

# Center for Arts & Media Program Descriptions/Audition Requirements

The Center for Arts & Media provides an exciting opportunity for artistically talented high school students in Lee County. Once selected, students will become part of an artistic environment designed to develop their talents to the highest possible level while fostering an appreciation and love of the arts which will serve them well in the pursuit of the next step in their educational training and chosen careers.

Admission to the Center for Arts & Media program is by **audition only**. In addition to the Center for Arts & Media application, a zone school application **must** also be completed according to the published timeline if changing schools or if the student is new to the School District of Lee County. Should a student be accepted into the arts program following the audition, that student will be released from the school assigned by Student Assignment in order to attend the Center for Arts & Media. All students enrolling in the Center for Arts & Media must complete **four semesters** in the program to be considered for a waiver should they choose to leave the arts program. (School District of Lee County Administrative Regulation 1.63)

## **Dance**

Students concentrating in dance will complete an intensive course of study in choreography, performance, ballet, modern, and other dance techniques. In addition to providing instructional opportunities within the full spectrum of recognized dance styles, the program places a strong emphasis upon artistic quality, aesthetics, and career preparation. Regular association with practicing professionals as well as multidisciplinary programming with other departments will be an important aspect of the dance department's curriculum. It is the goal of the dance department to provide all of its students with a wide range of quality opportunities and experiences that will allow them to prepare for advanced study, professional growth, and personal fulfillment.

## ~Audition Requirements~

- Student will be asked to demonstrate their knowledge of ballet by performing exercises at the ballet barre
- (all exercises will be taught at the time of audition).
- Student will be asked to execute specific dance skills (pirouettes, battements, splits, jetés, and side leaps). All skills will be done on both the left and right side.
- A <u>one minute prepared</u> selection of choreography of the student's own choosing. Music is to be provided by the student.

#### **Audition Dress Code**

Females are to wear a leotard and tights, ballet or jazz shoes, and hair is to be secured back off of face.

Males are to wear gym shorts and a T-shirt.

## **Musical Arts**

Students within the music department will have the opportunity to select a concentration in the area of instrumental or vocal music. Based upon the selection and the specific talent area of the student, a stimulating course of study will be designed to develop this talent to its highest possible level. In addition to classes in all fundamental musical areas, each student will participate in a wide array of ensemble and individual performance experiences.

### ~Audition Requirements~

## Vocal

#### Each student will participate in a live audition to include the following:

- A major scale sung on a neutral syllable, solfeggio, or numbers a cappella, evaluated for accuracy
- A rhythmic sight-reading exercise evaluated for rhythmic accuracy
- A melodic sight-reading exercise, evaluated for melodic accuracy
- Each student will perform from memory two contrasting songs representing the student's current level. Live accompaniment is suggested, as no accompanist will be provided. A recorded accompaniment is acceptable as long as it contains no vocalist singing the student's part. A cappella performances are unacceptable for the audition.

# **Orchestra**

#### Each student will participate in a live audition to include the following:

- Sight-reading of a short selection presented at the audition
- 12 major scales and arpeggios, as many as known and as many octaves from memory, at a tempo, range and style representing the student's current level
- A prepared solo or etude(s) to include both a slow lyrical section and a fast technical section appropriate to the student's current ability level. Excerpts from "full ensemble" literature are inappropriate. Accompaniment is neither required nor recommended.

# <u>Band</u>

#### Each student will participate in a live audition to include the following:

#### Woodwind and Brass:

- 12 major scales and arpeggios, as many as known from memory. Students must use all-state articulations and demonstrate a consistent tempo and range of their instrument.
- A prepared solo or etude of choice with at least two contrasting sections that demonstrate lyrical and technical aspects.
- Sight-reading of a short selection presented at the audition

#### Percussion:

- 12 major scales and arpeggios, as many as known from memory, on a mallet instrument.
- A prepared exercise or etude on any mallet instrument.
- Drum rudiments on snare drum.
- Tuning the timpani on given pitches. (Students will be provided the initial
- pitch and will be asked to tune the drum accordingly.)

# **Visual Arts**

The visual arts program will concentrate upon the optimum development of each student's artistic skills and techniques. Through immersion in a state of the art environment, contact with successful practicing artists, and training by a highly skilled staff, students will become strong visual communicators, creative thinkers, and resourceful problem solvers. The opportunity to exhibit as well as to participate in multidisciplinary arts projects will assist students in the development of a global perspective regarding the interrelationship of visual arts to other arts and to our society. Guidance in the compilation of personal portfolios and marketing skills will contribute to the prospects for successful pursuit of the next phase of each student's education and/or chosen career.

