

# **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

## **YOUTH PERFORMING ARTS SCHOOL COURSES**

(Classes for major students and elective courses for students from other magnets)

### **DANCE**

#### **DANCE ELECTIVE COURSES**

##### **Fundamentals of Dance I (48418911)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

##### **Prerequisite(s): None**

This course instructs students in basic dance movement skills to increase body awareness, enhance self-image, improve physical fitness and develop personal expression potential. Students will learn fundamental techniques in 6 week periods of study in Yoga, Ballroom and Folk, modern dance/dance history, Aerobics and Conditioning, African dance and culture, Jazz, dance composition and improvisation. Students should expect to challenge themselves physically every class. Students are graded on dress code for dance, class participation, effort and attitude. Note: Open to all Manual/YPAS students. This course fulfills the required physical education credit for graduation.

##### **Fundamentals of Dance I for Musical Theatre Majors (48418913)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup>**

##### **Prerequisite(s): Successful audition into the Musical Theatre Program**

This course instructs students in basic dance movement skills to increase body awareness, enhance self-image, improve physical fitness and develop personal expression potential. Students will learn fundamental techniques in 6 week periods of study in Yoga, Ballroom and Folk, modern dance/dance history, Aerobics and Conditioning, African dance and culture, Jazz, dance composition and improvisation. Students should expect to challenge themselves physically every class. Students are graded on dress code for dance, class participation, effort and attitude. Note: Open to all Manual/YPAS students. This course fulfills the required physical education credit for graduation.

##### **Total Body Conditioning - Fundamentals of Dance II (48429211)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

##### **Prerequisite(s): None**

This course focuses on strengthening and conditioning the body through high and low impact aerobics, hand weights, resistance bands and stability ball work. Students should expect to physically challenge themselves in each class. Students are graded on dress code for dance, class participation, effort and attitude. Note: Open to all Manual / YPAS students.

##### **Advanced Dance Techniques for Dance Majors (48439011)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

##### **Prerequisite(s): FOD I or any FOD II elective, Instructor approval, and audition.**

This course is designed for the student of any Manual or YPAS major. This class is a next step class for students fulfilling the FOD I class, any of the FOD II classes or taking other dance classes outside of Manual/YPAS, who want a more technically challenging dance elective. The class will focus on jazz, modern and ballet technique. Students should expect to dress out in proper dance attire and dance shoes and physically challenge themselves in each class. Students are graded on attendance, dress code for dance class, class participation, effort, attitude and progress. Note: Open to all Manual/ YPAS students. There are separate levels for majors and non-majors.

##### **Advanced Dance Techniques for Non-Majors (48439013)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

##### **Prerequisite(s): FOD I or any FOD II elective, Instructor approval, and audition.**

This course is designed for the student of any Manual or YPAS major. This class is a next step class for students fulfilling the FOD I class, any of the FOD II classes or taking other dance classes outside of Manual/YPAS, who want a more technically challenging dance elective. The class will focus on jazz, modern and ballet technique. Students should expect to dress out in proper dance attire and dance shoes and physically challenge themselves in each class. Students are graded on attendance, dress code for dance class, class participation, effort, attitude and progress. Note: Open to all Manual/ YPAS students. There are separate levels for majors and non-majors.

##### **Beginning Tap Dance I (48429111)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>**

##### **Prerequisite(s): None**

##### **Materials required: Dance clothes and Tap shoes.**

No previous dance experience required. Students learn the use of the whole body within the genre of the American Jazz/Tap tradition including body alignment, strength and flexibility, endurance, coordination, use of the natural breath, and musicality/rhythm expressed through total body movement. In addition, students will learn the fundamental vocabulary of dance, understand the fundamental principles of choreography, learn the basic elements of improvisational dance, and study the historical/cultural context of American Jazz/Tap Dance. Throughout the course the elements of dance performance, class decorum, rehearsal techniques, stage presence, and responsibility/commitment to fellow performers are emphasized. Students will also be required to participate in several performances that demonstrate their skill development throughout the year.

