

Norwalk Public Schools Music Curriculum Map

Grades PK-12th Grade

GENERAL MUSIC CURRICULUM

PK/K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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General Music

CHORAL MUSIC

PK/K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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			Elementary Chorus			Middle School Chorus			Begin. Choir	Advanced Choir		
										Women's Ensemble		
										Honor Chamber Singers		

STRINGS & ORCHESTRA CURRICULUM

PK/K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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			Elementary Strings: Pull-out lessons and rehearsal periods			Middle School Orchestra: Pull-out lessons and rehearsal periods.			Prelude Orchestra: Pull-out lessons and rehearsal periods.			
										Philharmonia Orchestra: Pull-out lessons and rehearsal periods.		
										Honors Principal Orchestra: Pull-out lessons and rehearsal periods.		

BAND CURRICULUM

PK/K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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				Elementary Band Pull-out lessons & Rehearsal periods		Middle School Band: pull-out lessons and rehearsal periods.			Symphonic Band: pull-out lessons and rehearsal periods.			
									Color Guard/Winter Guard			
									Jazz Band			
										Wind Ensemble: pull-out lessons and rehearsal periods.		
										Honors Wind Symphony: pull-out lessons and rehearsal periods.		

Elementary General Music Program Overview

Elementary students obtain musical knowledge and skills in the music classroom and choral setting. Students begin to explore and develop singing skills including: finding the singing voice, singing in unison and singing in parts (canons, rounds, partner song, 2-part harmony) with a focus on development of vocal production and technique. Students develop an understanding of meter beginning with steady beat and simple patterns progressing to more complex rhythmic and melodic patterns. Students learn to read, write and compose music using basic music concepts. Students explore and perform multi-cultural music in a variety of styles. Through the collaborative environment of the classroom setting, students demonstrate an understanding of teamwork and display leadership qualities. In addition, students participate in school concerts and develop an understanding of acceptable concert etiquette.

Middle School General Music Overview

Middle School general music students obtain musical knowledge and skills in the music classroom through elective course offerings. These course offerings vary between schools within the Norwalk Public School district and currently include, but are not limited to: Music Appreciation, World Music, Piano, Guitar, Theory/Composition, Music Technology/Electronic Music, and Theatrical Music.

Visual and Performing Arts High School

Art

The Art Department offers many exciting courses for students to develop their creative expression through the visual arts. Students learn higher order thinking skills, problem solving, planning strategies, and the correct application of the elements of art and the principles of design. Working independently and collaboratively, students use traditional as well as experimental approaches to fine arts. Students create art and learn art history criticism as well as aesthetics.

Art Course Sequence

9	10	11	12
Art 1 Art 2 (NHS)	Art 1 Art 2 (NHS)	Art 1 Art 2 (NHS)	Art 1 Art 2 (NHS)
Art History Modern and Contemporary <u>Art (NHS)</u> Design 1 Drawing 1	Art History Modern and Contemporary Art (NHS) AP Art History	Honors Portfolio AP Studio Art	Honors Portfolio AP Studio Art
Painting 1 Printmaking 1 3D Media 1 Graphic Art and Design Cultural Perspectives in Art Textile Arts 1	Design 1 Design 2	Art History Modern and Contemporary Art AP Art History	Art History Modern and Contemporary Art AP Art History
	Drawing 1 Drawing 2	Design 1 Design 2	Design 1 Design 2
	Painting 1	Drawing 1	Drawing 1
<i>Yearbook (BMHS)</i>	Painting 2	Drawing 2	Drawing 2
	Printmaking 1 Printmaking 2	Painting 1 Painting 2	Painting 1 Painting 2
	3D Media 1 3D Media 2 Clay Sculpture (NHS)	Printmaking 1 Printmaking 2 3D Media 1	Printmaking 1 Printmaking 2 Clay Sculpture (NHS)
	Graphic Art and Design	3D Media 2 Clay Sculpture (NHS)	3D Media 1 3D Media 2
	Photography 1 Photography 2 Photography 3	Graphic Art and Design	Graphic Art and Design
	Textile Arts 1 (NHS) Textile Arts 2 (NHS)	Photography 1 Photography 2 Honors Photography 3 (NHS)	Photography 1 Photography 2 Honors Photography 3 (NHS)
	Digital Video and Animation 1 Digital Video and Animation 2	Honors Photography 4 (NHS)	Honors Photography 4 (NHS)
	Cultural Perspectives in Art (BMHS)	Textile Arts 1 (NHS) Textile Arts 2 (NHS)	Textile Arts 1 (NHS) Textile Arts 2 (NHS)
	<i>Yearbook (BMHS)</i>	Digital Video and Animation 1 Digital Video and Animation 2	Digital Video and Animation 1 Digital Video and Animation 2
		Cultural Perspectives in Art (BMHS)	Cultural Perspectives in Art (BMHS)
		<i>Yearbook (BMHS)</i>	<i>Yearbook (BMHS)</i>

