

Course Structure

6th Grade

All students will experience all 6 disciplines (Art, Communication Media Arts, Digital Arts & Design, Drama, Music, and STEM) by the end of year. Each semester lasts about 6 weeks in order for students to experience all creative arts disciplines.



7th Grade

Students will experience 4 of the 6 disciplines for a quarter each. The 7th grade classes are an extension of the 6th grade experience and give students an opportunity to go into more depth in 4 of the 6 disciplines. Students will be given the opportunity to indicate their interests at the end of their 6th grade year. Students are scheduled into 4 classes based on several considerations including class size and student interest. Teachers and Administration do their best to give students as many of their top rankings as possible. However, students may not be scheduled in their top 4 ranked classes depending on a variety of scheduling factors..

8th Grade

Students will experience 4 exploratory courses for a quarter each. In 8th grade, students have the opportunity to take various exploratory courses in each discipline. Teachers design these specialty courses each year based on student interest. Examples might include Movie Mania and Improvisation in the discipline of Drama or Drawing & Painting and Sculpture in the discipline of Art. Students can take up to 2 courses in any one discipline. Students will be given the opportunity to indicate their interests at the end of their 7th grade year. Students are scheduled into 4 exploratory courses based on several considerations including class size and student interest. Teachers and Administration do their best to give students as many of their top rankings as possible. However, students may not be scheduled in their top 4 ranked exploratory courses depending on a variety of scheduling factors.



Questions?

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Creative Arts

Arlington Heights School District 25

South Middle School

Thomas Middle School



The Arlington Heights School District 25 Middle School Creative Arts Department fosters an environment that encourages lifelong learning through skill development and creative exploration.

Digital Arts & Design

Learn to create and develop a wide variety of digital art. Digital photography to app development, this class offers a wide variety of engagements to design digital art. Create digital drawings, paintings and photography, develop a new app for a phone, or even design a new outdoor landscape for a house or school.



Communication Media Arts

Students explore the ways they can share stories and interests through video, web design, and animation. Advanced technology and recording are used to produce short films or make lyric videos for a favorite song. Create an original website for a business idea. Learn to edit audio like a pro. The possibilities are endless.



Drama

Learn about theater styles, methods and terminology. Students will also learn to utilize the basic tools of performance; mind, body, and voice through games, scripted and unscripted material. Most importantly, students will learn to think creatively, to work as a team, to become less inhibited in front of an audience and to develop an appreciation of theater.



Music

The general music program focuses on the following skills: the production of music and sounds (performing skills), the creation of music (organizing skills), the reading of music, the listening of music (aural skills) and demonstrating comprehension of music (describing skills). Learn more about music by using keyboards, guitars, ukuleles and computer programs. Students will also get to work with a variety of music websites, apps, and create fun projects on GarageBand. Students will also learn about the history of various genres of music.

Art

The visual art program encourages students to work creatively in a studio environment and blend the elements of art with the principles of design. Students refine an artistic skill set and leverage art as a vehicle for self-expression. Students will be carried through the major art forms including: drawing, painting, ceramics, printmaking, and sculpture. Students will use design software to support their creative pursuits and learn about historically relevant artists.

STEM

Have you ever wondered how things work or how inventors come up with new ideas? Students work collaboratively with classmates to invent, build, and think creatively through the design process. This class allows students to work in the areas of robotics, alternative energy, circuitry, 3D printing bridge construction, and more.