**Intermediate Tap Dance II (48439111)****Grade level: 10<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): Tap Dance I or Instructor approval.****Materials: Dance clothes and Tap shoes**

Students learn intermediate level techniques of whole body movement: body alignment, strength and flexibility, endurance, coordination, breathing. In addition, students learn: intermediate level vocabulary of American Jazz/Tap; more advanced skills of improvisational tap dance; a cappella rhythm games and more complex polyrhythmic steps as well as how to create their own basic Tap choreography using Space, Time, Force, Form and Theme and Development. The course emphasizes the historical development of American Jazz/Tap and teaches a variety of styles from the earliest to current day masters. Students will learn to perform diverse Tap routines throughout the year and will be required to perform them in informal settings.

**Advanced Tap Dance III (48449111)****Grade level: 11<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): Tap Dance I, Tap Dance II, or Instructor approval.****Materials: Dance clothes and Tap shoes**

Students learn advanced techniques of whole body movement: body alignment, strength and flexibility, endurance, coordination, breathing and virtuosity. In addition, students learn advanced vocabulary of American Jazz/Tap, develop a sense of personal style, master advanced skills of improvisational tap dance, and learn to create spontaneous Tap choreography arising from improvisational exercises and collaboration with and without musical accompaniment. Throughout the course students study the historical development of American Jazz/Tap in conjunction with other dance forms. During the course, students will create and perform a dance of their own original tap choreography in informal settings.

**YPAS DANCE MAJORS COURSES****Ballet I, II, III, IV (48417011, 48427011, 48437011, 48447011)****Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): audition**

Introduces and develops fundamental through advanced ballet technique and terminology over a four year period. Students must be Dance Majors in the YPAS Dance Department. Assessment is based on work habits, attitude, effort, adherence to departmental rules and regulations, and technical and artistic progress. Professionalism is stressed. The introduction of pointe work is the gradual development of comprehensive training and will be permitted at the discretion of the faculty. Pointe classes are co-curricular and meet twice a week from 2:30 – 3:30.

**Modern/Jazz Level I, II, III, IV (48417111, 48427111, 48437111, 48447111)****Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): audition**

These courses offers, over a four year period, instruction in fundamental through advanced modern dance techniques emphasizing the progression, awareness, and development of the body in motion, space, time, and energy. Students must audition and be accepted into the YPAS Dance Majors program. Assessment is based on work habits, attitude, effort, adherence to departmental rules and regulations, and technical and artistic progress. Professionalism is stressed.

**Dance Ensemble II, III, IV (48428011, 48438011, 48448011)****Grade level: 10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): audition**

Dance Ensemble II, III, IV are designed to develop skills in teaching, performing, and choreography. Enrollment is open only to sophomore, junior, and senior YPAS dance majors who choose the Dance Ensemble Performance Track. All rehearsals for Dance Concert, Dance Ensemble touring company performances, and any other performing venues are done in this class.

**DESIGN AND PRODUCTION****Design and Production I, II, III and IV (48510311, 48520311, 48530311, 48540311)****Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): audition**

These courses involve the academic study of historical and modern theatre production methods. The course includes theatrical drafting; the design and execution of scenery, lighting, costumes, sound, safety regulations, and resume/portfolio preparation. After school laboratories, rehearsals, and performances are required and provide practical experience. In **Level I** students concentrate on scenic construction techniques, costume construction and stage electricity. In **Level II**, emphasis is placed on costume history, stage sound, property construction and paint techniques. In **Level III** students concentrate on stage drafting, both script and character analysis and rendering. Finally, in **Level IV**, students work on independent projects such as designing scenery, costumes, and/or lighting for various YPAS productions and internships with local theaters.

**Stagecraft for Majors - Production Laboratory I, II, III, and IV (48510511, 48520511, 48530511, 48540511)****Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): YPAS Design and Production Majors or instructor approval.****Co-requisite: Enrollment in Design and Production I, II, III, or IV.**

These courses provide invaluable "hands-on" experience in a mandatory "laboratory" class that meets after the traditional school day. After-school laboratories, rehearsals, and performances provide practical experience. Scenery, Costumes, and Lighting for the major YPAS productions are created during this class time.

**Note: Normal hours for this class are 2:30-5:30 P.M.; the class usually meets five days per week. Schedules of specific times and dates are always provided.**

**Stagecraft for Non-Majors (48510411)****Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): None**

This course provides an overview of technical theatre production. The curriculum is composed of the following units of study: Stagecraft (Scenery Construction), Costume Construction, and Stage Electricity. Students are provided with opportunities to apply their technical skills through five (5) after-school laboratories for each unit of study. Flexible schedules of specific times and dates are always provided.

## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC - BAND

### **Intermediate Band Skills Development (48310111)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Prerequisite(s): audition.**

This course emphasizes the learning of music fundamentals while building the advanced sight-reading skills necessary to learn literature of high artistic merit in a short period of time. Students will focus on technical development and the practical application of musical knowledge while strengthening natural talents and retraining any poor habits. The mastery of all scales the full range of the instrument, memorization of numerous rhythm patterns, advanced articulation skills, and tone quality refinement will be stressed with each individual musician. Also addressed will be topics dealing with the development and use of vibrato, knowledge of professional performers and repertoire for each instrument, introduction to basic music history and theory concepts, and, the development of a musical terminology vocabulary. This course, taught in this manner, is available only at the Youth Performing Arts School.

### **Percussion Ensemble/Intermediate Percussion I, II, III, IV (48310311, 48320311, 48330311, 48340311)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>**

**Prerequisite(s): audition**

These courses emphasize continued technical training, rehearsal, and performance of literature for percussion ensemble. Emphasis is placed on the reading, study, and performance of quality literature and transcriptions while continuing to reinforce those technical and personal skills gained from private lessons and intermediate skills development. The student will gain familiarity with the standard percussion ensemble literature, and, over a four-year period, be exposed to many of the major works of the percussion ensemble repertoire. Students will practice the application of performance skills by performing a solo senior recital. Outside rehearsal time will be required at certain times during the year in preparation for special performances at regional and national music education conferences and festivals. Freshmen percussionists will learn the curriculum of the intermediate skills development class concurrently with ensemble skills development. Students will perform in at least one school concert during the year and perhaps present a concert at a regional or national music conference.

### **Chamber Ensemble I, II, III, IV (48310211, 48320211, 48330211, 48340211)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>**

**Prerequisite(s): audition**

These courses offer the student an opportunity to explore their solo and small ensemble repertoire more extensively. It also provides an environment which fosters individual growth in confidence, independence, personality, productive interaction with peers, collaborative skills, personal responsibility to a group, aesthetics, ear training, responsive listening skills, interpretive skills, giving and receiving criticism, and the historical perspectives of the literature for their instrument. Emphasis is placed on developing mature rehearsal and time management skills while allowing the freedom for students to work up and develop performance presentations on their own with guidance from the instructor. This class also serves as a pool of students who are assigned to the brass and woodwind sections of the YPAS Philharmonia Full Orchestra. If assigned to the full orchestra, students will follow the curriculum for orchestra instead of the chamber ensemble curriculum.

### **Symphonic Band I, II, III, IV (48310411, 48320411, 48330411, 48340411)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>**

**Prerequisite(s): audition**

These courses emphasize continued technical training, rehearsal, and performance of literature written for the large wind and percussion ensemble. Emphasis is placed on the reading, study, and performance of quality original band literature and transcriptions of high artistic merit while continuing to reinforce those technical and personal skills gained from study in the intermediate band. The student will gain familiarity with the standard band literature, and, over a period of four years, be exposed to most of the major works of the concert band repertoire. The student will perform in at least four school concerts and two regional and national music festivals during the year.

### **Wind Ensemble I, II, III, IV (48310511, 48320511, 48330511, 48340511)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>**

**Prerequisite(s): audition**

These courses provide the necessary program, climate, and structure to motivate the advanced wind and percussion student to achieve according to their unique learning patterns and to encourage maximum progress for the individual. This course places great emphasis on the reading and performance of high level and more sophisticated band literature comparable to that which would be studied at the university level. As compared with Symphonic Band, this course differs in the following ways: (1) greater emphasis on scale development (2) greater responsibility of the individual performer to perfect their part (3) more difficult literature either technically, intellectually, musically, or combinations of the above (4) the formation of small chamber ensembles in the form of quartets and quintets which rehearse on a regular basis (5) active participation in the pit orchestra for musicals and ballets (6) more stringent monitoring of solo and small ensemble repertoire development (7) performance in a public senior recital (8) students serve as a pool of performers from which to perform works with unusual instrumentation different from the regular band instrumentation. The student will perform in at least four school concerts and two regional and national music festivals during the year.

