

Music



Music in Township High School District 211 emphasizes group performance activities. Large ensemble experiences are offered at various levels in Band, Orchestral, and Choral music. Participation in these groups fosters individual musical proficiency while encompassing rudiments of music, music tradition (history), as well as encouraging positive group dynamics.

Education in music promotes development of the whole student and offers each an opportunity to intellectualize in a subjective manner. Through music study, students gain knowledge, skills, and understanding that will enable them to participate productively as individual and group members in the work place and community at large.

Performance groups meet daily during a regularly scheduled school hour. In addition, orchestra directors schedule required evening rehearsals to prepare for major concerts. Participants in all three disciplines are expected to perform scheduled concerts outside the regular school day as a mandatory part of the curriculum.

In instrumental music, larger, more costly instruments are provided by the district. In addition, uniforms and robes are also provided. For those where no provision has been made, the director may ask individuals to purchase apparel. In cases where this causes a financial hardship, each school has a method of accommodating these students. Classroom music is furnished.

Students desiring further preparation and/or academic training in music may elect a one-semester course in music theory or music appreciation.

Members of the performing organization also may be selected to participate in a variety of smaller performing ensembles which meet outside of the school day. These extracurricular groups are active in the community performing for civic, fraternal, and school functions. They also may represent the school in competitions. In addition, the Music Department provides the nucleus for major productions (musical, variety show) giving students further performance opportunities.

Through music discipline, a student develops appreciation, creativity, and sensitivity while becoming an intelligent consumer of the arts. The program also recognizes its obligation to assist those preparing for a career in music.

C100 Fine Arts

LEVEL: 1,2,3,4

One to four years

One-half to one unit per year

(Palatine High School Only)

PREREQUISITE: Placement through staff conference recommendation

This course is designed to teach students to play handbells and experience the principle of sensory, formal technical, and expressive qualities of music and movement. Students will participate in group performances throughout the year.

C124 Orchestra 1

LEVEL: 1,2,3,4

One year

One unit

Orchestra 1 provides instruction in violin, viola, cello, and string bass. Rehearsals will include technical studies, concert preparation, chamber music, repertoire expansion, and basic fundamentals of music theory and music history. Individual skills are developed in daily rehearsals and weekly technique classes, which are an integral part of the orchestra program. Using modern string methods, the course will help prepare the student for participation in Orchestra 2. Students must have consent of the instructor to enroll in C124 Orchestra 1.

C135 Chorus 1

LEVEL: 1,2,3,4

One year

One unit

This course is open to soprano and alto voices who are new to choir at the high school level. Students will receive fundamentals necessary to progress to advanced groups. Individual talent is developed by private and/or class instruction which is an integral part of the chorus program. Participation at all scheduled formal concerts is a requirement of this class. At the discretion of the director, performances at festivals and other events may also be required. No instructor approval is needed for this course.



C136 Chorus 1

LEVEL: 1,2,3,4

One year

One unit

This course is open to tenor and bass voices who are new to choir at the high school level. Students will receive fundamentals necessary to progress to advanced groups. Individual talent is developed by private and/or class instruction which is an integral part of the chorus program. Participation at all scheduled formal concerts is a requirement of this class. At the discretion of the director, performances at festivals and other events may also be required. No instructor approval is needed for this course.

C157 Band 1

LEVEL: 1,2,3,4

One year

One unit

This course is open to students with previous band experience, as well as those students with limited training and experience. Students will receive fundamentals necessary to progress to advanced groups. Individual talent is developed by private and/or class instruction which is an integral part of the band program. Participation at all scheduled formal concerts is a requirement of this class. At the discretion of the director, performances at festivals, home football games, basketball games, and other events may also be required. Students with no previous band experience need instructor approval to enroll.

C224 Orchestra 2

LEVEL: 1,2,3,4

One year

One unit

PREREQUISITE: Audition or consent of the director

Orchestra 2 is open to all intermediate string players. Rehearsals will include technical studies, concert preparation, chamber music, repertoire expansion, and basic fundamentals of music theory and history. Students are given a variety of performance opportunities to increase musical maturity, nurture personal growth, and refine technical abilities. Individual skills are developed in daily rehearsals and weekly technique classes, which are an integral part of the orchestra program. Using modern string methods, the course will help prepare the student for participation in Orchestra 3.



C235 Chorus 2

LEVEL: 2,3,4

One year

One unit

Sopranos and altos who have completed C135 Chorus 1 or who meet minimum first-year objectives set by the department may enroll in this course. Students perform advanced literature and receive training designed to further musicianship encouraging a higher level of choral singing.

C236 Chorus 2

LEVEL: 1,2,3,4

One year

One unit

PREREQUISITE: Audition or consent of the director

This course is designed to provide intermediate level students with more advanced understanding of musical skills, rehearsal procedures, and general musicianship through the rehearsal and performance of choral literature. Individual talent is developed by private and/or class instruction which is an integral part of the chorus program. Participation at all scheduled formal concerts is a requirement of this class. At the discretion of the director, performances at festivals and other events may also be required. Students enrolling in C236 Chorus 2 must have previous training and be able to meet minimum objectives set by the department.

