

Specials Classes at Promontory for Grades 7-8

Arts

Art Foundations I - Students will learn and explore artmaking through the introduction of the elements of art, principles of design, and basic artmaking techniques and mediums.

Art Foundations II - (Must pass Art Foundations I with 70% or better) - Students will further develop their knowledge and skills of the elements of art, principles of design, artmaking techniques, and mediums.

Studio Art (Must pass Art Foundations I & II with 80% or better) - Students will use their knowledge of artmaking techniques to further explore mediums, techniques, and artmaking skills by choosing their own projects.

Sculpture I - Students will learn and explore 3 dimensional art through the introduction of the elements of art, principles of design, and basic sculpture techniques and mediums.

Sculpture II (Must pass Sculpture I with 70% or better) - Students will further develop their knowledge and skills in sculptural techniques and mediums.

Physical Education

PE, Intermediate PE, & Online PE

7th and 8th-grade students are required to have one semester of PE each year. We wanted to offer options for students to feel more comfortable and excel in their Physical Education classes.

The primary difference between the PE and intermediate PE curriculum at this point is the competition level. The activities are roughly the same though Intermediate PE will involve more tournament play to determine winning teams.

Online PE: This is only offered in the first semester. The primary assignments for online PE classes are fitness trackers. Students are required to exercise 20 min a day at home and report their exercises. There are a few other assignments as well (food log, fitness tests, heart rate calculation, etc)

Music (also considered an arts class)

Advanced Orchestra

Ensemble will strive to learn 2-3 “grade 3”, (intermediate) level pieces per semester. During the course of the year, players will learn to “shift,” allowing for all scales and arpeggios to be played in two octaves. Melodic minor scales will also be introduced and learned. This class may also provide opportunity for an introduction to conducting for interested students.

In addition to the ensemble participation listed above, players will also be required to learn 2-3 “solo/audition” pieces per semester, which will be performed for their classmates once a month. This has several purposes: increased performance opportunities; focused personal development (which exponentially benefits the ensemble as a whole); a means of demonstrating accurate playing level to others (grandparents, future teachers, etc.); a piece ready for an audition for an extra-curricular ensemble, such as the Northern Utah Youth Chamber Orchestra, should player be interested in additional playing opportunities.

Prerequisites:

- At least four 2 octave Major scales/arpeggios from this list: Bb, F, C, G, D, A • Solo/audition piece level: Witches’ Dance/Lully Gavotte or beyond

Practice expectation: 45 min./day, 5 days/week. (Up to 10% of practice time may include active listening to recordings of ensemble and/or solo repertoire. More listening is always encouraged, but only 10% counts towards practice time!)

Intermediate Orchestra

Ensemble will strive to learn 2-3 “grade 2” level pieces per semester. Players will enhance their rhythmic and music reading abilities. Proficiency with the prominent “major” scales and arpeggios is expected (see list under prerequisites).

In addition to the ensemble participation listed above, players will also be required to learn 2-3 “solo/audition” pieces per semester, which will be performed for their classmates once a month. This has several purposes: increased performance opportunities; focused personal development (which exponentially benefits the ensemble as a whole); a means of demonstrating accurate playing level to others (grandparents, future teachers, etc.); a piece ready for an audition, such as Advanced orchestra, or for an extra-curricular ensemble, such as the Northern Utah Youth Chamber Orchestra, should player be interested in additional playing opportunities.

Prerequisites:

- Major scales/arpeggios: C, G, D, A (at least one must be 2-octave), (F, Bb are acceptable substitutes).
- Solo/audition piece level: Brahms’ Waltz or beyond.

Practice expectation: 30 min./day, 5 days/week. (Up to 10% of practice time may include active listening to recordings of ensemble and/or solo repertoire. More listening is always encouraged, but only 10% counts towards practice time!)

Choir

Intermediate Choir is for 7th and 8th-grade choir students. Singers will continue to learn proper vocal techniques, improve their music reading skills, and begin learning to sing 2 and 3 part harmonies. There will be at least 1 concert/performance per semester. This is usually a one-semester class, but can also be taken for 2 semesters if desired.

Advanced Choir is for 8th-grade singers (and a few select 7th-grade students) who are looking to really challenge themselves vocally and have a lot of fun! This is the most advanced choir class offered at Promontory School. It is available by invitation or audition. Students in this class will learn to sing 3 and sometimes 4 part harmonies with some age-appropriately challenging music. This class is for those who want to work hard and learn quickly. The Advanced Choir will be performing 2-3 times per semester. It is a 2-semester class.

Digital Literacy

This course allows students to develop basic computing fundamentals, improve digital communications, identify the importance of protecting individual data, apply key applications, and maintain positive digital wellness. Students will have opportunities to use digital devices to apply skills to accomplish tasks more efficiently using creativity, critical thinking, productivity, and collaboration in the classroom and day-to-day life.

Scholar Hour

This class hour is a space and time for students to catch up on homework and missing assignments. An aide from the 7-8 community is available to students for help with these assignments. No additional assignments are given in this class.