



***FINE AND PERFORMING
ARTS BLOCK CATALOG
2010-2011
GRADES 6-8***

**Arts Block Class Descriptions
and Registration Form**

for the 2010-2011 School Year

BFCCPS
201 Main Street
Franklin, MA. 02038
(508) 541-3434
<http://www.bfccps.org>

BFCCPS 2010-2011 Arts Block Course Catalog

Grades 6-8

The Benjamin Franklin Classical Charter Public School is pleased to announce the
2010-2011 Arts Block Grade 6-8 Course Offerings!

Classes are offered by BFCCPS faculty and staff members as well as
Artists in Residence hired by BFCCPS.

Course Descriptions:

The classes are divided by trimester and cover a multitude of topics across all
content areas. All classes are offered at BFCCPS.

A class description is listed for each class.

Arts Block Elective Registration Information:

Parents please review the class offering and discuss them with your child.

Registrations are offered on a 1st Choice-2nd Choice-3rd Choice method. We make
every attempt to give every student their first choice. If the 1st Choice cannot be
given we use grade seniority to fill the class and go the student 2nd and 3rd choices.
Some courses will be offered more than one time in a school year.

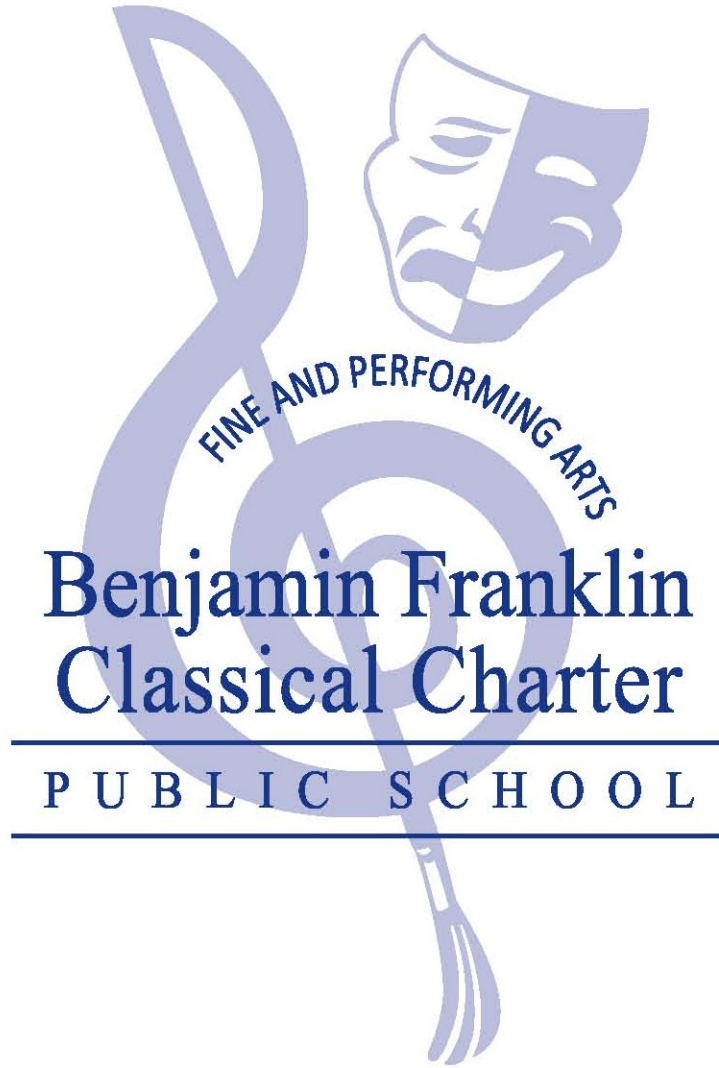
New to the Arts Block: Students may not take a particular course more than 3 times
in a three year period. This is to allow students to get a broader experience of the
courses offered in all of the arts.

Student changes in arts block classes can only be made with permission of parent and
Mr. Benjamin. The registration form can be found on page 23.

