portfolio.

Dance (Classes may count towards Arts or P.E. requirement)

Contemporary Jazz I (.25 credit)

This course will explore a number of contemporary dance styles from jazz and hip-hop to different social dance steps. All of these styles of movement are fun and energetic. They include elements such as kicks, leaps, turns and isolations. Time, space and musicality are all incorporated into movement. Students will learn basic choreography structure and have opportunities to freestyle and develop group compositions of their own.

Hip Hop Dance II (.25 credit)

This high-energy class infuses the latest styles of street and social dancing, musicality and rhythm. This class will encourage students to step outside of the box by bringing their own individual style and personality to the movements. Hip hop dance is aerobic and requires students to have the strength and stamina to successfully perform moves. Each class includes upper and lower body conditioning as well as a rigorous warm-up to help prepare students for more intense movements.

Stretch and Strengthen I, II (.25 credit)

Using a combination of Yoga, Pilates, Calisthenics, and Dance warm-ups, this course will focus on stretching and strengthening techniques. Using your own body for weight and resistance, these techniques will improve your health and decrease your risk of injury in day to day activities. The main focus is to increase flexibility and strengthen all muscles, in particular your core. Students can expect to see results in all ranges of movement, energy, balance and posture.