AR8801GAE	Art 1	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	1 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

This class is the department foundation full-year class designed to introduce students to the principles and elements of art. This course teaches students a wide variety of materials and techniques for creating art. Drawing skills, essential to the creative process, are stressed as well as painting, printmaking, and sculpture. Students are introduced to the computer lab and the Adobe Creative Suite. Students build a large art vocabulary while learning how to critique their own and others' artwork. Students are required to keep a sketchbook for homework and design ideas.

NHS ONLY			
AR8802GAC	Art 2	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	0.5 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

Students taking this half-year course create advanced drawing, painting, and 3D media projects. Students learn advanced applications of the principles and elements of art and design. Students look at and emulate examples of art by Master artists to influence their own creations. Students keep a sketchbook and build a portfolio. **Prerequisite: Art 1 or Middle School Art Teacher Recommendation**

AR8803GAC	Design 1	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	0.5 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

In this class, students create products for a "client or company" by learning and utilizing fine art concepts and skills in; product/ industrial, marketing/advertising, interior, textile, environmental and set design. This class is open to freshmen taking Art 2 the other semester. Students are required to keep a sketchbook for homework and design plans. **Prerequisite: Art 1, Art 2 or Middle School Art Teacher Recommendation**

AR8804GAC	Design 2	Grades 10, 11, 12	0.5 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

This course teaches students advanced fine art concepts in; product/ industrial, marketing /advertising, interior, textile, environmental and set design. Students will work with various methods and materials to create new products for the marketplace. Through theory, practice and reflection, students will develop original approaches to solve multiple, rigorous design challenges. A sketchbook for design plans and homework is required. **Prerequisite: Design 1**

AR8805GAC	Drawing 1	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	0.5 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

This course is designed for all students who would like the opportunity to increase their drawing skills in an intense half-year course. Students explore a wide variety of drawing techniques, materials, subjects and styles. Drawing will be based on observation and imagination that will lead the student to self-discovery and awareness of his/her environment. A sketchbook/journal is required to plan and think through composition ideas. **Prerequisite: Middle School Art Teacher Recommendation**

AR8806GAC	Drawing 2	Grades 10, 11, 12	0.5 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

This course challenges the technically skilled drawing student. Students focus on portfolio pieces concentrating on portraiture, the human figure, still life, and landscape drawings. **Sketchbooks are required to keep a record of progress and ideas for future drawing compositions. Prerequisite: Drawing 1**

AR8807GAC	Painting 1	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	0.5 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

For the student who loves to paint, this class is designed for the student who wishes to explore and improve in all forms of painting media, techniques, and subjects. Media to include: Watercolor, Gouache, and Acrylics. Art styles will be the focus as students learn the basics of color media. As with other classes, a sketchbook is required, as the student will be using it to render sketches for painting subjects. **Prerequisite: Art 1 or Art 2 or Middle School Art Teacher Recommendation**

AR8808GAC	Painting 2	Grades 10, 11, 12	0.5 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

Students who would like to add to their portfolio will be challenged in this advanced painting course. They will be asked to create thematic, meaningful and current paintings; which will expose intent and mastery of media. Opportunities to work independently and to make personal choices for materials and techniques will be given throughout the semester. **Prerequisite: Painting 1**

AR8809GAC	Printmaking 1	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	0.5 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

Students in this course will be able to make multiple copies and editions of artwork rendered in a variety of printmaking media, techniques, and subjects. Media include: stencil, monoprint, collagraph, linoleum, woodcut, dry-point etching, and embossed prints as well as found object printmaking. In addition to making prints, student will engage in these media through historical and conceptual topics. **Prerequisite: Art 1 or Art 2 or Middle School Art Teacher Recommendation**

