



**THE VILLAGE
SCHOOL
2020-2021**

**Middle School
Course of Study**

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

Table of Contents

Course Descriptions	5
Language Arts	6
Social Studies	8
Mathematics	10
World Languages	13
Physical Education	14
Science	15
Elective classes	17
Visual and Performing Arts	19

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

General Academic Information – Curriculum

The middle years curriculum at The Village School is composed of opportunities in the classroom and through a vast array of extracurricular activities. The instructors provide differentiation in each subject area that guides student engagement at different levels. Our comprehensive approach combines an integrated curriculum and creative teaching techniques with rich, extracurricular activities in the form of clubs, sports and performance opportunities.

Language Arts

Our program focus in Language Arts is for students to be lifelong readers and writers. Students spend time studying novels, short stories, articles, and other writings related to content areas as well as exploring current trends in literature. Grammar and vocabulary are developed in preparation for Upper School and the standardized assessments for college entrance. Mastery of the five-paragraph essay format is the groundwork which is utilized, throughout the middle years, to expand and build student writing skills. This format is adapted while exploring the expository, narrative and persuasive writing modes.

Mathematics

The middle school Math program continues to build upon their mathematics foundation established in the lower school and allows students to apply this knowledge to real-world math problems. They continue to use the Singapore Math Approach into middle school, emphasizing problem solving and empowering students to think mathematically. Thoughtful sequencing helps students build a complex understanding and apply math concepts to situations outside the classroom.

Social Studies

The middle school Social Studies program is presented as a three year, chronological study of American and World History. Unique to our program are the timeline portfolios that students create to represent historical events in both American and World History. Student work and creative cues are added for each unit of study so that student timelines become an individualized, evolving, work-in-progress throughout the middle school years. Additionally, our school-wide STEAM philosophy is centered around the social studies curriculum, which facilitates holistic learning through the integration of all content areas and helps to maximize connections for our students.

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

Science

The middle school Science program focuses on all three specifics. Beginning in 6th grade, students focus on Earth Space Science, while 7th grade students concentrate on Life Science and 8th grade students focus on Chemical and Physical Science. The science program provides opportunities to work on complex science text to prepare for higher grades and deeper understanding of topics. Each student has an interactive science notebook that they are required to bring to each class. This notebook is where they take their notes, complete labs, and classwork. As educators of a STEAM school we hope to pull together the knowledge from all of their classes so the students can see how science is weaved throughout their everyday lives while sharing our passion for science while learning in a nurturing environment.

World Languages

Students are exposed to Spanish through 5th grade and can elect to continue Spanish in 6th and/or 7th grade. In 8th grade, students may select Spanish 1 for Upper School credit or opt out of taking a language course all together.

Performing & Visual Arts

Students can elect to take courses in the arts. They have the option of visual art, digital photography, band, chorale, steel drums or theater.

Physical Education

Students in 6th & 7th grade are required to take a P.E. course (optional for 8th grade students) and may elect to participate in competitive after-school sports. Physical Education is an important aspect of a total education. A healthy human being should develop mind, body and spirit. We offer opportunities for decision-making and confidence-building while learning fair play and teamwork.

Electives

Students select electives as desired to give them an opportunity to experience different subjects throughout the middle years.

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

Academic Policies and Procedures

Students are grouped to give each individual the pace of learning that is challenging but not stressful. Groups are not static. Placement is evaluated on an ongoing basis and can change if performance indicates that coursework is too demanding or insufficiently challenging.

Course Descriptions

Course descriptions, separated by department, are given on the following pages.

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

Language Arts

The Middle School Language Arts curriculum encompasses grammar, vocabulary development, formal writing and literature study. Grammar skills encompass learning the parts of speech and components of strong sentences, with additional focus on syntax within various types of sentence structure. Vocabulary is taught through Greek and Latin roots along with practice using vocabulary in multiple ways. Literary concepts such as theme, conflict, foreshadowing and metaphor are taught and analyzed, and provide a foundation for analytical writing. Expository writing is an essential skill designed to encourage organization, evaluative and critical-thinking skills.

Language Arts

6th grade

6th grade continues to practice the 5-paragraph essay, building on the skills learned in 5th grade. Students write a variety of essays—narrative, expository, persuasive, and responses to literature. 6th grade students study grammar in the context of their writing, and continue to learn Greek and Latin roots in their vocabulary study. Literature includes historical fiction that mirrors social studies topics as well as modern classics, and STEAM projects focus on this connection between Language Arts and Social Studies.

