

Arts Department

During the freshman year, all students take a full year of art courses designed to be an introduction to the elements and techniques in two broad areas of art: Visual Arts and Performing Arts. Students choose a one-semester course in each of these areas, but freshmen who participate in Jazz and Orchestra take these courses for the entire year, and freshmen in Chorale have the option to take the course for the entire year.

In Grades 10 – 12, students must complete at least one full credit of art, though the School encourages students to continue their study of art well beyond this minimum requirement.

In Grades 10 – 12, full-credit courses generally meet four times per week and half-credit courses generally meet two times per week. Students completing the arts graduation requirement in Grade 12 earn one full credit for the completion of a full-credit course during Trimesters 1 and 2. Seniors enrolled in a semester-long class in the spring semester must continue in the course through Senior Spring Project. See the individual course descriptions for more information about the amount of credit granted for each course.

VISUAL ARTS

ARCHITECTURE

Architecture (Grades 10 – 12)

This introduction to architecture uses design as a creative process to understand and explore architectural principles. As students progress through a sequence of individual and collaborative projects that address a variety of design questions, they learn the basic tools of drafting and model making. Emphasis in the latter half of the course is on identifying real-world architectural problems and addressing them in an imaginative and creative way. Projects will include both residential and public space design. Coursework is complemented by viewing, and possibly visiting, important local architectural sites and design firms.

Advanced Architecture (Grades 11 – 12)

In this advanced level study of architecture, students explore increasingly complex relationships between space, form, function, and site. Greater emphasis is on spatial design in the context of culture, technology, and sustainability of the built and natural environment. Course studies include an introduction to landscape architecture and urban design. Using technical drawings and models, students develop and present a final project in a specific area of their interest. Enrollment is limited.

Seniors have the option of enrolling in this course for Trimesters 1 and 2 or for Trimesters 2 and 3. Seniors enrolling in this course during Trimesters 2 and 3 earn 0.5 credits for completion of Trimester 2 and Senior Spring Project hours for completion of Trimester 3. Enrollment in both trimesters is required. This course may run concurrently with Architecture.

Prerequisite: Architecture

CERAMICS

Ceramics: Elements and Principles of Design (Grades 9 – 12)

This semester-long course concentrates on the basics of ceramic techniques, emphasizing spatial awareness, problem-solving, and the wide variety of sculptural and functional formations. Consideration is given to the range of ceramic forms in contemporary art and design, different cultural and historical contexts, and naturally occurring forms. A precise sequence of exercises and projects introduces the formal components of three-dimensional design. Students create projects dealing with line, form, shape, space, texture, value, and color.

Intermediate Ceramics (Grades 10 – 12)

Building on Ceramics: Elements and Principles of Design as an introductory course, Intermediate Ceramics asks students to explore functional and nonfunctional ceramic forms. Students are expected to challenge

themselves with scale and advanced glaze methods. Lectures, slide presentations, and critiques cover historical and contemporary issues in ceramics.

Prerequisite: Ceramics: Elements and Principles of Design

Advanced Ceramics (Grades 11 – 12)

This course is a continuation of the introductory ceramics course with an emphasis on skill, techniques, and form. A variety of hand-building techniques will be used to create advanced forms. Students are also introduced to more advanced techniques and forms on the pottery wheel. Students practice the development of aesthetic ideas through intermediate to advanced ceramic hand-building practices. Students gain knowledge of ceramics (historical and contemporary) and an appreciation of the aesthetics of three-dimensional form as manifested in ceramics objects. A portfolio of work will be completed by the end of the year.

Prerequisite: Intermediate Ceramics

Advanced Ceramics II (Grade 12)

While Advanced Ceramics focuses on form, perfecting craftsmanship, and technique, Advanced Ceramics II requires students to concentrate on motif and the overall design of their work, as well as documenting their work. Students are asked to take into consideration and defend the conceptual elements of their work. At the culmination of the year, students in Advanced Ceramics II give a source presentation to the class showing their influences and the path they have followed over the last three years. Enrollment is limited.

Seniors have the option of enrolling in this course for Trimesters 1 and 2 or for Trimesters 2 and 3. Seniors enrolling in this course during Trimesters 2 and 3 earn 0.5 credits for completion of Trimester 2 and Senior Spring Project hours for completion of Trimester 3. Enrollment in both trimesters is required. This course may run concurrently with Advanced Ceramics.