AR8810GAC	Printmaking 2	Grades 10, 11, 12	0.5 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

Students in this course will learn advanced printmaking techniques and processes building on previous techniques and media covered in Printmaking 1. Students work in a variety of media including; reduction printmaking, multiple layer stencil, woodcut, embossing and collage transfer. Students can research independently new methods and materials. This class encourages both collaborative and independent work. **Prerequisite: Printmaking 1**

AR8811GAC	3D Media 1	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	0.5 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

This course is a 3-dimensional art or sculpture class. Students learn to make artworks in a variety of media including; folded paper/ cardboard, papier-mâché, clay, wood, assemblage, wire, and plaster. Students learn clay/ ceramics hand building techniques. Students will learn to visualize and create artworks from 2D plans in 3D form using a sketchbook for homework and design plans. **Prerequisite: Art 1 or Art 2 or Middle School Art Teacher Recommendation**

AR8812GAC	3D Media 2	Grades 10, 11, 12	0.5 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

This class offers students advanced clay hand building and wheel thrown pottery techniques. Students problem solve building sculptures using more challenging applications of the principles and elements of art and design. Students create 3D artworks from a variety of methods and materials including; paper, papier-mâché, clay, wire, wood and assemblage. Students must be able to work independently and collaboratively. Students will learn to visualize and create artworks from 2D plans in 3D form using a sketchbook for homework and design plans. **Prerequisite: 3-D Media 1**

AR8859GAE	Graphic Art and Design	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	1 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts; Digital Literacy; STEM Related Course]			

In this exploratory course, students learn the elements and principles of design, as well as foundational concepts of visual communication. While surveying a variety of design, fine art, and media, students use image editing, animation, and digital drawing to put into practice the art principles they have learned. They explore career opportunities in the design, production, display and presentation of digital artwork. They respond to artwork of others and learn how to combine artistic elements to create finished pieces that effectively communicate their ideas.

NHS ONLY**AR8860GAC****Clay Sculpture****Grades 10, 11, 12****0.5 Credit*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

In this class, students will be required to apply skills and clay making techniques learned in 3-D Media 1 including: pinch, coil, slab construction, drape molding, sculpting, and others to create advanced hand-built sculptures. Students will learn to visualize a 3D form from a 2D plan. Students will create plans, measuring and accurately recording their design ideas to explain and build. Students will learn advanced hand building techniques and apply aesthetic criteria to create small- and large-scale additive and subtractive sculptures ranging from portrait busts, creatures, animals, or humans and utilitarian objects to abstract artworks. Students will learn advanced glazing techniques and acrylic vase painting. Finished clay sculptures can be functional and decorative. Homework is required. **Prerequisite: 3-D Media 1**

AR8841GAC**Photography 1****Grades 9, 10, 11, 12****0.5 Credit*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

This class is an introductory course covering the basics of black and white photography. Students begin with non-camera darkroom imagery, build and use pinhole cameras, and learn how to create images using a film camera. Students will also learn how to make contact sheets and to enlarge images from negatives. **Prerequisite: Art 1 or Art 2.**

AR8842GAC**Photography 2****Grades 9, 10, 11, 12****0.5 Credit*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

This class is an extension of Photo 1 that offers students a more in depth look into how to take good quality photographic images. In this course students will learn how to process their own film and learn more advanced darkroom techniques such as using the filter system. Students will also be introduced to lighting techniques both natural and manipulative. **Prerequisite: Photography 1**

NHS ONLY**AR8850HAC****Honors Photography 3****Grades 10, 11, 12****0.5 Credit*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

This course expands on the use of the camera established in Photo 2. Students will explore advanced shooting techniques and the chemical process of film developing. Darkroom instruction will include introduction of filters and burning and dodging techniques. Digital Photography will be introduced, and the basics of Photoshop will be explored. **Prerequisite: Photography 2**

NHS ONLY**AR8851HAC****Honors Photography 4****Grades 10, 11, 12****0.5 Credit*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts; Digital Literacy; STEM Related Course]**

