

GBMS Related Arts Offerings

Humanities/Leadership

Global Studies - 5th Grade

Students will research issues the globe is facing including health, food and water shortages, energy use, and violence. Students will learn to write and talk about these issues while exploring what as young people they can do about them. The second half of the semester will begin with the history of the United Nations, especially its mission to spread awareness of human rights. The semester will end with a video and poster project representing student research assessing human rights in a country of their choice

Global Studies - 6th Grade

Students will continue study of global issues with units on health, the environment, and globalization. Coursework will include sharing daily research with peers and debating current events and global politics. The semester course will end with a project and presentation exploring the complicated problems of globalization, paired with reflections on the effects of globalization on various regions of the world.

Global Citizenship (Full-Year course - both semesters; 7th Grade)

This full-year course will help students become well-informed, active, and responsible members of the global community. Students will begin by reflecting upon the world's needs and their responsibility in addressing those needs. Students will learn to approach a problem from many different perspectives by analyzing case studies in many parts of the world, including the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the United Kingdom, Indonesia, Canada, and many more. The year-long course will culminate in a presentation of a student's philosophy of global citizenship--a demonstration of both the student's awareness of global interconnectedness and preparedness for addressing issues of global concern.

Global Leadership (Full-Year course - both semesters; 8th Grade)

This full-year course will continue learning begun in Global Citizenship, focusing on current solutions to real-world global problems, as well as asking students to collaborate on solutions to problems of their own. Through problem-based learning, students will examine case studies of real-world challenges like sustainability, education, and equality, among others. Students will take on a specific country or issue and make it their own, preparing a presentation at the end of the course proposing solutions to an problem of global concern.

Classical Studies--Roman Civilization (7th & 8th Grades)

This course will introduce students to the world of ancient Rome, a civilization that lasted over a thousand years and left a lasting legacy in Europe and large parts of Africa and Asia. The semester will begin with Rome's origins and proceed through various thematic units including civic duty, Stoicism, and government, among other things. In each unit, students will read about Roman history, culture, and legacy paired with readings from Roman literature.

Classical Studies--Greek Civilization (7th & 8th Grades)

This semester course will introduce students to the world of ancient Greece, including history, culture, and literature. The Greek world, though united by language and religion, was diverse and often in conflict with itself. We will begin the course with Greece's foundations in core myths--the Trojan War, Theseus, Perseus, and the Greek Pantheon. We will then travel through units on the Persian Wars, Athenian democracy, philosophy, and theater. Students will read from various ancient authors while exploring thematic topics like living well, honor, and justice.

Communication Skills and Organizational Structures (7th & 8th Grades)

Open ONLY to PEER LEADERS - Semester 1

This course is an introduction to effective leadership practices and communication skills. Students will be provided opportunities to develop an authentic and powerful leadership voice by creating a personal model for leadership communication and define an action plan for their growth in powerful leadership communications.

Leadership Characteristics, Styles, and Practices (7th & 8th Grades)

Open ONLY to PEER LEADERS - Semester 2

This course is designed to elevate the performance of leaders. Students are challenged to develop their potential in seminar-style sessions covering leadership definitions, theory, frameworks, and the global application of skills. Students explore their behaviors, motivations, values, influences, and character in an effort to increase self- and situational-awareness and to think critically.

Technology/STEM

Grade 5 Information/Communication Technology (ICT) - Introduction to Google's Cloud Storage and Productivity Tools

In this introductory course, students will focus on using the Google suite of online tools to work with documents and spreadsheets. In addition, students will:

- create eportfolios using Google Sites
- manage their Google Drives
- use the cloud to communicate and collaborate to solve problems
- practice their keyboarding skills to improve efficiency and productivity
- create spreadsheets/forms/surveys and analyze their data
- create multimedia presentations
- evaluate information sources for accuracy, relevance, and appropriateness
- Use the Internet as a resource to research assigned topics
- learn the guiding principles of being a good digital citizen

Grade 6 - Introduction to Programming Level I

In this introductory course, students will explore the fundamentals of *Swift*, the programming language used to create apps for Apple products. By solving puzzles in a dynamic 3D puzzle world, students will develop a set of coding skills to build up their basic programming vocabulary. Their coding journey begins with simple commands, functions, and loops. In addition, students will add conditional code that responds to changes in the environment, then introduce operators and loops to make their code more precise and easier to use again. Students will develop simple, powerful algorithms that use the same code to solve a range of different puzzles.