Please complete the registration form with a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice for each
trimester and return to **BFCCPS Form Night on Wednesday, September 8, 2010.**

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***TRIMESTER 1
OFFERINGS***

Assemblage Art

Instructor	Andrea Wolfe	E-mail	awolfe@bfccps.org
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Description:

In this class the students will observe and discuss examples of assemblage art created by Betye Saar and Joseph Cornell. The students will use a variety of materials to construct a box/window frame inspired by the work of Saar and Cornell. The students will use reflections of themselves to design and decorate their boxes/frames. The students will share their final pieces with the class.

Goals:

1. Students will observe and analyze examples of assemblage art.
2. Students will design their own works of art that are reflections of themselves.
3. Students will explore different types of materials to help spark their creativity.
4. Students will gain perspective of the interests and backgrounds of their classmates through their artwork.

Requirements:

Students should have Interest in three-dimensional art and enjoy working with a variety of materials. Students will be encouraged to bring in objects from home that can be included in their work.

Jazz Ensemble

Instructor	Chris Heater	E-mail	cheater@bfccps.org
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Texts (Provided):

- Standard of Excellence Jazz Ensemble Method by Dean Sorenson and Bruce Pearson
- Various performance selections

Description:

-Students will study the playing techniques, history, and various styles of jazz music. This is a performance based course.

Goals:

- Students will demonstrate, through performance, a variety of jazz techniques.
- Students will combine their individual parts to create a sense of ensemble playing.
- Students will perform one or two jazz selections in the winter band concert.

Requirements:

-Jazz Ensemble is open to students who have at least two years of experience playing on one of the following instruments: Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, Guitar, Bass, Piano, or Percussion.

-Students are required to attend Jazz Ensemble rehearsal prepared to play their individual parts alone or with the group.

Drama Workshop I

Instructor	Betty Lehrman	E-mail	bettylehrman@rcn.com
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Description:

Students in Drama I explore improvisation, monologues, storytelling, and the elements of drama and theater. Classes include physical and vocal warm-ups, improvisation games, narration, mime and gesture in understanding the nature of drama, as well as in-class performances and performances for younger BFCCPS students.

Goals:

- 1) Students will learn the basics of improvisation
- 2) Students will learn acting techniques involving voice and movement
- 3) Students will learn vocabulary including terms used in acting, directing and producing theater
- 4) Students will learn the basics of storytelling and presentational forms of storytelling

Requirements:

Students will participate in all in-class exercises and activities. Students will rehearse and perform a monologue for the class. Students will choose, create a script, rehearse and perform a story for an audience of BFCCPS students. Students will complete a vocabulary worksheet. Students will complete an in-class vocabulary test.

Architecture Firm

Instructor Ms. Beth Sharistianian

E-mail bsharistianian@bfccps.org

Description:

From mansions to townhouses, architecture is in the works! Students build an understanding of the problems and pleasures of designing a house by learning the different types and necessary elements of house design, the correlation between income and mortgage eligibility, and the costs of house construction and home furnishings. Some of the activities include evaluating the pros and cons of building single-family homes, calculating the number of square feet in a given area, and designing and drawing specific floor plans.

Goals:

- Students will evaluate the pros and cons of building single-family homes , condominiums, and mobile homes
- Students will calculate the number of square feet in a given area
- Students will design and draw specific floor plans that meet the needs and budget of their clients
- Students will choose furnishing, appliances and other items to finish the interior of their designs
- Students will maintain budget records

Requirements:

Students will complete and present a house design, collage portfolio, and budget records by the end of the term.

Graphic Design

Instructor	Dionne Katinas	E-mail	dionnekatinas@comcast.net
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Description:

Do you want to have your own business or product some day? This class will teach you the elements of design for marketing your business or product. You will learn the process of coming up with concepts to producing computer generated designs.

Goals:

1. Learn how to design market a product or business with graphic design techniques.
2. Learn the fundamentals of an effective design and the vocabulary terms.
3. Develop skills on understanding successful logos and advertisements.
4. Explore the use of color through learning color theory.

Requirements:

Creativity and a desire to explore having your own business

Cartooning

Instructor	Bret M. Herholz	E-mail	herbertzohl@gmail.com
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Description:

This art block will focus on everything to do with cartooning, comic art and the basics for traditional drawn animation. As well as helping to build the students writing skills.

Goals:

Students will learn the fundamentals of creating their own original characters.

Students will learn the value of fleshing out and scripting out their own comic book and comic strip stories.