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

Language Arts

7th grade

7th grade Language Arts students write a variety of essays—narrative, expository, persuasive, and begin responding to literature. The year starts off focusing on the art of narrative writing. This unit of study is supported by instruction that uses Writer’s Workshop as the foundation. Our narrative writing unit is tied into a class novel and short stories that allow students to view and explore examples of literary techniques as they continue to build their personal connection to writing. Moving forward, students begin to analyze literature through reflective writing. Students continue to learn research skills while enhancing their ability to form persuasive writing that demonstrates thoughtful opinions backed up with educated facts. Our Writer’s Notebook allows students a place to generate ideas while practicing writing strategies and techniques. 7th-grade students study grammar in the context of their writing and continue to learn Greek and Latin roots in their vocabulary study. Literature includes historical fiction that mirrors Social Studies topics as well as modern classics, and STEAM projects focus on this connection between Language Arts and Social Studies.

Language Arts

8th grade

8th grade at The Village School continues to build upon concepts from 7th grade with accelerated depth and pace. The Social Studies influence is based on world history which leads the learning, both reading and writing, to a global focus. Essays are based on responses to literature, narrative, persuasive, creative poetry. Students build on their skill set to include poetic analysis and research writing. Works cited as well as annotated bibliography, are an additional focus as students prepare for the rigors of Upper School. Writing units are supported by instruction that uses Writer’s Workshop as the foundation. Students continue to use a Writer’s Notebook which allows a place to generate ideas while practicing writing strategies and techniques. 8th-grade students study grammar in the context of their writing and continue to learn Greek and Latin roots in their vocabulary study. Literature varies from traditional texts and novels to poetry and speeches. At this level, STEAM unit projects are integrated across core curriculums and draw in electives as well, thus exemplifying global learning. Students dive into innovative projects which allow creativity and diverse options to demonstrate

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

understanding. Students begin to see themselves as lifelong learners with inquisitive minds and valid opinions.

Social Studies

The middle school Social Studies program is presented as a three year, chronological study of American and World History. Unique to our program are the timeline portfolios that students create to represent historical events in both American and World History. Student work and creative cues are added for each unit of study so that our timelines become an individualized, evolving, work-in-progress throughout the middle school years. Additionally, our school-wide STEAM philosophy is centered around the social studies curriculum, which facilitates holistic learning through the integration of all content areas and helps to maximize connections for our students.

Social Studies

6th grade: Formation of American Government through Civil War

Our 6th grade students start off the year with a study of the early colonial experiences of Jamestown, Roanoke and Williamsburg. They understand the work that it took to create settlements through a reenactment of a colonial market day by portraying various trades people and skilled workers. The students then explore the French and Indian War and the growing divisions with England. The American Revolution follows which includes the study of the great leaders, most important battles and the role of spies in our success. They continue their studies with the founding of our nation and the importance of the government documents laid out by our founding fathers. A Citizens Day celebration for their parents concludes this unit. The era of Westward Expansion and Manifest Destiny are the next important era. Students participate in a hands-on research STEAM activity where they create a scale map of the Oregon Trail and then program Ozobots to make informational stops along the way. Students also experience a local element of Westward Expansion by learning Western Square dancing and enjoying traditional western grub for lunch. Students continue, chronologically, learning about the changes in our industry and the first wave of immigration. Students then begin learning about the rising tensions that would give way to the Civil War and its impact on the United States. This unit has a culminating simulation where each student is able to represent one of various people, battles, technology and stories of the Civil War, using a variety of presentation formats: live performance, QR codes, hands on demonstrations, artwork, and graphic design.

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

Social Studies

7th grade: Second Wave of Immigration through Modern American Decades

Students begin the year with a study of the changes in origins of immigration, Ellis Island, and the need for cheap labor to fuel the Industrial Revolution taking off in America. Students host an interactive New York tenement reenactment that is the prompt for a writing piece about the sights and smells of tenement life. The Gilded Age unit focuses on technological changes in building & infrastructure and on the robber barons that created the massive changes taking place in our society. This is a full STEAM unit with students building models of the great structures of New York City. Women’s suffrage, African American leaders of reform, child labor and changes in the workplace continue this unit study. WWI is the following study with a focus on new technologies of war, societal changes, and the Treaty of Versailles. The roaring 20’s and the economic trends that caused the stock market crash of 1929 bring students closer to “modern America”. Students participate in the Stock Market Game, an interactive game of buying, selling and maintaining a stock portfolio. A “crash” party demonstrates the wide gap between the wealthy and the poor during the Great Depression. WWII is very a comprehensive unit: from the Holocaust to the home front, and from the European theater to the Pacific front; students emerge with a very solid understanding of this war and its subsequent effects on modern American life. Lastly, the study of political, economic and social changes from the Cold War through the 20th Century complete the year.

