

# 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE EXPLORATORY COURSES

(You may choose to take 2 classes from each course of: Art, S.T.E.M., Music, Drama, Digital Arts and Design, and Communication Media Arts)

## ART

### DRAWING AND PAINTING

The **DRAWING AND PAINTING** exploratory course gives you the opportunity to try a variety of drawing styles and techniques that you will collect in a portfolio. Paintings will be done using traditional tempera and paper as well as acrylic on canvas board, watercolor and mixed media. You will learn about influential painters and their styles. Find out about fine arts as a career.

### SCULPTURE

Create functional and decorative objects in three dimensions. In **SCULPTURE** you will make several clay pieces using different techniques and the clay wheel. You will also construct a sculpture of a figural and abstract form using plaster, foam board, wire, and papier mache. Learn about contemporary sculptures and the artists that create them. Learn a sculptor's role in business and design.

# S.T.E.M

## ARCHITECTURE

If you like to design and build, **STEM ARCHITECTURE** is the class for you. Learn to read and create floor plans. Research different types and styles of architecture. Design your own building and create a 3 Dimensional scale model of it.

## 3DR&D: Maker Bot

Try on this new **STEM** class designed for those with a creative mind. See your ideas come to life. Complete your research using state of the art designing and manufacturing processes. Then create a prototype using a

3D printer. Product presentations, at the end of the course, will take place at an event held at the Arlington Heights Memorial Library.

## MakerSpaces

Create, Invent, Design, and Build: In this class, you will combine newfound knowledge of coding, designing, and engineering to create amazing projects! MakerSpaces is the name, technology and teamwork are part of the game. This is a combined class using the foundations from STEM and Digital Arts & Design. You will learn the basics of engineering, coding, and building by building a fully functional cardboard sculpture, coding a lego robot ballet, and more! Then you will use entrepreneurial skills paired with your knowledge of design and STEM to work with a group to create a project based on the show Shark Tank. Come up with a product design, advertise it, and “sell” it. What will you and your group pitch? Light up clothes, an automated guitar-playing robot, sound sculptures, mood lamps... the possibilities are endless! Put the power of creativity in your hands!

# MUSIC

## ROCK STAR

Wanna be a rock star? Explore the genre of rock from the 1950's to present. Form your own band, master and record your songs. Use Soundtrap to make a cover song or remix. Develop or advance your skills on your choice of instruments such as ukulele, guitar, bass, drums, keyboard and vocals.

Students will also enter a virtual world to learn about rock with platforms such as RockBand on Xbox. No experience required.

## That's Entertainment

Do you enjoy musicals? Through video, music and class activities, we will explore and enjoy Broadway musicals. Students will become familiar with popular musicals from the past to present. Use an instrument, your voice or Soundtrap to showcase one of your favorite songs from Broadway. Musicals viewed will include student choice.

# DRAMA

## ADVENTURES in ACTING

All the world's a stage and you need to be in the spotlight! If you enjoy acting and performing, this is the class for you! In Adventures Acting, students will work with scripted material to learn advanced acting techniques. Activities such as scene study, characterization, and improvisation will be explored and students will perform scenes and

monologs. All activities are designed to improve stage presence, raise confidence, and provide a positive outlet for energy and creativity. And...“scene”.

## INTRODUCTION TO IMPROVISATION:

### ACTING OFF THE TOP OF YOUR HEAD

“Can we get an opening line?” Have fun while developing your improv skills. You will enjoy participating in a class that will stimulate your creativity and gets you to think on your feet or off the top of your head, but not off the top of your feet! Students will participate in improvisational activities and improv games such as Hitch Hiker, Freeze, and Party Quirks. The quarter ends with students performing in their own improv shows! Improvisation is a great way to improve your stage presence, increase confidence, and build self-esteem!

## DIGITAL ARTS and DESIGN

### Digital Photography

A picture is worth a thousand words! In this class, you will be challenged to explore the concepts of photography and composing images in an alternative way. Study the works from a variety of famous visual artists from around the world, and take your work to the next level by collecting images then gaining hands-on experience with a variety of forms and techniques. Learn how to use different types of cameras. From a DSLR to your everyday smartphone camera, you will discover how to harness the knowledge of adjusting the inner workings of any kind of camera so that you can transform your photos from amateur to professional. Make your visions come alive!

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## Graphic Design

Have you ever wondered what it’s like to be a graphic designer? In the GRAPHIC DESIGN exploratory, you will put design principles and elements into practice. Learn programs like Procreate, Photoshop, and Illustrator, and

discover how these powerful tools can help you develop professional designing skills. Dive into the production process by making things like logos, t-shirts, buttons, typography, stickers, posters, promotional pieces and more! Explore various methods used to create and combine words, symbols, and images to visually represent your ideas.

# MEDIA/COMMUNICATION

## Animation Studio

This course begins with exploring different types of animations, learning the 12 Principles of Animation, and practicing methods to create animations. Students then choose and complete different 2D animation, motion, and stop motion projects individually and/or with partners. Bring your digital or paper/pencil drawings and sketches to life, animate a favorite song and its lyrics, build sets for Lego animation, sculpt claymation scenes, create a motion video with your favorite characters, and so much more. This course is personalized and runs like a workshop. Decide on something you want to try, what story or message you want to share, create your own animation, and have fun!

## Film Studio

Although filmmaking originally involved the use of film, most film productions are now digital. In this course, you will apply filmmaking techniques across a variety of genres and formats. Explore camera shots and angles along with other elements of film. Watch film clips as inspiration for creating and editing your own original productions like: silent films, documentaries, flipped genre movie trailers, recreated scenes from a favorite movie/TV show, digital magazines, etc. You can also propose

and create your own digital story. This course is fun, fast-paced, and personalized, while challenging your filmmaking skills!