In this course students will explore at a deep level, various tools and techniques of Photoshop. Layers, masking, and color correction among other methodologies will be part of the instruction. In the darkroom processes such as double exposure, the Sabatier effect, and other techniques will be introduced, allowing greater creative expression. **Prerequisite: Photography 3**

NHS ONLY**AR8901GAC****Textile Arts 1****Grades 10, 11, 12****0.5 Credit*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

This course is designed to teach students textile making, designing and fiber arts. Students will learn a variety of hand and machine sewing techniques as well fiber arts including; knitting, crocheting, weaving, macramé, embroidery, paper craft including silk screening. Students will learn historical and cultural connections to craft based techniques. Students create sketchbooks and are required to submit unit design plans. **Prerequisite: Art 1 or Art 2 or Middle School Art Teacher Recommendation**

NHS ONLY**AR8902GAC****Textile Arts 2****Grades 10, 11, 12****0.5 Credit*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

This course is designed to teach students advanced textile making, designing and fiber arts. Students will learn a variety of advanced hand and machine sewing techniques as well as advanced fiber arts including; knitting, crocheting, weaving, macramé, embroidery and paper craft. Students will learn historical and cultural connections to craft based techniques. Students create sketchbooks and are required to submit unit design plans. Students will visit a Design studio or place of employment to learn about vocational educational opportunities. Students will create a final project or a Capstone experience.

Prerequisite: Art 1 or Art 2 or Middle School Art Teacher Recommendation or Textile Arts 1

AR8843GAC**Art History****BMHS Grades 10, 11, 12****0.5 Credit****NHS Grades 9, 10, 11, 12*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

This half-year survey class is designed for students who wish to study the global history of art from Pre-historic to the present. Students read, write about, and discuss art. Minimal art making is involved. Students learn to distinguish between art-historical arguments that are rooted in historical fact, accepted scholarly interpretation, and informed speculation. This class can be used as a preparation for AP Art History.

NHS ONLY**AR8864GAC****Modern and Contemporary Art****Grades 9, 10, 11, 12****0.5 Credit*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

In this class, students will look at, read, talk about, and create a variety of modern and contemporary global art styles including but not limited to: Impressionism, Post-Impressionism, Cubism, Abstract Art, Surrealism, Abstract Expressionism, Pop Art, Photo Realism, Folk Art, Contemporary Crafts, Performance Art and more! Students will learn about the history of art while creating Modern and Contemporary art styles with a variety of art making methods and materials including: drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and crafts. Homework is required. **Prerequisite: Art 1, Art 2**

AR8846ACE**Advanced Placement Art History****Grades 10, 11, 12****1 Credit*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

This class is a college level survey class covering Art from Prehistoric time to the present. AP Art History focuses on reading, analysis of, writing, and discussion about art and art history. This course is designed to teach students to analyze art through the lenses of Formalism, historical, religious, cultural, political, gender, and socio-economic contexts. It is also intended to prepare students for the College Board National Art History Exam. Students are expected to take the Advanced Placement exam. **Advanced Placement (AP) classes are rigorous college courses that are offered in the high school setting. AP courses require summer assignments that are due on the first day of school. The student is responsible for obtaining his or her summer assignments and submitting the completed work on time. Any student who fails to meet the due date for summer assignments will receive a failing grade. Prerequisite: Required summer work.**

AR8844HAE**Honors Portfolio****Grades 11, 12****1 Credit*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

This class is designed for Art Students who want to build a superior portfolio, a body of work, for higher educational review. Portfolio students can be preparing for AP Studio Art, taking AP concurrently, or have finished AP Studio Art class. Students are expected to be proficient in 2D Processes. Students create a substantial (20-24 pieces) portfolio of finished artwork.

Prerequisite: Two years of art classes.