Prerequisite: Advanced Ceramics

DRAWING AND PAINTING

Drawing and Mixed Media (Grades 9 – 12)

This semester-long course is designed to develop and reinforce visual art skills using traditional drawing materials, collage, and mixed media. Working from observation and from creative approaches to image making, students grow foundational visual art skills by exploring the principles and elements of art and design such as line, tone, proportion, composition, and perspective. Projects promote personal expression, an emphasis on process, and creative problem-solving. Class time includes work sessions, critiques, and discussions of historical and contemporary art examples.

Intermediate Drawing and Painting (Grades 10 – 12)

This course expands upon the techniques, tools, and skills developed in Fundamentals of Drawing and Mixed Media (or Visual Arts 9 for 2023-2024) to offer more advanced approaches to drawing and introduce the fundamentals of painting, including color theory, color mixing, and paint application. Students work from a variety of different sources, including direct observation, photographs, and created environments to increase their strategies for image making. In this course, students undertake projects designed to spark curiosity, develop individual style, and establish a shared language for visual analysis and feedback. Class time includes studio work-in-progress and discussions of historical and contemporary art examples.

Prerequisite: Drawing and Mixed Media (Visual Arts 9 for 2023-2024)

Advanced Drawing and Painting (Grades 11 – 12)

This is an advanced drawing and painting course designed to move students beyond the formal skills covered in the introductory course. Students are given open-ended prompts dealing with narrative and figuration with the goal of becoming more independent in their choice of imagery. Students work from a combination of direct observation and photography and are encouraged to explore what interests them

visually and create a unique body of work. Class consists of work sessions, lectures, discussions, and critiques.

Prerequisite: Intermediate Drawing and Painting

Advanced Drawing and Painting II (Grade 12)

In the Advanced Painting and Drawing II course, students create unique imagery, including at least one large-scale painting, through open-ended prompts. Students are guided on the technical aspects of art-making, as well as the more amorphous, but equally important work of finding one's own voice and path. Students are required to challenge assumptions, develop critical thinking skills, further develop their personal concepts, and continue to find their appreciation for visual concerns and aesthetic values. Students are also required to write and workshop individual artist statements and artist resumes. The goal is to encourage innovation and provide a platform for students to grow as artists. It is in this manner that the lessons learned in class transcend art-making and become applicable to other life situations. Enrollment is limited.

Seniors have the option of enrolling in this course for Trimesters 1 and 2 or for Trimesters 2 and 3. Seniors enrolling in this course during Trimesters 2 and 3 earn 0.5 credits for completion of Trimester 2 and Senior Spring Project hours for completion of Trimester 3. Enrollment in both trimesters is required. This course may run concurrently with Advanced Drawing and Painting.

Prerequisite: Advanced Drawing and Painting

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography (Grades 9 – 12)

In this semester-long course, students learn the basics of 35mm film camera operation, film development, and darkroom skills while exploring the language of black and white photography. Field trips are likely and help to provide visual stimuli and content for work in the lab. Projects promote personal expression, emphasis on process and technique, and creative problem-solving. Class time includes lab work in the darkroom, critiques, and discussions of historical and contemporary art examples. Students wishing for a deeper exploration of darkroom and digital photography should take the full-year course offered in Grades 10 – 12.

Intermediate Photography (Grades 10 – 12)

This course expands on the techniques, tools, and skills developed in Intro to Photography. Students will continue to explore the art of black and white photography, beginning with basic 35mm single-lens reflex camera and darkroom techniques, then moving farther into the expressive power of the medium. Regular shooting assignments encourage students to explore form, abstraction, portraiture, documentary, and subjective photography. Periodic critiques and slide presentations focus on developing a critical vocabulary in the visual arts and a sense of the history of photography. In the second trimester, students are introduced to digital imaging and color photography. An extended project of the student's own choosing concludes the year.

Prerequisite: Photography (Photo 9 for 2023-2024)

Advanced Photography (Grades 11 – 12)

This course is for students who are serious about extending their exploration of the photographic medium. Students enhance their skill in fine printing, including split filtering and myriad photographic papers and sizes. Medium format and alternative cameras are introduced as a means of inspiring new and creative ways of seeing. In addition to exploring color photography, students complete a portfolio of their work by the end of the year, as well as possible book sequencing. Throughout the course, the focus is on deepening personal vision and extending technical mastery.