Grades 7/8 - Introduction to Programming Level I

In this introductory course, students will explore the fundamentals of *Swift*, the programming language used to create apps for Apple products. By solving puzzles in a dynamic 3D puzzle world, students will develop a set of coding skills to build up their basic programming vocabulary. Their coding journey begins with simple commands, functions, and loops. In addition, students will add conditional code that responds to changes in the environment, then introduce operators and loops to make their code more precise and easier to use again. Students will develop simple, powerful algorithms that use the same code to solve a range of different puzzles.

Grades 7/8 - Computer Programming Level II

Prerequisite - Introduction to Programming I

Offered during 2nd semester only

In Programming Level II, students will build on their fundamental knowledge of Swift. They'll journey beyond simply solving puzzles and create worlds of their own. They'll learn about variables and types, the coding constructs that allow them to store and access information. These new skills, along with initialization and parameters, will give them even more ways to use code to interact with their characters and the puzzle world, allowing them to change the rules of the world itself.

Introduction to STEM (7th & 8th Grades)

Do you ever wonder how are bridges made? Or perhaps, how architects plan out a building or house? Most importantly, could you build an apparatus to keep an egg from breaking while dropping it from a very tall height? “Introduction to STEM” will give the answer to all of these questions and more!

In this course, students will find solutions to real world problems. Students will have a “hands on” approach for all stages of design from the planning phase, to the drawing phase, to the creation phase. The goal of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) is to provide students with the opportunity to participate in activities designed to emphasize collaborative learning, critical and analytical thinking, problem solving, creativity and effective experimental design.

STEM II (Prerequisite - Introduction to STEM and Computer Programming; 8th Grade ONLY)

In this course, students will use the skills that they learned in “Introduction to STEM” and “Computer Programming” to work on more in-depth projects and problems. The major theme occurring in STEM II is robotics type programming. Students will work on solving real world problems through planning, designing, and creating.

Performing Arts

5th Grade Performing Arts -The World of Theater

A fascinating introduction to the exciting world of theater! In this class we will find out why theater is part of what makes us human. Why it gives our lives meaning and helps us discover who we are. We will explore the drama and passion of the ancient Greeks and Romans, then journey through the Renaissance world of Shakespeare and Marlowe. This class is highly interactive and will include beginning theater games, vocal and physical warm-ups, experiment with body

language and even introduce some aspects of technical theater. Students will begin to recognize themselves as individual artists, as integral members of an ensemble, and as essential contributors to a universal cultural phenomenon.

6th Grade Performing Arts - The American Theater Experience

This course will review and build on basic theater concepts introduced in The World Of Theater. Students will be introduced to that uniquely American theatrical experience known as Broadway! Vaudeville, burlesque, and the history of the Great White Way will be uncovered as we learn about the actors, directors, choreographers and theater professionals that have shaped our culture and helped us define ourselves as a people. Students will expand their knowledge of theater as we find out what those people actually do and how they do it. We will continue to participate in our introductory acting exercises, learn new acting games, sharpen our focus, hone our craft and learn to support each other as members of an ensemble.

Theater Seminar I (7th & 8th Grades)

In this class the student will begin to work seriously on developing themselves as an apprentice of theater. We will focus more intently on training the actor's vocal and physical "instrument." The student will be introduced to the various acting techniques developed by world famous theater teachers such as: Stanislavski and his ground-breaking, emotional memory technique; Lee Strasberg and his legendary "method" acting; Sandy Meisner's highly regarded repetition exercises and Viola Spolin's celebrated theater games. We will work on how to build a character, find out about monologues, continue to learn about the physical environment of the theater and the wide variety of careers associated with the theater. This class is highly participatory. Students should come prepared to perform!

Theater Seminar II - (Prerequisite - Theater Seminar I; 8th Grade Only)

After touching on various acting techniques in Theater Seminar I, students will now take what they've learned and use it to help themselves go deeper in their training as an actor. Students will learn to choose the right monologues for audition

and competition, how to write their own monologues and experiment with basic script writing. Beginning scene study will be introduced. Students will further their knowledge of technical theater and continue to learn about the job of the director, the stage manager, the producer, choreographer, set designer and publicity manager as 21st century careers. To make themselves ready to inhabit a variety of roles, the student will continue to train their bodies and voices through acting exercises, theater games, and ensemble work. Some beginning improvisation will also be explored. This class, like its precursor, is highly participatory and performance based.

