

# Performing Arts



## Introduction to the Performing Arts

### Semester - Open to Freshmen only

This is a required course for all first-year students\*, providing experience in several dimensions of the performing arts: chorus, acting, movement, and stagecraft. Over the course of a semester, students will participate in each area of the performing arts through work with specialists. The goal of the course is to introduce first-year students to the range of performing arts experiences in which many might choose to specialize at a later point in high school.

## Acting

### Full Year - No Prerequisites

This course will teach the fundamentals of concentration, imagination, and improvisation through games and exercises in scene work & characterization. Evaluation is based on daily exercises, homework, individual growth, and projects. The curriculum will be appropriate for students interested in acting on stage, for film/TV, or who simply want to improve their public presentation skills. The course will culminate in a showcase performance.

## Stagecraft

### Semester - No Prerequisites

This course will teach "behind the scenes" activities like set design and building, scenic painting, lighting, special effects, sound design, crafts, and costuming. This class is the technical crew behind all productions in a variety of ways. Physical work required.

## Performing Ensemble

### Full Year - Audition AND Instructor Approval

The fall semester will be focused on preparing for our competitions: Florida Theater Conference One-Act Festival, District Thespian One-Act Festival, District Thespian IEs, and the English-Speaking Union Shakespeare Monologue Competition. Students enrolled in this class will have priority sign up for the 5 competition slots available for each individual event category. In the spring semester, the class will present a play and/or musical to learn and rehearse in class and perform for the public. Advanced acting techniques, choreography/movement, and classical theater in performance are important parts of the curriculum.

Freshmen who elect **Debate, Honors Computer Science 1**, or a **performance ensemble course** will be exempt from Intro to the Performing Arts. **These students will still be required to fulfill the additional 1 credit in Art.**



# Music



## Jazz Ensemble

### Full Year - Department Approval Required

The Jazz Ensemble course is a performance group whose primary purpose is jazz music in small jazz ensembles. Instruction will be provided in jazz improvisation and ensemble performance techniques for various styles of jazz, from the Swing Era to contemporary styles.

## Rock & Contemporary Music Ensemble

### Full Year - No Prerequisites

This course is an opportunity to study contemporary, rock, and popular music genres through performance and rehearsal in an academic setting. Students will perform covers and originals spanning all styles and time periods. This ensemble will perform regularly at festivals, on and off campus, in-class, and other events. Students are expected to practice outside of class so that time in class may be devoted to rehearsal.

## Winds & Percussion Chamber Ensemble

### Full Year - No Prerequisites

This Chamber Ensemble/Concert Band course focuses on the performance of music literature for woodwind, brass, and percussion ensembles of various stylistic periods. Instruction cultivates performance techniques, artistic interpretation, and overall musicality. Student ensembles will include, but not be limited to, student coaching, literature selection, composer research, accompaniment, arrangements, and performance production.

## Studio Recording and Production

### Full Year - Digital Music Required

Students will develop skills in recording technique including acoustics, microphone setup and placement, digital multi-track recording and editing, mixing, and sampling. In addition, students will gain hands on training and experience with podcasting, as well as live audio mixing in performance settings. Special attention will be given to the history of recording and audio production. The focus of evaluation is project oriented.

## Digital Music

### Semester - No Prerequisites

In this course, students will use music authoring and editing software to compose original music, create mash-ups, and alter existing music to create something new. This is a hands-on way to learn musical theory and composition and the skills to create musical tracks for digital movies and other audio-visual projects.

Freshmen who elect a **performance ensemble course** will be exempt from needing to take Intro to the Performing Arts. **These students will still be required to fulfill the additional 1 credit in Art.**

# Music



## Beginning Piano

**Semester - No Prerequisites**

This is a piano course for students with little or no previous piano instruction. Areas covered will include fundamentals of posture and hand position, reading notes and rhythms, reading chord charts, understanding of basic music theory, and introduction to composition and computer notation programs. The course will be adapted to challenge individual levels and rates of progress.

## Guitar

**Semester - No Prerequisites**

This course is designed to teach the basic skills and knowledge required to play the guitar, as well as teach basic music reading ability and music theory. Students will learn the basics of playing guitar at a beginner level through studying music notation, chord symbols, and peer modeling. Through this class, students will gain a better understanding of many different musical genres, and public performance may be a course expectation.

## Chorale

**Full Year - No Prerequisites**

Advanced vocal students study choral works with an emphasis on reading, diction, tone quality, interpretation and aesthetics. Students learn and perform an advanced level of repertoire that spans the Renaissance through Contemporary periods. Attention will be given to the languages and cultures associated with the particular choral literature.

## Strings and Chamber Ensemble

**Full Year - No Prerequisites**

The Strings Chamber Ensemble/Orchestra performs music from the string repertoire of the Baroque, Classic, and Romantic Eras with an emphasis on the development of string technique and ensemble skill. Student solos and/or ensembles will include, but not be limited to, student coaching, literature selection, composer research, accompaniment, arrangements, and performance production.



# Dance



## Dance Foundations

**Full Year - No Prerequisites**

This course emphasizes ballet and modern/contemporary techniques with an emphasis on conditioning based in Pilates. The class is perfect for dancers and non-dancers who have a good movement background but may also come from other art forms (theater and music).

## Dance Repertory

**Full Year - Audition Required**

This class combines contemporary, modern and classical dance techniques with guest artists in modern dance, jazz, hip-hop, and other dance genres. This class also supports students' choreography and improvisation. Performances are required for winter and spring concerts with the opportunity to perform in the South Florida area and beyond.