### **Jazz Improvisation II, III, IV (48320711, 48330711, 48340711)**

**Grade level: 10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>**

**Prerequisite(s): Instructor interview and Permission**

These courses have the primary goal of providing students with a thorough technical, conceptual, and historical grasp of jazz improvisation through a comprehensive curricular structure. The student will study the necessary and appropriate scales and chords to use when improvising on a given set of chord changes. They will also study the proper stylistic interpretations by visually and aurally analyzing the solos of great jazz masters. Emphasis is placed on the technical aspects of chord/scale knowledge, typical patterns used by jazz masters, creativity, and instrumental technique to develop the ability to solo in all styles. The course will reach back to the roots of jazz to help students master techniques vital to jazz and commercial music.

### **Jazz Ensemble I, II, III, IV (48310611, 48320611, 48330611, 48340611)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>**

**Prerequisite(s): audition**

**Note: This course is offered for one half credit after school but will only appear on your schedule for the spring semester.**

Jazz Ensemble I,II,III,IV are a fifth period class with the primary goal of providing students with a thorough technical, conceptual, and historical grasp of jazz and contemporary music through a comprehensive curricular structure. Teaching and learning will take place in three environments: (1) classroom - where instruction is given in ensemble playing, technical development, history and other related subjects (2) master classes - either on or off campus in clinics, lectures, and performances by professionals in the field (3) performance venues such as concerts, festivals, and clinics. The Jazz Ensemble focuses on traditional jazz forms to help develop the ability to "swing" in all styles. Students will study and perform a wide-ranging repertoire and receive the opportunity to participate in a session at a local recording studio. The student will perform in at least two school concerts during the year.

**Marching/Pep Band I, II, III, IV (48310811, 48320811, 48330811, 48340811)****Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): Instructor Approval**

**Note: Offered for one-half credit during the fall semester only.**

Marching/Pep Band I, II, III, IV are a fifth period course offered to students who want to participate in a non-competitive marching band that meets after school two days a week immediately after school. Although, the band is non-competitive, there will be opportunities to perform in exhibition at marching band competitions throughout Kentucky and Indiana. The "Crimson Sound" marching band will perform two different themed shows that are both "Crowd Pleasing" and extremely challenging musically. Musical selections will vary from Broadway, Funk, Jazz, Television/Movie Themes, and Classical genres. Many of the concepts and philosophies used by the band are based on what many college marching bands incorporate into their marching band programs. The grade for this class is determined by attendance to rehearsals and performances. Students must attend a two-week band camp and other rehearsals during late July and early August. Note: Students involved in director approved academic camps such as *Interlochen*, *Governor School for the Arts*, and the *Governor Scholar's* program may be excused from conflicting camp rehearsals. Students must also attend approximately six home football games (including the first playoff game) and participate in all scheduled parades and competitions on weekends. Every other year there is a trip to perform in Orlando, Florida or other similar venue. There is an additional fee for this class to fund band camp expenses, specialized instructional staff, arrangements, drill design, bus transportation to events, equipment, and uniforms. Note: There will be many fundraising opportunities to pay for these fees thanks to the Manual Band Boosters Association.

## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC - GUITAR

**Class Guitar I, II (48329011, 48339011)****Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): audition**

This course provides an environment for students from beginning to intermediate levels to improve their guitar playing in any style. Through sound, methodical, daily practice, regular class attendance, and well-practiced assignments, students will master the basic concepts of the guitar. Using a variety of styles, the class will address chord accompaniment patterns, ensemble playing, and customized plans to develop the individual student's guitar knowledge and appreciation. Class guitar is designed to establish a firm and comprehensive knowledge of the guitar as an accompanying instrument. This course may enhance any pre-existing ability on the guitar, while providing essential rudiments for further study as a guitar performance major. Learning outcomes include the ability to read single line melodies and acquiring a repertoire of chords. These chords will be used with strumming techniques (Plectrum Style) as well as with various right hand finger patterns (Classical/Finger Style) as song accompaniments in a variety of styles. Students must provide their own acoustic guitar with new steel or nylon strings, a metronome, tuner or tuning fork, manuscript paper, foot-stool, guitar strap or support, picks, required texts, and pencils.

## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC - ORCHESTRA

**YPAS Philharmonia Orchestra I, II, III, IV (48311411, 48321411, 48331411, 48341411)****Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): audition**

YPAS Philharmonia Orchestra I, II, III, and IV are for YPAS orchestra majors and double majors, as well as very advanced Manual orchestra students. The class will also feature some of the advanced woodwind, brass, and percussion students at YPAS on some of the performances. The main performing orchestra at YPAS, the Philharmonia has a distinguished reputation as being one of the finest high school orchestras in the nation. Performances have included appearances at the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, Music Educators National Conference (MENC) and American String Instructors Association (ASTA) conventions, Carnegie Hall, the Orchestra America National Festival, and the National Public Radio show, "From the Top". The focus of this class will be on advanced string technique, superior intonation and rhythm, bow technique, mature interpretation and style, ensemble and listening skills, and advanced concepts of orchestral sound and color, as well as advanced music theory and history. A variety of string and full orchestra literature will be studied and performed. Performances will include on-campus and off-site concerts, an adjudicated performance at the KMEA Orchestra Festival in March, and other possible collaborations. There will be additional rehearsals, sectionals, and master classes scheduled from time to time after school, and students are expected to attend as part of their participation and/or concert grade.

**YPAS String Techniques I, II, III, IV (48311111, 48321111, 48331111, 48341111)****Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): audition**

YPAS String Techniques I, II, III, IV are designed for YPAS orchestra majors and double majors in their first year of the program. The class will focus on orchestral repertoire and knowledge, style of different eras of music as it applies to string technique, sight reading, listening skills,

understanding and interpreting scores, chamber music, and fundamental music theory and history. The course will additionally focus on developing strong string technique through a sequence of scales, etudes, orchestral and chamber literature. Performances include a chamber music recital, usually held in March.

**YPAS Chamber String Orchestra I, II, III, IV (48311311, 48321311, 48331311, 48341311)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>**

**Prerequisite(s): audition and/or Instructor Approval**

YPAS Chamber String Orchestra I, II, III, IV are designed for YPAS orchestra majors and double majors who are in their second year of the program and beyond. The class will focus on broadening students' knowledge and experience in the orchestral repertoire, highly advanced string technique, sight reading, listening skills, understanding and interpreting scores, chamber music, and advanced music theory and history. Performances include a joint concert with the Philharmonia in the fall and a chamber music recital in the spring. The Chamber Orchestra also serves as the pit orchestra for YPAS musicals.

**Manual Concert Orchestra I, II, III, IV (48313311, 48323311, 48333311, 48343311)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>**

**Prerequisite(s): audition**

Manual Concert Orchestra I, II, III, IV is for advanced Manual string students and some YPAS string majors. The focus of this class is on more advanced string technique (bow strokes, position work, etc.), intonation, rhythm, style and interpretation, and tone quality and expression, with an emphasis on orchestral knowledge, skills, and repertoire, and a continued growth in music theory and history. A variety of string orchestra music will be studied and performed. Performances will include concerts near the end of each semester, as well as an adjudicated performance at the KMEA Orchestra Festival in March. Concert Orchestra may occasionally combine with Philharmonia and/or Sinfonia, as well as other YPAS ensembles such as the chorus or band.

**Conducting (48311711)**

**Prerequisite: YPAS Band, Orchestra, Piano, or Vocal Junior or Senior Level and Instructor Approval**

This conducting course will be designed for junior and senior level YPAS majors (in the areas of instrumental music, vocal music, and piano) to learn conducting technique, rehearsal technique, group dynamics/psychology, score study, and to build a solid foundation of music history and theory as it relates to the repertoire studied and to successfully conduct an orchestra, band or chorus.

## **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC - PIANO**

**Piano Keyboard I (48316111)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>**

**Prerequisite(s): None**

This course introduces the study of basic keyboarding skills that will help the students to experience music in a meaningful way. In addition, students learn to use the concepts and techniques of music theory and relate those to their keyboard training. Students will also harmonic, melodic, and rhythmic concepts, and they will learn all the basic fundamentals at the piano. This course is designed to meet the needs of a high school student who wants to experience music and have fun with the instrument.

**Intermediate Piano I, II, III, IV (48315611, 48325611, 48335611, 48345611)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

**Prerequisite(s): Keyboard Lab/audition/Instructor approval**

Intermediate Piano I, II, III, IV are courses that provide continuing instruction for students who have completed beginning Keyboard Lab. This class will also allow for placement of other Manual/YPAS students who have had some previous piano experience. Content will include basic keyboard theory (scales, chords, etc.), solo repertoire, introduction to music history, and performance skills. Assessment of content knowledge and mastery of keyboard skills will take the form of keyboard assignments, written and oral exams, and other special projects as assigned. Students will establish individual baseline skill levels and grading will be determined according to individual progress and effort.