Social Studies

8th grade: Prehistory through The Renaissance

Students begin the year with the study of the Paleolithic and Neolithic eras of prehistory. Next, they examine the great river civilizations of Mesopotamia, China and Egypt. We continue on to the Classical civilizations of Greece and Rome. All of these civilizations are studied through the filter of great engineering feats, as well as through their geographic, economic, cultural and political influences. This study is concluded with an Ancient Artifact Academy. Using the engineering design process, students choose a structural achievement, an ancient technology, or a cultural element of an ancient society to research. They create their own scale drawing, write a research paper, build a model, and film a presentation to make our “Academy” a perfect STEAM showcase for parents and other visiting grade levels. Once the students understand the effects of the fall of Rome, the Dark Ages follow, and then lead into the Middle Ages. This a

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

comprehensive unit with students conducting research on a variety of topics from feudalism to the Norman Conquest, The influence of the Christian Church, the Crusades, castles and cathedrals, the Magna Carta, and the origins of global trade. This unit allows students to utilize a variety of skills as they prepare for a Medieval Faire. Every student learns about an actual person from the Middle Ages that they must personify at the Faire. It is an entire day of Medieval revelry and a showcase of student learning. We conclude the year with an art intensive unit on The Renaissance, focusing on science, literature, and art, to make connections to this time period.

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

Mathematics

Beginning in 6th grade, students continue to build their mathematics foundation and apply this knowledge to real-world math problems. They use the Singapore Math Approach into middle school, emphasizing problem solving and empowering students to think mathematically. Thoughtful sequencing helps students build a complex understanding and apply math concepts to situations outside the classroom. This rigorous series integrates pre-algebra, algebra, two and three dimensional geometry, analytic geometry, probability, and statistics. By 8th grade, students may have the opportunity to take Algebra 1 at the Upper School level for credit.

Mathematics

6th grade

The 6th grade course emphasizes many critical areas of development. Students examine the various expressions of whole numbers and utilize the Order of Operations. Students will connect ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division as well as use concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems. Student will also complete their understanding of division of fractions and decimals while extending the notion of numbers to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers. Students will write, interpret, and use expressions and equations. Students then analyze coordinate planes and graphs then proceed into volume and surface area. Students conclude the year by developing an understanding of statistical thinking through the process of displaying, analyzing, and comparing data.

Mathematics

7th grade

Students in 7th grade begin with the factors and multiples, including prime factorization and the use of the greatest common factor and the least common multiple. They learn about the real number system and its properties. Students build on their knowledge of algebraic notations, expressions and formulas. They continue developing skills of algebraic manipulation and solve simple equations and inequalities with one variable. Students apply rates, ratios, proportions, and percent of increase and decrease to real world situations. A unit of geometric concepts angles, triangles and quadrilaterals, follows. Students analyze number patterns and sequences. Analytic Geometry is introduced with coordinates and linear graphs. Students will analyze and solve for the measurements of both plane figures (perimeter and area) and solids (surface area

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

and volume). They conclude the year by developing an understanding of statistical thinking by handling and analyzing data and determining the probability of simple events.

Mathematics

8th grade

The 8th grade math course is comprised of multiple units. This math course establishes a strong mathematical foundation for students before they move onto Upper school level courses. The first unit focuses on exponents and scientific notation. Students delve into understanding linear equations in two variables and learn multiple ways to solve simultaneous two variable linear equations. The next few units cover the expansion and factorization of algebraic expressions which is applied to simple algebraic fractions. Students are exposed to Transformational Geometry, where they will investigate concepts of transformations, congruence, and similarity. In the following unit students enter the realm of Measurement Geometry, analyzing angle relationships in various applications, the Pythagorean Theorem, coordinate geometry and measurements of various geometric shapes. Finally students explore statistics, data analysis and conclude the year by exploring quadratic functions and application.

