

7th/8th Grade Electives “At A Glance”

General Art Highlights

General art will be a combined 7th and 8th grade class. Students will learn about the different elements and principles of Art throughout the course of the year. They will learn about different art movements and periods in time, along with artistic styles and artists that will prepare them for art in high school.

What does my child need to participate in general art?

Students will be provided with all the materials that they need.

Will my child have art homework?

Students will sometimes need to bring in images that they need for their art projects. Also, students might need to finish a project at home.

What will my child’s art grades look like?

Students will have the following grades in the gradebook:

- Weekly participation points
- Sketches
- Major projects
- Art critiques

How many days of General Art are in the 6-day schedule?

There will be 2 days of art per 6-day schedule.

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Advanced Art Highlights

Advanced Art will be a combined 7th and 8th grade class for students that want to take Art more seriously. Students will learn about the different elements and principals of Art throughout the course of the year. They will learn about different art movements and periods in time, along with artistic styles and artists that will prepare them for Art in high school. Teacher permission by Kelsey Spiers, Art Teacher, is required for Advanced Art.

What does my child need to participate in advanced art?

- A 9x12 ringed sketch book
- All other materials will be provided in class

Will my child have art homework?

There will be a light amount of homework. There will be a weekly sketch book assignment, which consists of 1 sketch a week to be done at home. Students will sometimes need to bring in images that they need for their Art projects.

Also, students might need to finish a project at home.

What will my child’s art grades look like?

Students will have the following grades in the gradebook:

- Weekly participation points
- Sketches
- Major projects
- Art critiques

How many days of Advanced Art are in the 6-day schedule?

There will be at least 2 days of Advanced Art in the 6 day rotation.

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Choir Highlights

What supplies will my child need for choir? (Do not purchase before school in case new choir teacher has a different request)

- Your child will need:
 - A ½" three ringed binder (the larger ones don't fit in the folder cabinet).
 - A pencil pouch that will attach and be kept in their binder.
 - Two pencils (any kind will do)
 - A highlighter (lighter colors work best, any kind will do).
 - Some loose-leaf paper (about 10 sheets).
 - A choir t-shirt (more information will be provided to students in the fall).

How many choir performances will there be?

- The school district mandates that each performance group have two concerts per calendar year. We will have two and may have more depending upon what opportunities may arise.

Are choir performances mandatory?

- Performances are mandatory and are a major project grade in their gradebook. We will be holding our performances in the evenings.
 - Winter concert (usually held at Liberty High School) and a Spring concert.

How many days will my child have choir?

- Performance groups are required to have at minimum 3 days of rehearsal. Students will have between three and five rehearsal days per week.

How will my child be graded in choir?

- Choir students are graded on the following:
 - Meeting classroom objectives – participating in activities, discussions and singing when appropriate.
 - Being in attendance – students are not allowed to "skip" their electives. Doing so will result in a consequence (card signing, lunch detention, etc.)
 - Being prepared – practicing and studying at home when necessary, checking out music and bringing it back for rehearsal, turning in homework or communication with parents.

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Junior High Band Highlights

What does my child need to participate in Band?

- An instrument and needed accessories (ex: reeds, oils, swab)
- **Instruments and accessories may be rented or purchased** at any local music supplies store (Music & Arts, Allegro, Milano's)
- **Percussionists are required to rent/purchase a bell kit, drum pad and drumsticks.**

For families experiencing financial need: a small number of school-owned instruments are available for a nominal fee.

- Method book Tradition of Excellence Book 2 (blue book - available online. About \$10)
- Pencils
- Prior band experience – if your student has never played in band before, this class will be very difficult for them. Please note that members of the junior high band should have started in 5th grade beginning band and move through 6th grade intermediate band.

How will my child be graded in band?

Band is a cumulative year-long grade. Grades are based on:

- Meeting daily rehearsal objectives (pencil, music, and instrument)
- Playing tests
- Required performances. (Dates will be communicated at the beginning of the year)
- Evidence of practice

Band # of days per 6-day Schedule?

- 3-4 days (This may change depending on student choices for electives)

Performances and Required Events

The junior high band will perform 2-3 concerts during the year. There is a chance that we will add more concerts if given the opportunity.

- Winter Band Concert
- PUSD Arts & Cultural Festival (typically in April on a Saturday)
- Spring Band Concert

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NEW Junior High Electives

UKULELE: In the ukulele class, students will be learning the basics such as: how to tune, strumming techniques and some basic chords that they can use to play all sorts of music from several genres and styles! These skills are great for those wanting to pick up a string instrument for the first time or for someone who would love to play guitar someday. You also do not need any prior music experience or knowledge! The ukulele will be provided for students in this class.

Teacher: Aaron Mendenall, Choir Teacher

BUCKET DRUMMING: In bucket drumming, students will be taught rhythm patterns and drumming techniques using 5-gallon buckets and traditional drum sticks. Students will prepare pieces of music and work together as a team. Supplies will be provided for students in this class.

Teacher: Sierra Hoaglund, Band Teacher

ARTIST WITHIN: The Artist Within class will be an art exploration class. Students will be experimenting with different art techniques and processes in their sketchbooks and create different drawing prompts. This will be a fun class where students will create and see where the process takes them! Students will need to provide a 9 x 12 sketchbook for this class.

Teacher: Kelsey Spiers, Art Teacher