**Applied Piano I (48316211)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup>- 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Prerequisite(s): audition**

This course offers entry-level instruction in piano technique, practice habits, organizational skills, keyboard theory, sight-reading, and performance. Students are expected to develop a personal discipline, including maintenance of a regular practice schedule.

**Applied Piano II (48326211)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Prerequisite(s): Applied Piano I**

This course reinforces and continues the development of technical skills, keyboard theory, sight-reading, and recital performance. Basic analysis of musical form and style will be introduced and practically applied.

**Applied Piano III and IV (48336211, 48346211)**

**Grade level: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

**Prerequisite(s): Piano I and II**

Applied Piano III and IV offers expansion, refinement, and practical application of previously acquired skills, with emphasis on the study and performance of piano literature of all major historical periods. Opportunities for accompanying and large ensemble (orchestra, band, wind ensemble, pit orchestra) participation will be available based on Instructor recommendation.

# THEATRE

## **American Musical Theatre II, III, IV (48521011, 48531011, 48541011)**

**Grade level: 11<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>**

### **Prerequisite(s): audition or preparatory Musical Theatre Lab Class (see below)**

These classes are part of a 2 year minor...or four year major in 2009-2010) The student studies Dance (ballet, jazz, modern, tap and multiple theatre dance styles), Ensemble and Solo Singing, Music Theory, Acting and Theatre History. Students will also learn professional rehearsal techniques, proper theatre etiquette, and how to perform in diverse theatrical venues. There will also be opportunities to participate in the Design and Production aspects of Theatre. Examples would include stage management, set and costume construction, hair and makeup design. It is a technique driven curriculum taught by multiple YPAS faculty specialists with emphasis on developing each student's individual performance skills.

## **Musical Theatre Lab II, III, IV (48521511, 48531511, 48541511)**

**Grade level: 10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>**

### **Pre-requisite(s): Some training in Dance, Vocal or Instrumental Music and/or Acting is encouraged. Required course for sophomore Musical Theatre Majors. Also open to all non-majors by audition.**

The course follows an integrated development of fundamental skills for the performer as a singer, dancer, and actor. The Dance portion covers the basic of theatre dance and tap technique; the Music portion covers the skills necessary for sight singing/reading and music theory as well as ensemble and solo singing; the Theatre portion covers the basic of ensemble acting and character development. This course is a pre-cursor for the demanding Musical Theatre curriculum that follows in years three and four of the Musical Theatre Major.

## **Exploring Theatre (48512211)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>**

### **Prerequisite(s): None**

This course is an introductory course designed to increase students' understanding, appreciation, and critical perceptions of the theatre. Course content is based on the idea that a love for and knowledge of the theatre--whether as an active participant, a reader of good plays, or simply as a member of a theatre audience--is a significant means of enriching an individual's life. Lectures, discussions, and other course activities will center, generally, on three areas: (1) the significance of theatre; (2) aspects of theatre production; and (3) the history, structure and forms of drama. Every effort will be made to develop these topics primarily in terms of their importance to the individual audience member's understanding; however, there will also be a performance component to this course and active participation in class discussions is required. The student will be asked to step out of his/her comfort zone and participate in the class as an actor, director, designer and/or playwright.

## **Exploring Theatre for Musical Theatre Majors (48512213)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup>**

### **Prerequisite(s): Successful audition into the Musical Theatre Program**

This course is an introductory course designed to increase students' understanding, appreciation, and critical perceptions of the theatre. Course content is based on the idea that a love for and knowledge of the theatre--whether as an active participant, a reader of good plays, or simply as a member of a theatre audience--is a significant means of enriching an individual's life. Lectures, discussions, and other course activities will center, generally, on three areas: (1) the significance of theatre; (2) aspects of theatre production; and (3) the history, structure and forms of drama. Every effort will be made to develop these topics primarily in terms of their importance to the individual audience member's understanding; however, there will also be a performance component to this course and active participation in class discussions is required. The student will be asked to step out of his/her comfort zone and participate in the class as an actor, director, designer and/or playwright.