## ~Audition Requirements~

Each applicant will be required to participate in a 75-90 minute studio class. During this class, each student will be observed creating a still life drawing.

Applicants are asked to bring their personal portfolios with them to the class. Each item in the portfolio is to be labeled on the back, and the portfolio is to include the following:

- 5 selections showing a variety of subjects, media, and techniques of the student's most current and best work
- A working journal or sketchbook which is currently being used by the student

Portfolios will be taken home by the student following the class.

# **Digital Media Arts**

The Digital Media Arts program focuses on developing each student's artistic creativity in electronic communications. Students have the opportunity to explore graphic design, photography, animation, gaming, and video production while becoming familiar with a variety of advanced computer applications. In our state of the art multimedia facility, students will have access to professional camera equipment, computers, studio equipment, and an ever-growing list of industry standard software.

Throughout their high school career, students will create a high quality electronic portfolio that showcases their artistic and technical abilities. By graduation, they will have the training and experience necessary to enter an advanced digital media arts program or to embark upon a career in their chosen media arts field.

## ~Audition Requirements~

- 1. Each student must bring a portfolio that accurately demonstrates their art and computer abilities with a focus on video, graphic design, gaming, animation and/or photography. Please include <u>at least 5 samples</u>, no more than 15. If a video sample is included, no more than 5 minutes per sample.
  - Portfolio items may include, but are not limited to:
    - A presentation in which the student played a production or talent role (camera, director, graphics, audio, reporter, writer, actor, etc.)
    - o A news segment from a school or arts related event
    - o Computer graphics used in a multimedia production or publication
    - PowerPoint presentations
    - Photoshop projects
    - Edited photography
    - Yearbook spreads

## Digital Media Arts Cont.

- Hand drawn sketches
- Video games
- o Do **not** include: word documents, unaltered photos, or Google searches
- 2. Portfolios can be saved on a USB, CD and/or folder/binder. Portfolio work should be clearly labeled with the student's name and school.
  - Portfolios will not be returned to the student Please be sure ONLY student portfolio work is submitted.
- 3. Each applicant will <u>present</u> their 5 samples and answer a variety of questions based on their portfolio to a panel of North High Digital Media teachers. Students should be prepared to explain HOW they created the project, what inspired them to create the project, what programs they used, why they want to audition, etc.
  - Students will have access to a computer to load their portfolio
  - Students are allowed to bring in personal computer equipment—iPad, laptop, etc.

# **Theatre**

Students selecting a concentration in the theatre arts will have the opportunity to obtain intensive training in acting, directing, design, and technical theatre. The course of study will include opportunities in acting, voice and diction, mime and movement, improvisation, directing and playwriting, stage make-up, theatre technology, theatre history, vocal techniques, dance, musical theatre and other classes. Students' talents will be polished and displayed in live play and musical theatre productions, some of which will be interdisciplinary efforts with other departments. The quality and visibility of the talent and artistry produced by students in this program will serve them well in the pursuit of the next phase of their formal education or professional training.

#### ~Audition Requirements~

#### Each student will participate in a live audition to include the following:

- Prepare two (2) contrasting monologues. Monologues must be memorized. Choices might include one comic and one dramatic piece or one classical and one contemporary piece. Monologues must be chosen from published plays. Scripts from movies are unacceptable. Maximum monologue time is a total of two minutes for both pieces. Check your material carefully to ensure that you meet this time limit as you will be timed.
- Students who wish to demonstrate their vocal ability may sing a solo selection of up to 16 measures from a published musical for the theatre in addition to the two (2) required monologues. Vocal selections must be included in the two minute time limit. Accompaniment may be live, CD, or I-pod. Recorded accompaniment is only acceptable as long as it contains no vocalist singing the applicant's part. A cappella performances are unacceptable at this audition.
- Students may be asked to participate in a cold reading exercise.
- Students <u>may be</u> asked to answer a few questions about themselves, e.g. hobbies, activities.

Applicants are expected to arrive at the beginning of the audition time block to sign in and complete paperwork. All students will be taken into the audition room as a group. Parents and guardians will NOT be allowed in the audition room.

# **Theatre Cont.**

#### **Audition Attire**

Students are to dress as they would for a professional audition but be able to move freely. Flat, closed-toe shoes that cover the entire foot are suggested. Students wearing sandals, flip-flops or other inappropriate footwear will NOT be permitted to audition. Hair is to be secured away from the face. Ladies are asked to please NOT wear skirts or dresses.

\*\*\*Applicants should bring a current headshot and resume (if applicable/available) to their audition. (This is by no means a requirement but simply a helpful tool.)