Prerequisite: Intermediate Photography (Photography for 2023-2024)

Advanced Photography II (Grade 12)

This course builds upon the work students completed in the Photography and Advanced Photography courses, taking students to the next step of seeing their artwork in the context of the history of photography. Students create a number of extended photographic projects in several genres of photography. Emphasis is placed on identifying the intention of each project and committing to one's own passions, curiosities, and visions. Through readings, slide talks, and museum trips, students learn about the history of photography, become aware of the vast range of contemporary approaches to photography, and are better able to define their own photographic directions.

Seniors have the option of enrolling in this course for Trimesters 1 and 2 or for Trimesters 2 and 3. Seniors enrolling in this course during Trimesters 2 and 3 earn 0.5 credits for completion of Trimester 2 and Senior Spring Project hours for completion of Trimester 3. Enrollment in both trimesters is required. This course may run concurrently with Advanced Photography.

Prerequisite: Advanced Photography

WOODWORKING

Woodworking and 3D Design (Grades 9 – 12)

Students in this semester-long course design and build a variety of woodworking and digital fabrication projects including mobiles with suspended hand carved objects, modular hanging lanterns with laser cut panels, and wood boxes with hand-cut joinery, in addition to smaller side projects. Students become proficient in the safe and proper use of both hand tools and power tools such as the lathe, scroll saw, and drill press. This course offers a unique opportunity to learn the fundamentals of woodworking and 3D design.

Intermediate Woodworking and 3D Design (Grades 10 – 12)

This course provides a unique opportunity to gain a solid foundation in woodworking and 3D design. In addition to learning how to safely and properly use the power tools in the studio, students also develop a repertoire of woodworking and digital fabrication techniques while working through a series of design prompts during the year. Student projects include laser cut jewelry, furniture pieces, stereo cabinets, lathe-turned bowls, and more. This course is a great option for those who like to work with their hands.

Prerequisite: Woodworking and 3D Design (Woodworking and 3D Design 9 for 2023-2024)

Advanced Woodworking and 3D Design (Grades 11 – 12)

This course is open to students who wish to develop their sculptural, 3D design, and woodworking skills through a series of self-directed projects. By the end of the year, students create a portfolio of individualized projects with thoughtful design, well-executed aesthetic vision, and clear conceptual foundations. Depending on their projects, students explore more advanced techniques and processes such as steam bending, jig making, and the iterative design process. Students also learn the safe and proper use of more advanced tools including the table saw and handheld routers.

Prerequisite: Intermediate Woodworking and 3D Design (Woodworking and 3D Design for 2023-2024)

Advanced Woodworking and 3D Design II (Grade 12)

In Advanced Woodworking and 3D Design II, students design and construct a variety of increasingly complex and sophisticated woodworking projects that build on skills practiced in Advanced Woodworking and 3D Design. Students learn more advanced woodworking and digital fabrication techniques through the construction of their individual and self-directed projects. Space in this course is limited and the small class size allows students to further refine their woodworking and 3D design skills and explore design and fabrication techniques in greater depth.

Seniors have the option of enrolling in this course for Trimesters 1 and 2 or for Trimesters 2 and 3. Seniors enrolling in this course during Trimesters 2 and 3 earn 0.5 credits for completion of Trimester 2 and Senior

Spring Project hours for completion of Trimester 3. Enrollment in both trimesters is required. This course may run concurrently with Advanced Woodworking and 3D Design.

Prerequisite: Advanced Woodworking and 3D Design

OTHER VISUAL ARTS COURSES

Advanced Placement Art History / Art History (Honors) (Grade 12)

This course tells the story of painting, sculpture, architecture, and the decorative arts by focusing on 250 specific works of art spanning human history from antiquity to the present. It meets three times each week, with a Friday afternoon double-block in the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA); we will also visit the Harvard Art Museum, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and several other sites. During MFA visits, three students each week lead class by giving presentations about individual masterpieces in the museum's collection that supplement the material studied earlier in the week. The course may include a trip to Florence during the first week of Spring Break. Enrollment is limited.

Students who wish to take the Advanced Placement exam may remain enrolled in the course during Senior Spring Project or prepare the final unit, on contemporary art, independently. A student who chooses not to continue in this course during Senior Spring Project and does not complete the final unit receives credit on the transcript for completion of Art History (Honors).

This course fulfills one year of the two-year History and Social Science graduation requirement but does not fulfill the required second year of the Arts Department graduation requirement. This course fulfills the Modern Global History requirement.

