



Music Highlights

Music Major

To successfully complete a 5-credit major in Music, a student must participate in an in-school musical organization for four years and earn one credit of Music Theory.

Music Letter Criteria

- ✓ Satisfactory completion of 3-years of an In-school performing organization. This may include a combination of band, orchestra or choir.
- ✓ Satisfactory completion of 3-years in an Extra-Curricular performing organization. These include any combination of:
 - Marching Band
 - Jazz Ensemble
 - Show Choir
 - School Musical
 - Steel Band
 - Musical Pit
- ✓ Performance at one NYSSMA/ECMEA sponsored solo festival
- ✓ Satisfactory completion of Music Theory

Extra-Curricular Music Activities

- [Academy of the Visual and Performing Arts – Dinner Theatre Ensemble](#)
- [Brass Choir](#)
- [Jazz Ensemble](#)
- [Marching Band](#)
- [Men's Choir](#)
- [Musical – Performing Arts](#)
- [Pit Orchestra](#)
- [Show Choir](#)
- [Stage Crew](#)
- [Steel Band \(CKSO\)](#)
- [Vocal Jazz](#)
- [Winter Guard – Varsity](#)
- [Woodwind Choir](#)



Performance Ensembles

Choral Program

All types and forms of music are studied and performed for the development of skills. Seasonal and competitive concerts involving mandatory attendance are held.

ALL CHORAL COURSES: 1 credit

Concert Choir 6532

⊗ Pre-requisite: Audition
Advanced Music Ensemble
Grades 10,11,12

Mixed Choir 6536

⊗ Pre-requisite: Audition
Training Ensemble
Grades 9 (men), 10,11,12

Women's Choir 6533

Training Ensemble
Grades 9, 10,11,12

Instrumental Program

These groups study and perform all styles and types of music to develop skills. Four seasonal concerts, guest artists, competitions and festivals comprise the performance schedule. Participation during rehearsals, lessons and concerts is mandatory. Lessons once weekly required.

ALL INSTRUMENTAL COURSES: 1 credit

Symphonic Band 6535

⊗ Pre-requisite: Audition
Advanced Music Ensemble
Grades 9,10,11,12

Wind Symphony 6537

⊗ Pre-requisite: Audition
Intermediate Ensemble
Grades 9, 10,11,12

Concert Band 6531

Training Ensemble
Grades 9, 10,11,12

String Orchestra 6534

⊗ Pre-requisite: Previous experience in orchestra playing a string instrument
This course is open to all string instrumental students. Orchestra will perform music from various genres including classical and contemporary.
Grades 9,10,11,12

Symphony Orchestra 6538

⊗ Pre-requisite: Audition
This course is an advanced orchestra for the more serious string student. The Orchestra will perform music from various genres including classical and contemporary. Students will have the opportunity to perform both string and full orchestra music.
Grades 9, 10,11,12



Music - Course Descriptions

Music Theory 1

6530 Grades 10,11,12

1 credit

★ Recommended: Band, Orchestra or Choir experience

Course develops an understanding of basic rudiments of music and puts them to practical use. Includes instrument transposition, ear and rhythmic training, keyboard skills and an outline of music history.

AP Music Theory

6528 Grade 11.12

1 credit

★ Recommendation: Music Theory 1

Did you enjoy Music Theory I and want to learn more? AP Music Theory is a college-level course for highly motivated students with a serious interest in music. Students will complete coursework equivalent to that of a first year college course in music theory. Course topics include musical terminology and notation, compositional skills, and analysis of aural and written music, as well as sight-singing, ear-training, and melodic and harmonic dictation practice. This course is designed to prepare students for the AP Music Theory Exam, and students are encouraged to take the exam in May. Successful completion of Music Theory I is a prerequisite for enrollment in AP Music Theory. This course is combined with AVPA's AP Music Theory class.



Tech in Music

6543 Grades 11,12

¼ credit

★ Recommended: Music Theory 1

▶ Course meets every other day for 20 weeks

This course is a hands on class that will expand your Mac skills! Learn to compose, arrange and edit in Finale. Create your own multi-layer tracks and record live with GarageBand. Find out more about iTunes. This course will also cover Audacity, iMovie and Smart Music.

Piano and Guitar Performance

6544 Grades 11,12

¼ credit

★ Recommended: Music Theory 1

▶ Course meets every other day for 20 weeks

Are you currently enrolled in a performing ensemble? Have you always wished you could learn to play piano or guitar? This course is for you! This course is designed for students who have completed Music Theory I but have little/no experience playing piano and guitar. Students will have basic performance skills on both instruments and present a short recital (in class) at the end of the semester.



Music Composition and Improvisation

6545 Grades 11,12

¼ credit

★ Recommended: Music Theory 1 and Tech in Music

- ▶ Course meets every other day for 20 weeks

Did you ever wish you could create a song to the melody in your head? This course is designed to introduce advancing music students to the creative world of composition and improvisation. Students will develop skills in the areas of writing and performing original music. The students will serve as the creators, critics and performers of their own material!! Students will learn the compositional elements of style and form as they explore the rhythmic, melodic and harmonic aspects of creating music.

Guitar for the Non-Musician

6546 Grades 9,10,11,12

¼ credit

- ▶ Course meets every other day for 20 weeks

This class is an opportunity for students without performance experience to increase their knowledge and understanding of music while learning to play the guitar. Course topics include basic theory skills and guitar performance. No previous musical experience required! This course may be taken with other music courses to earn a ½ or full credit in music.

Piano for the Non-Musician

6547 Grades 9,10,11,12

¼ credit

- ▶ Course meets every other day for 20 weeks

This class is an opportunity for students without performance experience to increase their knowledge and understanding of music while learning to play the piano. Course topics include basic theory skills and piano performance. No previous musical experience required! This course may be taken with other music courses to earn a ½ or full credit in music.