## **Theatre I (48510211)**

**Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup>**

### **Prerequisite(s): audition**

This course is an introductory theatre course designed to familiarize the student with all aspects of theatre. The course will explore and strengthen areas essential to proper actor development including physical/vocal relaxation, strength and flexibility, alignment, focus/concentration, imagination, and observation. In addition, the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) will be introduced. At the introductory level, IPA helps to eliminate obtrusive dialect traits and to achieve Standard American Pronunciation. Additionally, students will study the history of theatre.

## **Theatre II (48520211)**

**Grade level: 10<sup>th</sup>**

### **Prerequisite(s): Theatre I**

This course focuses on actor movement and vocal training. The course builds on previously learned skills and introduces additional vocal and movement techniques essential to actor training and development. We will explore and strengthen physical/vocal relaxation, strength and flexibility, focus/concentration, observation, and characterization. In addition, the second part of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) will be taught in order to help eliminate obtrusive dialect traits, achieve Standard American Pronunciation and provide the student with the necessary tools to achieve authentic, intelligible and consistent speech. Resume preparation and audition techniques will be explored as time permits.

## **Theatre III, IV (48530211, 48540211)**

**Grade level: 11<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>**

### **Prerequisite(s): Theatre I and II**

This course builds upon previously learned movement and vocal techniques necessary for the art of acting. This course component focuses primarily on acting in Modern Realism (including modern realistic comedy) and Anti-Realistic Theatre. Exploration of acting in modern realism will include but not be limited to the following playwrights: Ibsen, Chekhov, Miller, Norman, O'Neill and Simon. There will also be a section on the analysis of Shakespeare's *King Lear* using Stanislavski based techniques. These courses include self-discovery and explore and develop areas essential to good acting including physical/vocal relaxation, strength and flexibility, concentration, imagination, observation, justification, and spontaneity.

**Fundamentals of Directing/Stage Production II, III, IV (48522511, 48532511, 48542511)****Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): Instructor Approval****Note: The class requirements include direction of a one-act play and two New Works pieces to be performed in the spring.**

These are a practical courses designed to introduce students to the basic concepts and practices of directing drama and comedy within the style of Realism. Class content will include but not be limited to the following: readings from the assigned text and selected articles from Theatrical Publications, lectures/discussions focused on the history of the director in theatre, dramatic imagination, commanding image, creative process, rehearsal process, stage management, the design team, script selection and play script interpretation. In addition, professional directors will be invited to the class to discuss their process. Rehearsals will be a weekly, if not a daily, part of class. Lab exercises on professional attitude, behavior, trust, give and take, and the proper running of technical and dress. Each student is responsible for directing at least one New Works piece in the spring semester. Students repeating the course will be considered for **Advanced Directing/Stage Production**. Taught simultaneously, this more advanced approach to the class is designed to review and build upon learned material from the Directing Fundamentals course and to increase the student's understanding of directing a variety of different forms of dramatic literature. The class will include analysis and direction of Classical Greek, Renaissance, Commedia, French Neo-Classical, Contemporary and/or Avant-garde theatre styles. Class content will include but not be limited to the following: readings from the assigned text and selected articles from Theatrical Publications lectures/discussions focused on the history of the director in theatre, dramatic imagination, commanding image, creative process, rehearsal process, stage management, the design team, script selection and play script interpretation. In addition professional directors will be invited to the class to discuss their process. Rehearsals will be a weekly, if not a daily, part of class.

**Playwriting I (48521211)****Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): Instructor approval.**

This course requires each student to learn the following basic principals: a standard format acceptable to a professional playhouse, essentials for a play's beginning, middle, and end, discovery of what issues each student values that should speak to an audience and, exploration of their own life for writing ideas. Each student shall attempt several writing prompts that they make into short ten-minute plays using no more than three characters. Each student will grow with a regular read-through of his/her writings and choose one of their plays to be presented in the annual New Works Festival in the spring.

**Playwriting II (48531211)****Grade level: 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): Playwriting I**

In this class students prepare plays that have more complex characters and events. Plays composed may be as long as twenty minutes in length. The student playwright will have several conferences with the Instructor to discuss the progress of their work. Students will choose one of their plays to be produced at the annual New Works Festival. Students will also be encouraged to submit entries into several writing contests.

**Playwriting III (48541211)****Grade level: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): Playwriting I & II**

In this class researched plays are particularly encouraged. Students may propose more of their playwriting projects. Plays written can be up to thirty minutes in length. Students are encouraged to enter several writing contests. Students will also analyze the playwriting style of two or three playwrights and attempt writing in that style.