Independent Study (Grades 11 – 12)

Independent Study within the Arts Department may be available for students who have a passion for art and a strong commitment to a specific performing or visual art. Students must apply for the Independent Study Program, be highly motivated, capable of working independently, secure an Independent Study teacher, and receive approval from the Arts Department. The Independent Study Program is generally only available to seniors who have completed the advanced course in their area of interest.

Printmaking (Grades 10 – 12)

Printmaking is a group of techniques with an unparalleled wealth of potential. Essentially, it is the process of using one surface, a matrix, to make an image on another surface, in this case, paper. Using their own experiences and imagination, nature, and abstraction as source materials, students explore their personal expressive potential. In this one-semester course, students develop a foundation of knowledge about various printmaking techniques, possibly including monoprint, relief, silkscreen, and intaglio. Tools used to aid the creation of the matrix may include the vinyl cutter, the laser cutter, and the photocopier. This course receives 0.5 credit for each semester of participation and may be taken in the fall and/or spring.

Stagecraft (Grades 9 – 12)

Stagecraft is the term used in theater to describe the skills needed to mount the technical elements of a production. Students in this semester-long course learn about the following topics: history of theater technology; roles and responsibilities of production staff including scenic, lighting, and sound designers; elements of design; principles of stage design; shop and rigging safety; and basic carpentry and lighting tools and proper use. Throughout the semester students collectively create a concept for a theoretical production, design and construct scenic or prop elements providing an environment for their concept, and use theatrical lighting techniques in presenting their design in the art gallery at the end of the semester. Students in the class are required to either participate on the stage crew for a theatrical production at BB&N or work in collaboration with a drama class to produce a short play at the end of the semester.

Studio Arts: Afternoon (Grades 9 – 12)

In this visual arts course, students work independently and amongst peers to realize projects of their own design. Whether seeking an extended opportunity to explore ideas initiated in other arts classes or interested in learning a new skill twice a week, students find an opportunity to pursue personal expressive ambitions with guidance and support. Work in the following media is available: drawing, painting, printmaking, and with permission of the instructor, photography, and ceramics. All skill levels are welcome in this course. Students attend two afternoons per week (Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.). This course runs during the fall, winter, and spring athletics seasons, and students can enroll in one or more seasons per year. For students in Grade 9, this course is only available during the winter or spring season. This course receives 0.25 arts credits for each trimester of participation and must be taken in conjunction with two Health and Fitness classes per week to meet the athletics requirement for that season.

PERFORMING ARTS

CHORAL ENSEMBLES

A Cappella Ensemble (Grades 9 – 12)

The Knightingales and the Voices of the Knight are male and female a cappella close-harmony groups whose members are auditioned from Chorale each year. Admission to one of the a cappella ensembles is by audition only (held during the fall). This course meets one evening (Monday or Thursday) and during one class block per week and receives 0.5 arts credit for each year of participation.

Corequisite: Enrollment in Chorale

Chorale (Grades 9 – 12)

The Chorale is a performing ensemble of approximately 25 – 40 students. The group's repertoire includes songs from many traditions and cultures around the world and through history. Students sing in four to eight parts depending on the size and experience of the group, and occasionally perform all-male or all-female part songs. The group gives formal concerts twice annually as well as numerous performances at school functions, in neighboring communities, and at high school choral events. The ensemble may tour internationally every two to three years and produces recordings of its best performances. Admission to Chorale is based on ability to either learn music by ear or read music; incoming members have a short meeting with the Chorale Director during the spring to clarify which part they will sing. Freshmen who participate in Chorale may continue with Chorale for the entire year and earn a full credit for the yearlong course or take Chorale for only one semester and take a visual arts course during the other semester. This course meets two times per week and receives 0.5 arts credit for each year of participation.

DANCE

Dance Foundations (Grade 9)

This course exposes students to a variety of dance styles and choreographers from the twentieth century. Students learn about classical jazz, contemporary hip hop, swing, and musical theater dance while completing progressions across the floor and short routines based on the style being studied. Beginning and experienced dancers are welcome.

Dance: Contemporary (Grades 10 – 12)

This contemporary dance course focuses on various styles of contemporary and modern dance. Classes begin with learning about rudimentary and fundamental technique while working towards deeper flexibility and strength using a ballet barre. Progressions across the floor and building technique in the center of the room make up the middle section of each class, while routines and working towards performances will conclude classes. Students are encouraged to work towards building their own choreography for solo assignments, as well as group work for informal performances in class. Assignments include choreography work, research of choreographers, as well as some journal writing. No prior dance

experience is required; all levels are welcomed and encouraged. This course meets two times per week for one semester (either Fall or Spring). This course receives 0.5 arts credit for each semester taken and may be taken in conjunction with two Health and Fitness classes per week to meet the athletics requirement for one season. Students who take two semesters of Dance and do not concurrently take Health and Fitness receive credit for one athletics season.