AR8845ACE**Advanced Placement Studio Art****Grades 11, 12****1 Credit*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

This class is designed for students pursuing art in their higher-level educational choices. A rigorous course with art school foundation level expectations, AP Studio requires a portfolio review and summer work for acceptance. Students create a concentration of (30) quality works for review and scoring by the College Board. Students with passing exam scores earn college credits. Students are expected to take the Advanced Placement exam. **Advanced Placement (AP) classes are rigorous college courses that are offered in the high school setting. AP courses require summer assignments that are due on the first day of school. The student is responsible for obtaining his or her summer assignments and submitting the completed work on time. Any student who fails to meet the due date for summer assignments will receive a failing grade. Prerequisite: Two years of art classes.**

AR8848GAC	Digital Video and Animation 1	Grades 10, 11, 12	0.5 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts; Digital Literacy; STEM Related Course]			

This course teaches students how to create videos and digital animation in the form of narratives, commercials, music videos, short videos, traditional and stop-motion animation. Students will learn each step in the creative process from pre- to post-production. Students are introduced to a variety of software applications. Finished works are presented for class review. **Prerequisite: Photo 2 or Photo 1 and teacher recommendation**

AR8849GAC	Digital Video and Animation 2	Grades 10, 11, 12	0.5 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts; Digital Literacy; STEM Related Course]			

This course teaches students how to create advanced videos and digital animation in the form of narratives, commercials, music videos, videos, traditional and stop-motion animation. Students will learn each step in the creative process from storyboarding, pre- to post-production, and editing. Students develop 21st Century Learning skills with advanced application of course software application. Students premiere their finished works for review in groups or individually. **Prerequisite: Digital Video and Animation 1**

BMHS ONLY

AR8853GAC	Cultural Perspectives in Art	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	0.5 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

This course introduces and examines critical cultural studies and theories of culture particularly related to the Middle East, South Asia, and Africa. This course will enable students to articulate their emerging knowledge of Middle East, South Asian, and African cultures in a theoretically informed language. Students will develop critical thinking and creativity through problem solving and self-assessment. Students will create original artwork based on an appreciation of native artists' techniques and cultural tradition.

BMHS ONLY

AR8847GAE	Yearbook in Design	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	1 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

In this class, students will study the function, techniques, and responsibilities of journalism design. The course will include instruction and lab activity. Students will assist with the preparation and publication of the senior yearbook. This course is recommended for students whose writing skills are firmly grounded. Students will have Photoshop lessons to design page layouts. Students will also have instructions on marketing and advertisement to sell and distribute final product. Yearbook is a permanent Legal Document: it gives students opportunities to gather points toward college admissions. It also will give students a good understanding of how to use Photoshop, Windows, and the Adobe Suite in creating pages and advertisements. Students will be assigned deadlines and tasks to complete for grading purposes. **Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation.**

Music

Students involved in all major performing organizations are required to participate consistently in lessons and/or sectional rehearsals as part of the course content. Individualized instruction will be scheduled on a rotating basis and will meet a minimum of once a week. Students may elect to choose the same performing group for multiple years.

Music Course Sequence

9	10	11	12
Prelude Orchestra	Prelude Orchestra	Prelude Orchestra	Prelude Orchestra
Symphonic Band	Philharmonia Orchestra	Philharmonia Orchestra	Philharmonia Orchestra
Choir	Honors Principal Orchestra	Honors Principal Orchestra	Honors Principal Orchestra
Music Theory	Symphonic Band	Symphonic Band	Symphonic Band
Color Guard	Wind Ensemble	Wind Ensemble	Wind Ensemble
Winter Guard	Honors Wind Symphony	Honors Wind Symphony	Honors Wind Symphony
Winter Percussion Ensemble	Choir	Choir	Choir
Jazz Ensemble	Advanced Choir	Advanced Choir	Advanced Choir
Theatre Studies 1 (NHS only)	Choral Ensemble	Choral Ensemble	Choral Ensemble
Theatre Studies 2 (NHS only)	Honors Chamber Singers	Honors Chamber Singers	Honors Chamber Singers
	Music Theory	Music Theory	Music Theory
	AP Music Theory	AP Music Theory	AP Music Theory
	IB Music SL 1 (BMHS only)	IB Music SL 1 (BMHS only)	IB Music SL 1 (BMHS only)
	Theatre Studies 1 (NHS only)	IB Music SL 2 (BMHS only)	IB Music SL 2 (BMHS only)
	Theatre Studies 2 (NHS only)	Theatre Studies 1 (NHS only)	Theatre Studies 1 (NHS only)
	Musical Theatre Performance	Theatre Studies 2 (NHS only)	Theatre Studies 2 (NHS only)
	Color Guard	Musical Theatre Performance	Musical Theatre Performance
	Winter Guard	Color Guard	Color Guard
	Winter Percussion Ensemble	Winter Guard	Winter Guard
	Jazz Ensemble	Winter Percussion Ensemble	Winter Percussion Ensemble
		Jazz Ensemble	Jazz Ensemble