Playwriting and Play Production (7th & 8th Grades)

This course combines written and musical composition, performance, dance, vocal interpretation, speaking, and listening. Students will first familiarize themselves with the essentials of a creative, unified story before incorporating various performance elements to illustrate the process of moving from page to stage. Text and video exemplars from various genres and eras will provide students not only with a source of inspiration but also a cultural familiarity and framework for appreciation and understanding. Student output will range from imitation to parody to original concept and production. Not all students are writers; not all are musicians; not all are actors or dancers. Still, all can appreciate and contribute in one or more of these categories. In doing so, they explore more than merely the realm of performance; they experience the valuable endeavor of collaboration.

Scriptwriting (Prerequisite - Playwriting and Play Production, 8th grade only)

As a continuation of the Play Writing course, script writing moves beyond the basic plot formula, giving students an opportunity to explore conventions and formats of specialized genres. Among these genres are television episodes, screenplays, short films, online videos (public service announcements, short dramas, documentaries), and, of course, stage plays.

Visual Arts

5th Grade Art

The goal of the 5th grade art program is to explore the visual arts. Students will create artwork that is two-dimensional and three-dimensional. Throughout the class, students will become familiar with: cultural art from around the world, art history, develop a deeper understanding of the elements and principles of design, critique and experimenting with different art media. Students will use methods of critique to better understand one's artwork and the artwork of others. The lifelong skills of creative problem solving and critical thinking are developed. Students will expand their prior knowledge and learn new skills and concepts.

6th Grade Art

6th graders continue their exploration of art. The curriculum will offer opportunities to practice skills acquired in 5th grade and expand knowledge with new projects and concepts. The art making process will take on new meaning as work is created at a higher level. The application of different art media, techniques and processes will be discovered. Through the study of art and artists of different cultures and historical periods, students will gain significant understanding of themselves and others. Students will continue to develop a deeper understanding of the elements and principles of design. Students will use methods of critique to better understand one's artwork and the artwork of others. The lifelong skills of creative problem solving and critical thinking are developed. Students will expand their prior knowledge and learn new skills and concepts.

7th & 8th Art

Art for 7th & 8th graders is a semester elective with the choice of 2D and/or 3D Art. Students will expand their prior knowledge about art and technique from previous years. Students are encouraged to continue their explorations in art at their individual level of skills, interest and readiness. Creative, unique, and individual interpretations of assignments are encouraged so that each student artist produces personal works of art.

2-D ART (7th and 8th Grade) - This hands-on studio production-based program incorporates a greater depth of understanding of the aspects of two-dimensional art. Students will advance their personal skill level in the study of different methods, techniques, and processes when creating two-dimensional art. Students will focus on the understanding and use of the elements and principles of design. The use of different art mediums, techniques and processes will be developed further. Students will have to keep a VISUAL ARTS SKETCHBOOK journal. Through the study of art and artists of different cultures and historical periods, students will gain significant understanding of themselves and others. They will learn to view art as a reflection of cultural ideas, beliefs, and social conditions and develop thinking and verbal skills through discussions. Students will use methods of critique to better understand one's artwork and the artwork of others.

3-D ART (7th and 8th Grade)- This hands-on studio production-based program incorporates a greater depth of understanding of the aspects of three-dimensional art. Three Dimensional works of art will be created using a variety of methods. Students will learn a variety of sculptural techniques and use art mediums such as paper mache, wire, cardboard, paper, found objects, and other mediums to form unique sculptural masterpieces. Handbuilding with clay to construct ceramics will be investigated producing very different outcomes. Through the study of art and artists of different cultures and historical periods, students will gain significant understanding of themselves and others. They will learn to view art as a reflection of cultural ideas, beliefs, and social conditions and develop thinking and verbal skills through discussions. Students will use methods of critique to better understand one's artwork and the artwork of others.

Vocal Music

5th Grade Junior Chorus

Enjoyment of singing and performing in a group will be the primary focus of this introduction to chorus for 5th graders. Students will sing unison, 2, and 3-part music as they learn to read and interpret beginning choral music. Performances will include songs of the classical tradition, folk music, patriotic music, spirituals, holiday music, Broadway selections, and popular music from multiple cultures, and in a variety of styles.

6th Grade Junior Chorus

Enjoy singing and performing with others? 6th grade chorus is designed for the student who prefers singing as their musical activity. Students will sing unison, 2, and 3 part songs from across the historical spectrum in a variety of styles, representing multiple cultures. They will advance their skills and vocal development, as they learn, perform, and interpret choral music. Performances will include songs from the classical tradition, folk music, patriotic music, spirituals, holiday music, Broadway selections, and popular music.