Dance: Musical Theater and Swing (Grades 10 – 12)

This course focuses on the styles of the great legendary choreographers of musical theater, both past and present, as well as partner work and high energy jazz dance as related to big band music for swing style. This class is a great opportunity for students interested in theater and who want to be more proficient in choreography or for dancers who want to add a variety of styles into their technique. No prior dance experience is required; all levels are welcomed and encouraged. This course meets two times per week for one semester (either Fall or Spring). This course receives 0.5 arts credit for each semester taken and may be taken in conjunction with two Health and Fitness classes per week to meet the athletics requirement for one season. Students who take two semesters of Dance and do not concurrently take Health and Fitness receive credit for one athletics season.

FILMMAKING AND AUDIO PRODUCTION

Filmmaking: Sound and Vision (Grades 9 – 12)

This semester-long course is a hands-on, technology-focused storytelling class that explores the unique relationship between cinematic visual storytelling and the world of sound design and scoring. Using cameras and microphones as paintbrushes, students explore the language of cinema and sound, developing short personal pieces that focus on artistry and personal voice. Every student gets a chance to be a director, sound designer, composer, editor, and performer. Students learn the basics of audio production using Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) software such as Soundtrap, Garageband, or Logic Pro, and are introduced to video editing in Adobe's Premiere Pro.

Intermediate Filmmaking (Grades 10 – 12)

Intermediate Filmmaking combines elements of film history and appreciation with a hands-on approach to the cinematic arts. It starts by examining film in its simplest form: traditional hand-drawn animation. The class explores the complicated history of animation while also examining the technical challenges of the medium. Each student creates a short cartoon portrait of themselves and in the process learns advanced editing skills, including masking, keyframe animation, and rotoscoping. The second half of the year focuses on personal documentary filmmaking, with students working both individually and in collaborative groups to plan, shoot, and edit short personal works. The filmmaking program uses the Adobe creative suite of applications, with emphasis on Premiere, Photoshop, and After Effects. A primary goal of media literacy is achieved through a combination of hands-on projects and in-class viewings and discussions.

Prerequisite: Sound and Vision (Filmmaking 9 for 2023-2024)

Advanced Filmmaking (Grades 11 – 12)

Advanced Filmmaking takes a deeper dive into the world of cinema, building on the knowledge gained in the introductory Filmmaking course. This course focuses on developing one's individual voice within the medium. What do you have to say? Who needs to hear it? Students focus on developing unique stories for film pulled from their own experiences. Students further their media literacy by having open, candid discussions about media, how it manipulates, and how to be both an effective content creator as well as a critical thinker. Between these discussions and creating their own content, students develop a critical approach to filmmaking. Enrollment is limited.

Prerequisite: Intermediate Filmmaking

Advanced Filmmaking II (Grade 12)

What is the future of filmmaking and visual storytelling? Advanced Filmmaking II looks to explore these questions and more through the adoption of new technologies and new tools for creating. In this course, students explore how virtual reality (VR) and 360-degree video can create a new kind of viewer experience through the creation of our own VR and 360-degree video content. In addition, students continue developing their cinematic language through the examination and dissection of important works from cinema history.

This course is only offered during Trimesters 1 and 2 and may run concurrently with Advanced Filmmaking.

Prerequisite: Advanced Filmmaking

INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES

Chamber Music (Grades 10 – 12)

Advanced instrumentalists may elect to participate in smaller music ensembles, called Chamber Music Ensembles. Chamber Music Ensembles are formed based on instrumentation, students' musical strengths, and students' schedules; therefore, placement in a Chamber Music Ensemble is not guaranteed. Chamber Music Ensembles prepare repertoire for two formal concerts per year, with additional performance opportunities like assemblies, class meetings, or receptions. Practicing individual parts, score study, and active listening fill the necessary learning time outside of class. A Chamber Music Ensemble may choose to focus on music composition or music theory in addition to or in lieu of preparing for musical performances, based on student interest and scheduling. String, woodwind, and brass players may choose to participate in the Orchestra for two days per week and in one Chamber Music Ensemble, which amounts to 1.0 arts credit for each year of participation. Students who only participate in one Chamber Music Ensemble earn 0.5 arts credit for each year of participation and each additional Chamber Music Ensemble earns an additional 0.5 arts credit for each year of participation. Admission to the Chamber Music Ensembles is by audition only (held before or during the first week of school).