Algebra 1 Honors

(1 year/1.0 unit of Upper School credit)

This is a one-year course with some discussion of theory and application beyond basic manipulative skills. Algebra 1 Honors involves an in-depth exploration of algebraic concepts, through additional word problems and mathematical labs. Concepts covered in this course include simplifying expressions, solving and graphing equations and inequalities, factoring polynomials, simplifying rational expressions, solving systems of equations, simplifying radicals and solving quadratic equations. The Honors course concludes with an introduction to Algebra II concepts.

Prerequisite: Above average grade (determined by the instructor) on the placement exam and recommendation from 7th grade math instructor along with a final grade of A, A-, or B+

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

World Languages

Students develop all of the basic skills, which include listening, speaking, reading, and writing. For modern languages, the emphasis is placed on a communicative approach while reading and writing are the focal points in Spanish.

Beginner MS Spanish

This curriculum will take your child on a tour of the Spanish-speaking world with engaging resources that balance communication, grammar, cultural instruction, and motivation that inspire learning. Each lesson carefully leads the students from structured practice to open-ended communication. This program has a simple format that allows learners to achieve success and be well prepared for future courses in Spanish. Students have the opportunity to expand their interests, implement their knowledge, and enrich their understanding and respect for other cultures through field trips. Cooking and tasting experiences are provided to develop familiarization with Hispanic cuisine. Prerequisite: Rising 6th graders with little or no basic knowledge of the language are eligible to take this course.

Intermediate MS Spanish

This course enables your child to progress toward proficiency with clear goals and combines rich cultural lessons with carefully sequenced language instruction. The primary purpose of the course is to prepare students to be well-rounded global citizens who can communicate effectively in Spanish and are aware of the cultural influences of the Spanish and Latino heritage at home and abroad. As part of the course, students will be provided opportunities to read, write, listen, and speak Spanish while they work towards becoming linguistically and culturally literate. This course includes a broad series of lessons and activities that offer a variety of modalities for ultimate student engagement and content retention. Students have many opportunities to expand their interests, implement their knowledge, and enrich their understanding and respect for other cultures through field trips and experience the world of tasty flavors of Hispanic cuisine through sampling and even cooking. Prerequisite: We offer this class to rising 7th graders with little or basic knowledge of the language (and 8th graders who not choose to take the HS Spanish Level 1 class).

Spanish 1 (1 year/1.0 unit-US Credit, 8th Grade only)

The Spanish 1 course has been designed to reflect the philosophy and goals found in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century (ACTFL). In Spanish 1, students begin their language journey towards proficiency by developing basic listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. As part of the course, students will be provided with developmentally-appropriate

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

opportunities to read, write, listen and speak Spanish with a major focus on active communication. A wide variety of technology resources and engaging, authentic, interactive activities will be utilized throughout the course to facilitate interpretive, interpersonal and presentational communication skills. Prerequisite: None

Physical Education

The Village School Physical Education program is based upon the acquisition of knowledge and skills that are the foundation for engaging in physical activity. Our mission is to empower all students to sustain regular, lifelong physical activity as a foundation for a healthy, productive and fulfilling life.

Prerequisite: None

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

Science

Our goal in middle school is to engage students and share our passion for science in a nurturing environment that guides them to realize that learning can be exciting. Teachers share knowledge from all core classes so students can understand how science weaves throughout their everyday lives. They also provide real-world projects and opportunities to work on complex science texts that prepare our students for deeper understanding of topics in Earth Space, Life and Physical Sciences, as well as, Engineering. Experiments allow students to use the scientific method and learn the process of writing a proper lab report. Students build a strong foundation for science and are well prepared to enter Upper School to tackle the curriculum at the next level.

Earth Space Science

6th grade

Earth/Space Science is designed to teach students to interpret and understand the world around them. In order to do so, students will investigate and study the interactions between the four major Earth's spheres, including the geosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere and biosphere in order to explain Earth's formation, processes, history, landscapes, and the how and why Earth changes over time. Students learn about mapping Earth's surface, fossils, minerals, rocks, plate tectonics, earthquakes, volcanoes, geologic time, and meteorology. As students move into the second semester they will learn about the solar system and universe. Some topics covered will be the moon's effect on Earth, the sun, formation and scaling of our solar system, stars and galaxies, the big bang theory, and space exploration. Students will participate in laboratory exercises, small group activities, web based investigations, class discussions, projects, and research.

