

da Vinci Arts Option Descriptions for 2018-2019

HOW THINGS WORK

Some arts classes are year-long while others are 9-weeks long. We do our best to ensure that all students are placed into Arts class options that reflect their passion and interests.

Students in a Year-Long Dance class do not take a quarter term of Dance in their Explore Rotation.

Starting in the 2019-20 school year, all students will take 1 quarter of health each year.

Physical Education at daVinci is Dance!

PPS requires middle school students to have a PE program each year. In 2019-20 ALL students will need to take at least one quarter of PE.

At daVinci, this means that all students will either take a year-long dance class or one quarter of dance through the explore classes.

Class descriptions of the Year-Long Arts classes are on the other side.

9 week Exploratory Classes

DANCE

Explore Dance

This class introduces students to the fundamentals of movement, coordination, rhythm and music. In class, students learn the basic tenets and concepts of Tap, Jazz, Ballet and Modern Dance. It is designed to enhance body conditioning strength, control and flexibility and to develop an awareness of basic alignment and principles of safe and effective movement. All students not in Year-Long dance will take one quarter of explore dance.

DRAMA

Explore Drama

This class exposes students to the foundations of theatre, improv, and ensemble work. Students will create and perform scripted and improvised scenes to be performed in class and will develop vocabulary for assessing their own performance as well as that of their peers.

LITERARY ART

Explore Creative Writing

In this course, students will have the opportunity to create and polish their own fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. With peer and adult support, they will practice generating writing ideas, drafting, revising, and publishing their work. Each quarter, students will have the opportunity to work on their own writing projects, such as stories, poems, essays or personal narratives, picture books, plays, songs, screenplays, graphic novels, novellas, etc.

VISUAL ART

Explore Visual Art

Students in the explore visual art class will learn a variety of two and three dimensional visual arts techniques, including drawing/painting/printmaking, sculpture/pottery, textiles, and digital arts, such as graphic design and digital photography. Students will learn to connect concepts to contemporary art and art history.

MUSIC

Explore African Drumming

This term class focuses on the traditional songs and rhythms of West Africa. We will be using authentic instruments including djembe, sangban and kenkene.

The students will also gain communication and leadership skills by learning to listen for signals and cues within each rhythm or song.

Explore Guitar

Students will be learning all aspects of playing the guitar including chords, strumming, tablature, staff reading, scales, soloing, performing technology and more! Open to students who have never played before through intermediate level guitarists, the focus will be on individual student growth and progress on the guitar. We have guitars here at da Vinci or you can bring your own.

Forecasting forms are due
MARCH 20, 2019 for returning students.
Turn in to the main office.

Class offerings may vary due to student interest and funding.

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- Year-long Arts Focus Classes -

MUSIC

Choir

This class is open to all students. The focus of the class is to develop singing, sight-reading, and rehearsal skills. Students will sing music from a variety of cultures and historical periods including some popular, contemporary songs that will be presented throughout the year. Attendance at ALL performances, both in and out of school is mandatory.

Beginning Concert Band

For students with little or no experience. Instruction on flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, tuba, and percussion. Open to all students regardless of experience and/or skills. Attendance at ALL performances is mandatory.

Intermediate & Advanced Concert Band

This is an auditioned ensemble designed for students who have completed beginning band and have mastered certain basic skills required for Intermediate/Advanced Concert Band. Instruction on flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, tuba, and percussion. Attendance at ALL performances both in and out of school is mandatory.

Year-long Guitar in Explore

Students will be learning all aspects of playing the guitar including chords, strumming, tablature, staff reading, scales, soloing, performing technology and more! The focus will be on individual student growth and progress on the guitar. Students who choose to take this explore based class as a year-long option will benefit from a deeper and ongoing investment in their own musicianship and have the potential to cultivate their own musical leadership skills. We have guitars here at da Vinci or you can bring your own.

LITERARY ART

Year-long Creative Writing

In this class, students will have the opportunity to create and polish their own fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. They will generate, draft, revise, and publishing their work. Each quarter, students will craft writing projects, such as stories, poems, essays or personal narratives, picture books, plays, songs, screenplays, graphic novels, novellas, etc.

VISUAL ART

Visual Art 1

Students in the Visual Art 1 class will learn a variety of two and three dimensional visual arts techniques, including drawing/painting/printmaking, sculpture/pottery, and digital arts, such as graphic design and digital photography. This class will also have an opportunity to work on textiles based projects, such as weaving and felting. Students will learn to connect concepts to contemporary art and art history.

Visual Art 2

Visual arts 2 is a continuing exploration of two and three dimensional visual arts techniques, including drawing/painting/printmaking, sculpture/pottery, and digital arts, such as graphic design and digital photography. The class will also have an opportunity to work on textiles based projects, such as weaving and felting. Students will learn to connect concepts to contemporary art and art history. As the year progresses, visual arts 2 students will have the opportunity to work on choice based media for assignments. **Prerequisite: at least one quarter of 2D art, 3D art, or textiles (with at least a proficient grade)*

Visual Art 3

Visual arts 3 is an advanced visual arts mastery class, that is a continuing exploration of two and three dimensional visual arts techniques, including drawing/painting/printmaking, sculpture/pottery, and digital arts, such as graphic design and digital photography. The class will also have an opportunity to work on textiles based projects, such as weaving and felting. Visual arts 3 students will have the opportunity to work on choice based media for assignments. Students will learn to connect concepts to contemporary art and art history. **Prerequisite: at least one year of 2D art, 3D art, or textiles (with at least a proficient grade)*

DRAMA

Drama

In this class, students will delve into their development as a theatre performer. Students will work to have the skills of voice and speech, auditioning and storytelling. Students will also work on the tools of character and movement. Exploration of scene work, play writing, and performance are aligned with national performing arts standards.

Advanced Drama

This is a spring auditioned class for students who have already taken explore drama and/or regular drama. In this class, students will work on directing, technical theatre, playwriting, and devising theatre. They will have the opportunity to see a play as a class, as well as have exclusive workshops in various theatre forms by guest artists.

Masters Drama

This is a spring auditioned class. This year the focus is understanding that self-expression involves a sequential, creative process called problem solving. Whether the teacher or the student generates the initial problem, the process of reaching a solution is the same. By the end of the year, the Master theater student will work with a small group of fellow Masters to create a theatrical piece using the Elements of Theater, their mind, spirit and body.

DANCE

Apprentice, Journeyman & Master in Dance Levels 1-4

Yearlong classes build on successively higher technical skill levels and emphasize proper technique. Styles include Tap, Jazz, Ballet and Modern. Participation in yearly dance recitals is required. This entails several after school rehearsals and 3-4 weekend performances. For these performances the class works together like a dance company and the presence of every member is essential.

The Arts teachers will work together to ensure students are placed in the appropriate Arts classes.