Orchestra and Chamber Music (Grade 9)

The Upper School Orchestra is an ensemble that features string, woodwind, and brass players. Comprised of 30 – 40 students from Grades 9 – 12, the Orchestra prepares two formal concerts per year, with repertoire that centers on classical music and also broadens instrumental students' horizons with contemporary and collaborative projects. Past performances have included Mozart Symphony Nos. 35, 41; Beethoven Symphonies Nos. 1, 3, 5, 6, 7; Schubert Symphonies Nos. 5, 8; overtures, concerto movements, and individual pieces ranging from Bach and Handel to Copland and modern American composers. Examples of exploratory collaborations include "Shri Raga," a new structured improvisation developed in collaboration with a BB&N student tabla player and Terry Riley's "In C," performed outdoors with members of the jazz ensembles and faculty musicians. Admission to Orchestra is based on audition (held before or during the first week of school) and students are expected to play their instruments at an intermediate to advanced student level as well as practice outside of rehearsals, complete occasional written reflection assignments, and participate verbally and non-verbally during rehearsal.

In Grade 9, Orchestra students rehearse three times per week, twice in the Upper School Orchestra and once in a Chamber Music ensemble or additional repertoire study class. Pianists and harpists are admitted to Orchestra on a case-by-case basis, and rarely in Grade 9, however opportunities to re-audition for Orchestra and audition for Chamber Music become available again in Grade 10.

Orchestra (Grades 10 – 12)

The Upper School Orchestra is an ensemble for that features string, woodwind, and brass players. Comprised of 30 – 40 students from Grades 9 – 12, the Orchestra prepares two formal concerts per year, with repertoire that centers on classical music and also broadens instrumental students' horizons with contemporary and collaborative projects. Past performances have included Mozart Symphony Nos. 35, 41; Beethoven Symphonies Nos. 1, 3, 5, 6, 7; Schubert Symphonies Nos. 5, 8; overtures, concerto movements,

and individual pieces ranging from Bach and Handel to Copland and modern American composers. Examples of exploratory collaborations include “Shri Raga,” a new structured improvisation developed in collaboration with a BB&N student tabla player and Terry Riley’s “In C,” performed outdoors with members of the jazz ensembles and faculty musicians. Admission to Orchestra is based on audition (held before or during the first week of school) and students are expected to play their instruments at an intermediate to advanced student level, as well as practice outside of rehearsals, complete occasional written reflection assignments, and participate verbally during rehearsal. Pianists and harpists are admitted to Orchestra only on a case-by-case basis, though are always welcome to audition for Chamber Music. This course meets two times per week and receives 0.5 arts credit for each year of participation.

Jazz (Grade 9) (Grade 9)

The emphasis of the Grade 9 Jazz Ensemble is on improvisational techniques and group playing, with musical selections composed by jazz greats. In addition, students will explore the history of jazz music and various jazz styles. There are at least two performances per year. Admission to Jazz 9 is based on audition (held during spring or during the first week of school), as well as on the specific instrumental needs of the ensemble. The maximum size of this ensemble is fifteen, and there is a limit of two on the number of guitarists, pianists, bassists, and drummers. Freshmen participating in Jazz 9 continue with the course for the entire year.

Jazz Ensemble (Grades 10 – 12)

Participating within a small jazz ensemble, students rehearse and perform compositions by jazz greats such as Duke Ellington, Thelonious Monk, Charles Mingus, and others. The art of ensemble playing and improvisation is the primary focus of this course. Students with the appropriate backgrounds may also contribute as composers or arrangers. There are at least two performances per year. Admission to the Jazz Ensemble is by audition only (held during the first week of school). This course meets one time per week (Monday or Tuesday evening) and receives 0.5 arts credit for each year of participation.

THEATER

Theater Arts and Performance (Grades 9)

This semester-long course provides students the opportunity to dive into the world of theater through a creative, energetic, and interactive exploration of the key skills to create stories for the stage. Over the length of the course, students explore character and story development through the lens of actor, director, designer, and playwright. The course provides an entry point to further theatrical electives as well as a wonderful opportunity to develop communication and interpersonal skills.