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

Life Science

7th grade

Life Science is an introductory level course designed to enable students to explore basic biological concepts in a laboratory setting. Students begin the year with a unit on ecology that relates the interdependence of living with each other and the environment. Students continue their study of living organisms through investigations into cell structure, biochemical makeup, adaptations and genetics. As students move into the second semester, the focus is on the diversity of life. They will classify the many different species of living organisms into kingdoms and other classification categories. Students will investigate each of the kingdoms in depth throughout the remainder of the year. Students also learn the basic foundation of Human Anatomy and complete a Frog Dissection.

Physical Science

8th grade

Physical Science is an introductory level course into the worlds of Chemistry and Physics. Students begin the year with scientific theory and move into Chemistry to explore its basic principles. Students discuss the atomic theory and the atomic structure. They learn the basics of the periodic table and the ins-and-outs of chemical reactions. The second half of the course is an intro into Physics. Students will discover Newton's laws and will have a chance to build trebuchets for our medieval festival we have in collaboration with the Social Studies department. Along with this, students will learn the basics of electricity and magnetism. The goal of the Physical Science curriculum is to prepare students for the concepts and rigor they will encounter at the Upper School level.

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

Elective classes

Knightly News Channel (7th and 8th)

Have you ever wanted to be a news anchor or sports reporter, or perhaps cover a story live in the field as it unfolds? If so, then the Knightly New Channel is a course for you! In this course students will get hands-on experience running a school news channel and website with weekly live broadcasts to the entire Middle School as well as running and updating a Middle School News website. Come and find out what it takes to be a Knightly News Channel team member!

Fashion Forecasting and Design (7th and 8th)

This course is for the student that loves style, dreams of designing their own label and/or want to know more about the fashion design business. Students will learn the principles of design, how to analyze, identify, and track fashion trends. They will explore the effect fashion has on the economy and identify their own style. Students will also learn how to draw, render, and illustrate fashion designs.

Robotics & Engineering I (6th- 8th grade)

Robotics is a class for students who like to tinker with technology but are not interested in the competitive side of robotics. Students will have the opportunity to build a wide variety of robots and learn the basics of programming. There will be challenging activities designed to encourage students to be creative. They will use the ©Lego EV3 Robotics system and the programming environment. Engineering principles will be used to research, design, and test different robots, structures, and inventions.

Engineering II and Structures (6th- 8th grade)

Whether your sights are on design, strength, history, symmetry, or construction techniques, this class helps students learn about popular structure activities. Students learn about the strength of materials, types of joints, design concepts, lamination, and efficiency.

This class is for students who want to delve deeper into more advanced Engineering projects, using the Engineering Design Cycle. Students will work in pairs and as an individual on projects such as Future Cities, Bridges, Skyscrapers, Domes, Windmills, etc.

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

MATE/ FLL Robotics Competition Team (6th- 8th grade)

Underwater ROV & First Lego League Robotics

In this course students will focus on working in a team, designing and creating a robotic solution to a given problem. Incorporate the engineering design process, as well as science and engineering practices, to develop a solution that meets the criteria for entries in a regional, state, or national robotics competition. Maintaining an engineering notebook to document the details of projects will be required. Class will be held in the Upper School Engineering Lab. *The MATE ROV competition uses remotely operated vehicles (a.k.a. underwater robots) to inspire and challenge students to learn and creatively apply science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) to solve real-world problems and strengthen their critical thinking, collaboration, entrepreneurship, and innovation. Students will attend competitions in addition to creating their robot, the team will also prepare technical reports, create a marketing (poster) display, and deliver engineering presentations. FIRST LEGO League is a robotics competition, helping students build a better future together. The program is built around theme-based Challenges to research, problem solving, coding, and engineering. The foundation of the program is the FIRST Core Values, which emphasize teamwork, discovery, and innovation.*

*Class size max will be 20 students due to competition registration and for students to select MATE or FLL focus. Travel will be required to competitions via parent or TVS transportation.

Engineering with the focus on Space (6th- 8th grade)

This course will focus on the science of space and space exploration. Topics covered include history of spaceflight, building of rockets, building rovers, the current events of space exploration, building future habitats on distant planets, remote sensing and the future human presence in space all using the Engineering Design

Digital Design- Exploratory course (6th- 8th grade)

This course is offered to 6th, 7th, and 8th-grade students as an opportunity to explore innovative digital creation and computing tools. Digital Design exploratory class uses a variety of innovative digital tools, such as web design, AR/VR design apps and websites.