7th & 8th Grade Senior Chorus

Enjoyment of music through singing and performance is the primary objective for 7th and 8th grade students who join Senior Chorus. Senior chorus rehearsals will take vocal development to new levels as we learn songs for changing voices and mixed chorus. The chorus will sing in 3 to 5 part voicing including soprano I and II, alto, tenor, baritone, and possibly bass as they learn, perform, and interpret choral music. Performances will include songs from the classical tradition, folk music, patriotic music, spirituals, holiday music, Broadway selections, and popular music. Though 7th and 8th grade will sing the same concert literature and perform together in three to five performances spread throughout the school year.

Green Brook Singers

Prerequisite: 7th and 8th graders by audition

Green Brook Singers is a select vocal ensemble of 16 to 24 voices that sing a cappella, traditional, popular, and Broadway music in concerts and by special request, throughout the school year. This is Green Brook's most advanced choral ensemble. Students will be expected to demonstrate advanced musical performance skills and commitment to the organization.

Instrumental Music

Orchestra

Jr. Orchestra (5th & 6th Grade Strings)

From beginners to advanced players, learn to play a string instrument (violin, viola, cello, or bass) within an ensemble. We will focus on proper posture, form and technique and will learn to tune ourselves and maintain good intonation through a varied repertoire of music. Students will perform all styles of music including classical pieces, fiddle tunes, pop songs, and multicultural music.

Sr. Orchestra (7th & 8th Grade Strings)

From beginners to advanced players, learn to play a string instrument (violin, viola, cello, or bass) within an ensemble. We will focus on proper posture, form and technique and will learn to tune ourselves and maintain good intonation through a varied repertoire of music. Students will perform all styles of music including classical pieces, fiddle tunes, pop songs, and multicultural music.

Advanced Orchestra

Students who are recommended for advanced orchestra will have more opportunities for performance and the development of their craft. In general, advanced orchestra students are players who have studied their instrument for a minimum of two years. **Advanced orchestra will meet in the morning and during PGC.** Students will be challenged by more difficult music and receive help on advanced techniques such as vibrato, music out of first position, and alternate

bowings. Students will perform all styles of music including classical pieces, fiddle tunes, pop songs, and multicultural music. The size of this ensemble enables students to tackle more challenging music, while receiving more individualized instruction. Students in advanced orchestra may also be part of Jr. or Sr. Orchestra and must perform with Jr. Orchestra and/or Sr. Orchestra during all concerts.

Band

The band program is required of any student who joins the instrumental music program. All ensembles perform at the yearly Winter and Spring Concerts. The ensembles are as follows:

5th Grade Band

The 5th grade band will be a beginner-level group this year, and will be a second-year group next year with the addition of 4th grade band at I.E.F. This group will have fun implementing their newly-acquired fundamentals within the performance of their band music. **5th Grade Band will meet during PGC on Wednesdays or Fridays in addition to scheduled band classes. There is no morning requirement for 5th Grade Band.** This group plays band pieces that include songs of the classical tradition, folk music, patriotic music, marches, spirituals, holiday music, Broadway selections, and popular music from multiple cultures, and in a variety of styles in the grade ½ to 1 range.

6th Grade Band

This band will consist of second and third-year players who will be reinforcing the tools they have learned to this point as well as acquire a few new ones (ability to play in cut time and compound meter, for example) as they prepare to join the top level band next year. **6th Grade Band will meet in the mornings on Mondays from 7:15-7:55 from October 1st through June 1st, in addition to scheduled band classes.** Performances will include songs of the classical tradition, folk music, patriotic music, marches, spirituals, holiday music, Broadway selections, jazz, and popular music from multiple cultures, and in a variety of styles in the grade 1, 1 1/2, to 2 range.

7th and 8th Grade Senior Band

This band is the highest level in the school, and the participating students will be focused on refining their abilities (such as having all major and minor keys through 5 sharps and 5 flats memorized) to ultimately be ready to take the next step into the high school band. Select students from this group will also be participating in the Watchung Hills Sending District Honor Band. This group, as well as our Jazz Band, will also have the opportunity to be adjudicated and to compete at Dorney Park. This group plays band pieces. **Senior Band will meet in the mornings on Tuesdays from 7:15-7:55 from October 1st through June 1st, in addition to scheduled band classes.** Performances will include songs of the classical tradition, folk music, patriotic music, marches, spirituals, holiday music, Broadway selections, jazz, and popular music from multiple cultures, and in a variety of styles.in the grade 2, 2 1/2, to 3 range.