C257 Band 2

LEVEL: 1,2,3,4

One year

One unit

PREREQUISITE: Audition or consent of the director

This course is designed to provide intermediate level students with more advanced understanding of musical skills, rehearsal procedures, and general musicianship through the rehearsal and performance of band literature. Individual talent is developed by private and/or class instruction which is an integral part of the band program. Participation at all scheduled formal concerts is a requirement of this class. At the discretion of the director, performances at festivals, home football games, basketball games, and other events may also be required. Students enrolling in C257 Band 2 must have previous training on a band instrument and be able to meet minimum objectives set by the department.

C324 Orchestra 3

LEVEL: 1,2,3,4

One year

One unit

PREREQUISITE: Audition or consent of the director

Orchestra 3 is open to all advancing string players. Rehearsals will include intermediate to advanced technical studies, concert preparation, chamber music, repertoire expansion, and fundamentals of music theory and history. Students are given a variety of performance opportunities to increase musical maturity, nurture personal growth, and refine technical abilities. Individual skills are developed in daily rehearsals and weekly technique classes, which are an integral part of the orchestra program. Using modern string methods, the course will help prepare the student for participation in Orchestra 4. In addition, students may be selected to audition for membership in the District 211 Honors Symphony Orchestra. The Honors Orchestra represents the highest level of musicianship and presents an annual concert at one of the five District high schools on a rotating basis.

A bird doesn't sing because it has an answer, it sings because it has a song.

– Maya Angelou

C336 Chorus 3

LEVEL: 1,2,3,4

One year

One unit

PREREQUISITE: Audition or consent of the director

This course is designed to provide intermediate/advanced level students a deeper understanding of musical skills, rehearsal procedure, and general musicianship through the rehearsal and performance of intermediate and advanced choral literature. Individual talent is developed by private and/or class instruction which is an integral part of the choral program. Participation at all scheduled formal concerts is a requirement of this class. At the discretion of the director, performances at festivals and other events may also be required. Students enrolling in C336 Chorus 3 must have previous training and be able to meet minimum objectives set by the department.

C357 Band 3

LEVEL: 1,2,3,4

One year

One unit

PREREQUISITE: Audition or consent of the director

This course is designed to provide advancing students understanding of musical skills, rehearsal procedure, and general musicianship through the rehearsal and performance of intermediate and advanced band literature. Individual talent is developed by private and/or class instruction which is an integral part of the band program. Participation at all scheduled formal concerts is a requirement of this class. At the discretion of the director, performances at festivals, home football games, basketball games, and other events may also be required. Students enrolling in C357 Band 3 must have previous training on a band instrument and be able to meet minimum objectives set by the department.

C364 Music Appreciation

LEVEL: 2,3,4

One-half year

One-half unit

Music Appreciation recognizes the need to educate students to be intellectual consumers of music. Emphasis is placed on the development of aural skills and the role of music in society. A prior musical background is helpful, but not necessary for enrollment.

C365 Music Theory

LEVEL: 3,4

One-half year

One-half unit

PREREQUISITE: Department approval

Music Theory is an advanced course for those who want to increase their knowledge of the elements of music and/or to prepare for entrance into a college/university level music program. Emphasis is placed on rhythmic, harmonic, and melodic analysis along with development of aural skills. Academic ability and prior participation in high school music (or formal private instruction) are strongly suggested.

C436 Chorus 4

LEVEL: 1,2,3,4

One year

One unit

PREREQUISITE: Audition or consent of the director

Membership in this highly selective group must also be

based on the maintenance of proper choral balance. This course is designed to provide intermediate/advanced level students a deeper understanding of musical skills, rehearsal procedure, and general musicianship through the rehearsal and performance of advanced choral literature. Individual talent is developed by private and/or class instruction which is an integral part of the choral program. Participation at all scheduled formal concerts is a requirement of this class. At the discretion of the director, performances at festivals and other events may also be required. Students enrolling in C436 Chorus 4 must have previous training and be able to meet minimum objectives set by the department.

C424 Orchestra 4

LEVEL: 1,2,3,4

One year

One unit

PREREQUISITE: Audition or consent of the director

Orchestra 4 is open to all advanced string players. Rehearsals will provide technical studies, concert preparation, chamber music, repertoire expansion, and basic fundamentals of music theory and history. Students are given a variety of performance opportunities to increase musical maturity, nurture personal growth, and refine technical abilities. Individual skills are developed in daily rehearsals and weekly technique classes, which are an integral part of the orchestra program. In addition, advanced string students will be auditioned for membership in the District 211 Honors Symphony Orchestra. The Honors Orchestra represents the highest level of musicianship and presents an annual concert at one of the five District high schools on a rotating basis.

C457 Band 4

LEVEL: 1,2,3,4

One year

One unit

PREREQUISITE: Audition or consent of the director

Since a fairly rigid instrumental balance must be maintained, new members are admitted only when vacancies occur. Emphasis will be placed on advanced band literature, and intellectual and cultural growth. Individual talent is developed by private and/or class instruction which is an integral part of the band program. Participation at all scheduled formal concerts is a requirement of this class. At the discretion of the director, performances at festivals, home football games, basketball games, and other events may also be required. Students enrolling in C457 Band 4 must have previous training on a band instrument and be able to meet minimum objectives set by the department.