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

Marine Science/Environmental Science (semester of each) (7th- 8th grade)

***Marine Science** is a course that will focus on different marine environments such as estuaries, tide pools, reefs, vents and the oceanic zone. Topics covered in this course include chemical, physical, and biological parameters of these marine environments. Emphasis will also be placed on the ecological relationships between marine organisms and their particular habitats.

***Environmental Science** is a class that gives students an opportunity to expand their studies of various environmental science topics. The students will learn how the natural world works, how we as humans interact with the environment, how we affect the environment and also how we can find ways to deal with these effects.

Middle School Visual and Performing Arts Electives

It is important that students continue to experience and explore the artistic aspects of life in middle school, to complement their academic experiences. All art courses are available to 6th-8th grade with the exception of advanced art, which has a requirement of one year in the art program. Middle school students may also choose to broaden their knowledge in a current area of interest or explore and develop new passions with multiple arts electives if the schedule allows.

Mixed Media (6th-8th grade)

This class is designed to provide experiences in a broad range of media, subject matter and techniques. Students create drawings, paintings, and collages while focusing on different concepts and skills. We will explore elements of two dimensional art, three dimensional art, and digital media in this class. Students are encouraged to develop their own personal style and to refine their craftsmanship. This course incorporates hands-on activities, the use of technology, and consumption of art materials.

Two Dimensional Art (6th-8th grade)

Students explore media and techniques used to create a variety of 2-D artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Students practice, sketch, and manipulate the structural elements of art. Investigation of artworks from Western and Non-Western cultures provide a means for students to expand their understanding and appreciation of the role of art in global culture. Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

Three Dimensional Art (6th-8th grade)

Students learn to translate their two-dimensional skills into three-dimensional forms through the exploration of natural, abstract, and synthetic sculptural forms using materials that may include, but are not limited to, clay, plaster, and mixed media for creative expression. These student artists develop perceptual, creative, technical, and problem-solving skills in a sculptural context as they design and produce works of art with personal expression.

Advanced Studio Art (7th-8th grade)

Students explore and build upon the fundamental concepts, terminology, techniques, and applications of art to create original work. This advanced class is offered to 7th and 8th graders who have already taken one year of art class. Advanced studio art is a high-level, fine art class for students who have demonstrated understanding of the most complex visual perceptions and wish to further develop their skills and techniques. Students will be guided towards their individual strengths and have the opportunity to experience various mediums and techniques. Through the critique process, students evaluate and respond to their own work and that of their peers to measure artistic growth. This course also includes a final art exhibition where students will plan, design, and create a final series showing of their choice.

Advanced Band (6th- 8th grade)

Advanced Band is for students that have completed Beginning Band and want to continue with the instrument they first learned to play. The primary focus is on the development, continuation, and expansion of basic skills begun the previous year that are necessary for effective instrumental music performance. In addition to large group ensembles, individual growth and achievement are encouraged through participation in adjudicated solo and ensemble contests, honor bands, and private lessons. Prior instrument experience required.

Advanced Chorale (6th- 8th grade)

Chorale is the Village School's premier vocal ensemble with students ranging from 6th - 8th grade. In this class students will be taught vocal technique and sing a variety of quality choral literature performing throughout the year in various venues. If you love to sing, this is the class for you!

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL – MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

Steel Drums (6th- 8th grade)

In this class students will learn the art of playing steel drums straight from the Caribbean.

Students will have the opportunity to play multiple pans including leads, double seconds, cellos, and the infamous “bass pans.” Students will learn to read music notation and will be taught how to play different pans along with traditional Caribbean percussion instruments.

This class will perform during the school year in various venues and the only prerequisite is you have to be willing to have a great time!

Theater (6th- 8th grade)

Students will use various creative drama techniques to build an ensemble, stimulate imagination, focus movement, and role-play with an emphasis on believability. Students will learn strategies for realistic acting, commanding audience attention, and developing stage presence. They will understand and follow stage directions, and use proper techniques for body and voice control. Students will learn and discuss the basic elements of drama to better understand and analyze characters and scripted material. They will exhibit and reinforce their skills through individual and group presentations, performances, script and journal writing.