AR8851GAE	Choir	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	1 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

Choir is a mixed group of students who are interested but inexperienced in singing, both in performing groups and as a soloist. It is designed for students with a desire to learn the fundamentals of voice production and to improve their natural voice abilities. There should be a demonstrated desire to learn basic music reading. Through the use of voice drills and the singing of solo and ensemble repertoire, students develop an awareness of the voice as an expressive and resonant instrument. Through this group, students can attain the necessary experience for singing in other auditioned choral ensembles. Areas of study include: basic music theory, music reading skills, voice production, and musical interpretation. A variety of music literature is studied, both sacred and secular. Choir members are required to participate in all scheduled school and community performances. **Teacher recommendation required.**

AR8852GAE	Advanced Choir	Grades 10, 11, 12	1 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

Advanced choir is group of experienced singers who have participated in other performing organizations including choir, band or orchestra. Areas of study are: basic music theory, voice production, solo and ensemble singing, and artistic interpretation. A variety of music literature is studied, including sacred and secular compositions from the master works to contemporary. Advanced choir members are required to participate in all activities that include: school assemblies, public concerts, contests, CMEA events, and exchange concerts. **Prerequisite: Choir and Audition**

AR8862HAE	Honors Chamber Singers	Grades 10, 11, 12	1 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

This course is a serious study of artistic music for the select chorus musician. Music will be selected by the instructor for its aesthetic content, historical importance and variety of style. Whenever possible, the pieces will be performed in original content with regard to language and accompaniment. This group is a performance-oriented organization and the students are required to participate in all school, community, and county performances. **Prerequisite: Audition**

AR8863GAE	Choral Ensemble	Grades 10, 11, 12	1 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

Special Ensemble will be comprised of experienced singers who have previously performed in music ensembles such as choir, advanced choir, chamber singers, band or orchestra. Students will be selected through an audition-based criterion. This is a performance-based organization; therefore, students are required to participate in all designated school, community and county performances, as well as after school rehearsals. **Prerequisite: Audition**

AR8871GAE	Prelude Orchestra	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	1 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

This course is a continuation of middle school orchestra program at a more advanced level. The orchestra plays at special programs, in other schools in the system, and at public concerts. Emphasis is placed upon good rhythm, intonation, tone, and technique. String quartets and small ensembles are offered. Students will be required to attend weekly pull-out lessons. **Prerequisite: Orchestra in middle school or audition.**

AR8872GAE	Philharmonia Orchestra	Grades 10, 11, 12	1 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

This course is a continuation of course 8871 (Prelude) at a more advanced level. The Philharmonic Orchestra plays at special programs, at other schools in the system, and at public concerts. Emphasis is placed upon refining tone quality, artistic interpretation of music, and application of music theory and music history to informed performance practice. String quartets and small ensembles are offered. Students are encouraged (but not required) to audition for music festivals (CMEA, NEMFA, etc.). Students will be required to attend weekly pull-out lessons. **Prerequisites: Completion of 8871 Prelude Orchestra and audition.**

AR8873HAE	Honors Principal Orchestra	Grades 10, 11, 12	1 Credit
*[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]			

This course is a continuation of 8871 (Prelude) at a more advanced level. The Principal Orchestra plays at special programs, at other schools in the system, and at public concerts. Emphasis is placed upon elevating all elements of performance practice to the

highest level in order to create a truly artistic interpretation. String quartets and small ensembles are offered. Students in Principal Orchestra are expected to participate in the Norwalk All-City Orchestra and are encouraged (but not required) to audition for music festivals (CMEA, NEMFA, etc.). Students will be required to attend weekly pull-out lessons. **Prerequisites: Completion of 8871 Prelude Orchestra and audition.**

AR8881GAE	Symphonic Band	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	1 Credit
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***[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

Symphonic Band is the initial band instrumental course. This course will survey the basic idiomatic concepts of marching band, theatrical band, harmony and theory, classical concert band, contemporary concert band, and parade band. Within the confines of the course tone production, embouchure development, intonation, rhythmic reading and accuracy and musical expression will be stressed. Public appearances are required in the venues of marching band, symphonic band, and combined bands.