**VOCAL MUSIC****Vocal Development I, II, III, IV (48312111)****Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): Successful audition into the vocal program.**

This course is an entry-level instruction in music fundamentals, music reading, vocal technique, and repertoire. Maximum individual instruction time is provided. Art songs and specially selected ensemble literature are used. Some out-of-school rehearsals and performance time are required.

**Vocal Development for Musical Theatre Majors I (48312113)****Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): Successful audition into the Musical Theatre program.**

This course is an entry-level instruction in music fundamentals, music reading, vocal technique, and repertoire. Maximum individual instruction time is provided. Art songs and specially selected ensemble literature are used. Some out-of-school rehearsals and performance time are required.

**Ladies Ensemble I, II, III, IV (48312211, 48322211, 48332211, 48342211)****Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): audition**

These courses explore SA, SSA, and SSAA choral literature of various periods and styles with a student group that demonstrates proficiency in reading music. Instruction emphasizes advanced choral techniques of accurate intonation, tone production, diction, and interpretation. Satisfactory completion of the course requires participation at performances.

**Gentlemen's Ensemble I, II, III, IV (48312311, 48322311, 48332311, 48342311)****Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): audition**

These courses explore TB, TTB, and TTBB choral literature of various periods and styles with a student group that demonstrates proficiency in reading music. Instruction emphasizes advanced choral techniques of accurate intonation, tone production, diction, and interpretation. Satisfactory completion of the course requires participation at performances.

**Chamber Choir II, III, IV (48322411, 48332411, 48342411)****Grade level: 10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): audition and/or Instructor Approval**

These courses are designed to develop in the student the highest degree of accomplishment of vocal performance; to inspire extraordinary dedication to the art form so that the student may realize his/her potential as a young artist; to provide mastery of skills necessary to become a professional musician; and to prepare the student for college auditions.

**Concert Choir II, III, IV (48322511, 48332511, 48342511)****Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): audition**

These courses explore choral literature of various periods and styles with a student group that demonstrates proficiency in reading music. Instruction emphasizes advanced choral techniques of accurate intonation, tone production, diction, and interpretation. Satisfactory completion of the course requires participation at performances.

## MUSIC THEORY

**Music Theory I (48347111)****Grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): None**

This course introduces the study of basic music theory and traditional harmony that the students studied will need in order to advance to AP Music Theory II. In addition, students learn to use the concepts and techniques of the composers from the seventeenth through the nineteenth centuries in their own compositions. Students will also study sight singing, harmonic, melodic, and rhythmic dictation, and they will learn basic fundamentals at the piano. This course is designed to meet the needs of the serious high school musician who will want to continue his musical career at the college level. The students will receive instruction in four related areas including: written harmony, keyboard harmony, sight singing, and ear training.

**Advanced Placement Music Theory II (48357161)****Grade level: 11<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup>****Prerequisite(s): Music Theory I class or being able to demonstrate equivalent skills in an interview with the AP Music Theory Instructor.****Note: College level curriculum taught in a high school setting.**

This course is designed to meet the needs of students considering music for serious study after high school and includes instruction in four related areas: (1) written harmony (2) keyboard harmony (3) ear training (4) sight singing. This course concentrates on the learning techniques of the classic European composers of the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries. The class includes a comprehensive survey of the harmonic materials used in these historical periods. Also, practical application of these materials takes the form of daily homework assignments solving traditional figured bass four part writing exercises, basic arranging, and, analysis techniques. Additional exercises in ear training concentrate on the areas of melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic dictations and analysis. Sight singing exercises correlate with the written and ear training material extending into the use of both major and minor key centers and elementary chromaticism. Near the end of the second semester, students will produce an original composition in the 18th century style using the techniques learned from the class. They will compose, arrange, and record their composition as a culminating project. At the conclusion of the course, students will take the Advanced Placement Music Theory examination for an additional fee. According to the final score and whether a particular college accepts advanced placement credit, the student may be allowed to bypass Theory I and/or Theory II classes in college. Since the AP test in Music Theory was introduced by the Advanced Placement College Board, 100% of all YPAS students that have taken the test have passed - most often with the highest scores. Note: It is recommended that students wait until their senior year to take this course so they do not lose their skills prior to entrance to college.