Theater Arts: Acting and Directing (Grades 10 – 12)

This semester-long course is designed to provide students the opportunity to explore the world of the actor and director. Studies include script analysis, character development, improvisation, acting for the stage, plays of the last fifty years, notable theater creators, and acting methodologies. This course is not only for students with a passion for acting and directing, but also for students interested in developing key life skills in a safe and creative space. The course culminates in a student presentation of either something studied during the course or of a piece of work created by the group.

Theater Arts: The Art of Presentation (Grades 10 – 12)

This semester-long course gives students the opportunity to master any public speaking engagement. Whether it’s leading a team, making a speech to camera, delivering a closing speech in court, briefing troops, reciting poetry, or holding an audience in the palm of your hand, this course gives the student the tools to be a true motivational speaker. Students develop the skills and knowledge for public and community work involving communication through various mediums and media. The course allows students to gauge ‘the temperature in the room’ and find means to engage through conversation and

discourse, be it to educate, engage, or entertain. The course includes: voice and text work; public speaking; storytelling; poetry recital; presentational methods used in various industries and services; and public relations methods for the media. Students receive 0.5 arts credits for the semester.

Theater Arts: Playwrights of the Future (Grades 10 – 12)

This semester-long course is designed for students with an interest in exploring the world of the playwright. Designed for students interested in creative writing and theater arts, the class not only looks at notable works from the last fifty years, but also the way in which theater storytelling has evolved over the same amount of time. Students explore the multiple ways in which stories can be created for the stage, culminating with creating a one act play to be performed by students in the Spring.

Theater Arts: Shakespeare and the Stage (Grades 10 – 12)

This semester-long course is ideal for students who are interested in exploring the works of William Shakespeare, the Bard, or the world of theater. Students look at how to perform theater based on the principles of John Barton and also explore all notable theater directors who have reinvented the ways in which his works can be performed. Creators such as Peter Brook, Sir Peter Hall, and Tina Packer are examined as students find their own way of creating engaging Shakespeare productions for a new audience.

Advanced Theater Arts (Grades 11 – 12)

Advanced Theater Studies includes an intensive study of William Shakespeare, one American Playwright, one international playwright, a theater creator, and one notable development to the theater world since 1900. Students have the opportunity to work with their peers in an ensemble setting towards performing a piece built around their studies or directing a main stage play during the Spring.

Prerequisite: Theater Arts (Theater Studies for 2023-2024)

Theatrical Production (Grades 9 – 12)

Students who participate in one of the School's theatrical productions through acting, stagecraft, or costume design may elect to participate in this Theatrical Production course. Satisfactory completion of this course includes full participation in the show (play or musical) along with the completion of a rehearsal journal. The rehearsal journal documents the student's weekly activity, the development of skills and knowledge in the role, and includes research and critical observations of the process. Additionally, students regularly meet with the show's Director to discuss progression and goals. This course receives 0.25 arts credit for each season of participation.

Advanced Theatrical Production (Grades 10 – 12)

Students who participate in one of the School's theatrical productions through acting, stagecraft, or costume design may elect to participate in this Advanced Theatrical Production course after the successful completion of at least two seasons of Theatrical Production. Satisfactory completion of the course includes full participation in the show (play or musical) along with the completion of a rehearsal journal. The rehearsal journal documents the student's weekly activity, the development of skills and knowledge in the role, and includes research and critical observations of the process. Additionally, students completing this course at the advanced level write a final paper on the production. The final paper discusses their personal progression through the process, includes a critical examination of the production performed at BB&N, and compares BB&N's production to previous productions of the show. Students also regularly meet with the show's Director to discuss progression and goals. This course receives 0.25 arts credit for each season of participation.

Prerequisite: Completion of two trimesters of Theatrical Production

OTHER PERFORMING ARTS

Independent Study (Grades 11 – 12)

Independent Study within the Arts Department may be available for students who have a passion for art and a strong commitment to a specific performing or visual art. Students must apply for the Independent Study Program, be highly motivated, capable of working independently, secure an Independent Study teacher, and receive approval from the Arts Department. The Independent Study Program is generally only available to seniors who have completed the advanced course in their area of interest.