All participants are required to rehearse the two weeks prior to the commencement of school (band camp) for the purpose of advanced preparation in curricular area of marching band. Out of school practice for marching band occurs in September through November. Students will be required to attend weekly pull-out lessons. **Prerequisite: Participation in middle school band or an audition.**

AR8882GAE	Jazz Ensemble	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	1 Credit
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***[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

Students will build upon their knowledge from their participation in pre-required courses and through the study of jazz, rock, gospel, blues and fusion idioms. Emphasis will be placed upon the performance and interpretation of various jazz styles, rhythms, harmony and theory, and improvisation. Public performances are required. **Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, or Wind Symphony and an Audition.**

AR8883GAE	Wind Ensemble	Grades 10, 11, 12	1 Credit
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***[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

Students will have an in-depth study of marching band, theatrical band, harmony and theory, classical concert band, contemporary concert band, and parade band. Special emphasis will be placed on advanced knowledge of timbre, intonation, rhythmic reading, musical expression, sight-reading, musical interpretation, and idiomatic styles. Public appearances are required in venues of marching band, wind ensemble, and combined bands.

All participants are required to rehearse the two weeks prior to the commencement of school (band camp) for the purpose of advanced preparation in curricular area of marching band. Out of school practice for marching band occurs in September through November. Students will be required to attend weekly pull-out lessons. **Prerequisite: Participation in Symphonic Band and an Audition.**

AR8893GAE	Music Theory	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	1 Credit
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***[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

This course is designed for students who have an interest in learning the basics of music fundamentals. Students will learn to read, write, listen to, analyze and describe music as professional musicians do. Completion of this course will prepare students for success in AP Music Theory.

AR8893ACE	AP Music Theory	Grades 10, 11, 12	1 Credit
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***[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

This course is designed for students who have an interest in learning the inner workings of music. Emphasis will be placed on four-part writing with standard voice-leading techniques. Students will expand their harmonic vocabulary through composition, ear training, and analysis. This high-level, fast-paced course will prepare students for success on the AP Music Theory exam and is strongly recommended for students considering a major or minor in music. **Prerequisite: Music Theory or instructor approval.**

AR8895HAE**Honors Wind Symphony****Grades 10, 11, 12****1 Credit*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

Wind Symphony is the premiere performing organization of the band instrumental department. Instrumentation is based on one person per part except doubling in clarinet, flute, and percussion. Admission into the ensemble requires previous successful participation in Symphonic Band or Wind Ensemble and an audition.

Students will have an intensive study of marching band, theatrical band, harmony and theory, classical concert band, contemporary concert band, solo repertoire, individualized regional and state adjudication, small ensemble performances, and parade band. Knowledge of timbre, intonation, rhythmic reading, musical expression, sight-reading, musical interpretation, and stylistic understanding of idiomatic styles will be coupled with an analysis utilizing nationally accepted rubrics. Public appearances are required in the venues of marching band, wind symphony, combined bands, small ensembles, and soloist.

All participants are required to rehearse two weeks prior to the commencement of school (band camp) for the purpose of advanced participation in the curricular area of marching band. Out of school practice for marching band occurs in September through November. Students will be required to attend weekly pull-out lessons. **Prerequisite: Participation in Symphonic Band/Wind Ensemble and an Audition.**

AR8896GAC**Color Guard****Grades 9, 10, 11, 12****0.5 Credit*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

This is an intensive outdoor study of body, dance, staging, drill, saber, rifle, and flag styles. These seven styles will be assimilated into a singular performance idiom. Exploration, analysis, demonstration, and evaluation of contemporary performances styles will be examined utilizing nationally accepted rubrics. Public appearances are required in the venue of marching band.