Wind Ensemble

Wind Ensemble is an elite ensemble created from members of the 7th and 8th grade band through an audition process. The students who are accepted into this ensembles play in both the Winter Concert and Spring Concert. **Wind Ensemble will meet in the mornings on Wednesdays from 7:15-7:55 from October 1st through June 1st.** Performances will include songs of the classical tradition, folk music, patriotic music, marches, spirituals, holiday music, Broadway selections, jazz, and popular music from multiple cultures, and in a variety of styles.in the grade 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 range.

Jazz Band

Jazz Band is an elite ensemble created from members of the 7th and 8th grade band through an audition process. The students who are accepted into this ensembles play in both the Winter Concert and Spring Concert. **Jazz Band will meet in the mornings on Thursdays from 7:15-7:55 from October 1st through June 1st.** The Jazz Band music selections are selected from the many types of jazz band repertoire such as Dixieland, big band, be-bop, modal, fusion, funk, and rock.

Many chamber ensembles are created as well. These A select woodwind or brass ensemble is formed every year to play for the Green Brook Tree Lighting Ceremony and for the Green Brook Assisted Living Center. Students who demonstrate a very high level on their instrument are recommended by their band director to audition for the CJMEA Region II ensemble.

Instrumental Music Lessons

The instrumental music program is offered to students grades 5-8 and they can join at any grade level, although it is preferred that they join in either 4th or 5th grade. The following instruments are offered to the students: flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, tuba, and percussion. The students who join the program are put into a lesson group that is pulled out of lunch recess once a week (5th Grade students are also be pulled from PGC). The students work out of Bruce Pearson's Standard of Excellence band method series, and some of the material covered in the three-book series is as follows:

Standard of Excellence Series

Book 1: All Instruments- rhythm (quarter note/rest, dotted quarter note, half note/rest, dotted half, whole note/rest, and eighth notes), dynamics (p, mp, mf, f, crescendo, and decrescendo), time signatures (4/4, 2/4, and $\frac{3}{4}$), tempo markings (largo, andante, moderato, allegro and ritardando), pick up notes, repeats, 1st and 2nd endings, D.C. al Fine, and articulation (ties and accents). Winds/Mallets Only- Keys of concert Bb, F, and Eb Major scales, slurs, natural, flat, and sharp function; Percussion Only- Rudiments (single paradiddle, flam, flam tap, flam accent, flam paradiddle, nine-stroke roll, five-stroke roll, seventeen-stroke roll), Rhythm (sixteenth notes, sixteenth/eighth note combinations)

Book 2: All Instruments- Rhythm (syncopation, eighth rest, Single Sixteenth notes, dotted eighth notes, dotted eighth/sixteenth note combinations, eighth note triplets), tempo (allegretto, accelerando and maestoso), Texture (monophony and polyphony), Time Signatures (cut time (2/2), 3/8 and 6/8) and D.S. al fine, and Da Capo al Coda. Winds/Mallets Only- Rhythm (Sixteenth notes, sixteenth/eighth note combinations), intervals, chords, enharmonics, melody vs. countermelody, the

concert keys of g minor, Ab Major, c minor, and C Major; articulation (staccato, legato, and tenuto) (Percussion Only- Rudiments (syncopated nine-stroke roll, drag, flamacue, and the seven-stroke roll), rolls/ syncopated rolls in cut time.

Book 3: All Instruments- Rhythm (sixteenth/dotted eighth note combination, sixteenth/eighth/sixteenth note combination, sixteenth rest, dotted quarter rest, sixteenth notes in compound meter, quarter note triplets), dynamics (ff , pp, sfz, fp), form (binary, ternary, rondo), style (grazioso, dolce, sostenuto, cantabile, swing), tempo (andantino and larghetto), time signatures (9/8, 6/4, 5/4, 12/8, and asymmetrical meters), music history (Middle Ages, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionism), 12-bar blues. Winds/Mallets Only- grace notes, trills, concert keys of d minor, Db Major, f minor, G Major, and a minor; Percussion Only- Rudiments (single ratamacue, double ratamacue, seven stroke roll with triplet primary strokes, triple ratamacue, paradiddle-diddle, four-stroke ruff, flam paradiddle-diddle, drag paradiddle, double drag tap, fifteen stroke roll, eleven stroke roll).