ATHLETICS ALTERNATIVE ACTIVITIES

Artistic Independent Activity: Students with a major commitment and demonstrated ability in the arts (Grades 9 – 12) who participate in a significant arts program outside of BB&N may apply for a Waiver for Artistic Independent Activity. This Waiver allows students to continue the pursuit of a non-BB&N arts endeavor and waives the requirement to participate in BB&N athletics for that season. All Waiver for Independent Activity (WIA) Forms must be submitted to the Head of the Arts Department no later than the first week of seasonal tryouts. The committee reviews all WIA Forms and notifies students if the activity is approved. WIA Forms are available in the Athletics Department Office and on the School's website.

Students in Grades 10 – 12 who receive an exemption for an Artistic Independent Activity are expected to participate in the Athletics Program for at least one other season per academic year. Students in Grade 9 who receive an exemption for an Artistic Independent Activity are expected to participate in the Athletics Program for at least two other seasons per academic year.

Although a Waiver for Artistic Independent Activity may be granted, non-BB&N art programs do not fulfill the two-year Arts graduation requirement.

Dance: Students in Grades 10 – 12 taking Dance: Contemporary and/or Dance: Musical Theater and Swing have the option to take these courses for athletics credit in addition to arts credit. These courses receive .5 arts credit for each semester taken and must be taken in conjunction with two Health and Fitness classes per week to meet the athletics requirement for one season. Students who take two semesters of Dance and do not concurrently take Health and Fitness receive credit for one athletics season.

Studio Arts: Afternoon: Students who have a true interest in art may participate in the Studio Arts: Afternoon course two days per week (Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.) For students in Grade 9, this course is only available during the winter or spring season. This course receives 0.25 arts credits for each trimester of participation and must be taken in conjunction with two Health and Fitness classes per week to meet the athletics requirement for that season.

Theatrical Program: Three faculty-directed plays and one senior-directed play are staged each year.

Acting: Auditions are open to the entire student body, and students with any level of acting experience are encouraged to audition. All students get the opportunity to enjoy a comprehensive production experience in a creative and empowering environment from the first day of rehearsals to the final performance. Rehearsals take place after school (Monday – Friday) and Saturday mornings during the eight-week rehearsal period.

Stage Crew: This program is open to all students interested in learning about scenery, lighting design, and technical production. Students help design, construct, and paint the scenery, as well as install lighting for the shows. Students also participate in the stage crew by shifting scenery, operating lighting and sound boards, and utilizing other equipment such as followspots and fog machines. Students attend four after-school sessions per week and Saturday mornings as production week approaches.

Costume Design: This program is open to students who wish to work under the supervision of the Costume Designer to develop and construct costumes used in the School's theater productions. Students learn about costume history, millinery, costume props and accessories, hair and makeup design, practical machine and hand-sewing skills, pattern reading, pattern drafting and draping, and all other aspects of costume building. Students attend three to four after-school sessions per week.

Musical Pit Orchestra: Pit orchestra musicians may only qualify at the discretion of the pit orchestra director and musical directors. In such cases, the rehearsal commitment would include rehearsals with the cast, significant individual practice time, and all regularly scheduled pit orchestra rehearsals and performances. Depending on the needs of the show and the particulars of the instrumental part, the rehearsal commitments may be altered by the pit orchestra director.

Participation in a BB&N theater production, through acting, stage crew, costume design, or musical pit orchestra waives the requirement to participate in BB&N athletics for that season and earns credit for participation in an interscholastic sport for one season per year.

Petropoulos Art Scholars Program

Each year the Arts Department creates a varied program of extracurricular events that are of interest to motivated performing and visual arts students. The program includes sessions with visiting artists, workshops on the use of new materials or techniques, and field trips to galleries, museums, artist studios, and theaters. Students who participate in 75 – 80 percent or more of these enriching events are designated as Petropoulos Art Scholars at the end of the academic year.

Global Online Academy Courses: The following arts courses are offered to students in Grades 11 and 12 through Global Online Academy:

- **Arts Entrepreneurship** (Spring)
- **Graphic Design** (Fall and Spring)

For more information on this course, please refer to the Global Online Academy section of this Program Planning Guide.

Courses Not Offered in 2023 – 2024

- Audio Production and Music Technology
- Advanced Audio Production and Music Technology
- Ceramics
- Chorale Band
- Chorus 9
- Dance (Grades 10 – 12)
- Filmmaking 9
- Guitar
- Gospel Band
- Orchestra 9
- Photography 9
- Queen Cover Band
- Singing: Developing the Voice (Grades 9 – 12)
- Theater Studies 9
- Theater Studies
- Visual Arts 9
- Visual Design, Communication, and Social Media (Grade 12)
- Woodworking and 3D Design 9