All participants are required to rehearse the two weeks prior to the commencement of school (band camp) for the purpose of advanced preparation in the curricular area of marching band. Out of school practice with the marching band occurs in **September through November. Prerequisite: Membership in the marching band and an Audition.**

AR8897GAC**Winter Guard****Grades 9, 10, 11, 12****0.5 Credit*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

This is an intensive indoor study of body, dance, staging, drill, saber, rifle, and flag styles to prerecorded music. These seven styles will be assimilated into a singular performance idiom. This performance idiom is referred to as winter guard. Exploration, analysis, demonstration, and evaluation of contemporary performances styles will be examined utilizing nationally accepted rubrics by Winter Guard International and Musical Arts Conference. Public appearances are required in the venue of winter guard. Out of school practices and performance occur in **January through April. Prerequisite: Membership in the marching band and an Audition.**

AR8866GAC**Winter Percussion Ensemble****Grades 9, 10, 11, 12****0.5 Credit*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

This is an intensive study of percussion through the use of performance, instruction and evaluation. The students will be exposed to a variety of musical instruments, including but not limited to, traditional marching percussion, concert percussion, pitched and non-pitched instruments. A broad range of musical styles will be explored, including but not limited to, classical, contemporary, rudimental and theatrical. Assessments will be given based on the nationally accepted rubrics from Winter Guard International and locally through the Musical Arts Conference. Public performances are required as part of the course. **Out of school rehearsals and performances will occur from December through May. Prerequisite: Membership in the marching and concert band program or by audition to the director of bands.**

NHS ONLY**AR8917GA****Theatre Studies 1****Grades 9, 10****1 Credit*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

In this course students will be introduced to theatre vocabulary, basic acting technique, and theatre etiquette. Contributions of the playwright, actor, director, designer and producer are examined through individual and group projects and attendance and participation in theatrical performances. This course will progress through a series of introductory modules beginning with Origins of the Theatre. Students will begin with Greek, Roman and Medieval theatre and engage in oral readings and discussions as well as creative dramatic activities that help them demonstrate their understanding of plays and dramatic structure. Students will write and revise scripts based on personal experience and heritage, imagination, literature and history as they explore the foundations of playwriting. Students will apply acting and analytical skills, create characters, memorize lines and work in an ensemble on a play that is publicly presented.

NHS ONLY**AR8918GAC****Theatre Studies 2****Grades 9, 10, 11****0.5 Credit*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

Students will discover the history of Western theater, exploring the time period from antiquity to the Renaissance. Included will be an examination of the Italian and English Renaissance. The course includes a study of plays, historical documents, contemporary writing and a pictorial overview of theater architecture, costumes and scenic designs. Both the artistic and cultural viewpoints are examined. Students will study the historical background of the Elizabethan Era with a focus on William Shakespeare. Students will learn and experience the First Folio acting technique and how to apply it to one of Shakespeare's plays. Students will read and analyze the work from a historical perspective in order to develop a context for understanding. Students will produce a Shakespearean class production. Rehearsals are held during class time with a focus on voice and articulation, scene study, and scene direction. Students apply acting and analytical skills, create characters, memorize lines, and work in an ensemble to produce a play for public presentation. **Prerequisite: Theatre Studies 1**

NHS ONLY**AR8919GAE****Theatre Studies 3****Grades 11, 12****1 Credit*****[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

Students will discover the history of Western theater, exploring the time period from antiquity to the Renaissance. Included will be an examination of the Italian and English Renaissance. The course includes a study of plays, historical documents, contemporary writing and a pictorial overview of theater architecture, costumes and scenic designs. Both the artistic and cultural viewpoints are examined. Students will study the historical background of the Elizabethan Era with a focus on William Shakespeare. Students will learn and experience the First Folio acting technique and how to apply it to one of Shakespeare's plays. Students will read and analyze the work from a historical perspective in order to develop a context for understanding. Students will produce a Shakespearean class production. Rehearsals are held during class time with a focus on voice and articulation, scene study, and scene direction. Students apply acting and analytical skills, create characters, memorize lines, and work in an ensemble to produce a play for public presentation. **Prerequisite: Theatre Studies 1**

NHS ONLY

AR8922GAC

Musical Theatre Production

Grades 10, 11, 12

1 Credit

***[Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts]**

This course is designed to immerse students into the study of musical performance including voice for the stage, which will be studied and practiced. Musical instruction and interpretation are the focus of the course. Focus will also include performance and preparation for auditions including the development of an audition portfolio and resume. Students will study musical theatre history, specifically focusing on iconic shows, scenes and performers that are representative of the developing style. Students learn by participating in a theatrical musical production, as cast and production staff. The student will be responsible for the study and style of musical theatre in greater depth through research and presentation.

Prerequisite: Audition