Students will learn the basics for creating traditional drawn animation while utilizing many of the current computer technology (i.e Flash and Photoshop) as well as the history of traditional animation.

Students will learn how to take their comic book pages and comic strips and use the computer technology available to make them ready for print.

Requirements:

Cartooning, comic art, traditional animation and the fundamentals of scriptwriting and storytelling

Beginning Guitar Workshop

Instructor Patrick Dreier

E-mail pdreier@doublestudio.com

Description:

Learn how to play the guitar

Goals:

Familiarity with the guitar as an instrument

Since everyone learns music differently, I work individually with students at their own pace.

We will cover names of parts of the guitar

Learning the names of strings

Tuning the guitar

Care for the instrument

Reading and playing from tablature (tab) sheet music

Reading and playing from chord charts

There are 3 aspects to playing the guitar that we will work on:

Single-note picking and proper technique

C major Scales

Chords - fingering and strumming

Strumming patterns

Learning and performing songs

I encourage students to bring in music that they want to play, but I always teach songs that will encourage students to utilize chording, strumming and picking techniques that they have learned

Requirements: Each student will perform at least one song for the class by semester's end

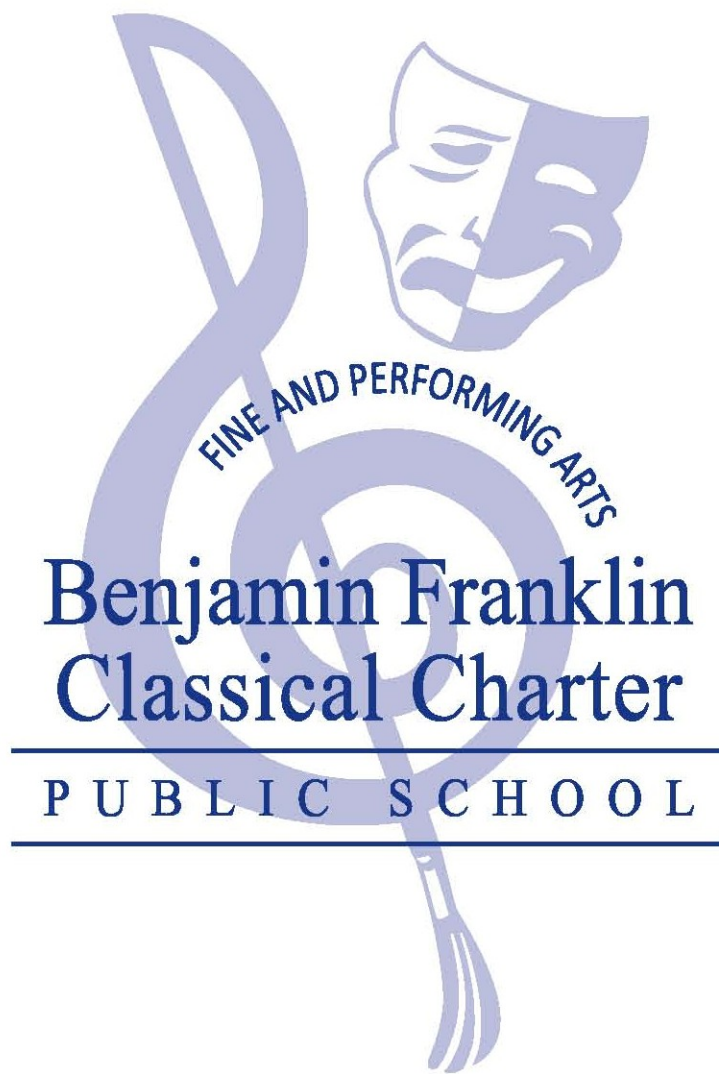
Songwriters Workshop

Instructor Matthew Niebels

E-mail mniebels@bfccps.org@doubledstudio.com

Description:

This is an opportunity for students to work individually or in small groups (any combination of instruments – electric or acoustic) to learn the basics of reading/writing/composing music, playing musical instruments, and utilizing music technology. Students will perform their pieces in concert and record their songs to CD/digital audio file.



TRIMESTER 2 OFFERINGS

Printmaking - Double Class - 2 instructors

Instructor	Dionne Katinas & Andrea Wolfe	E-mail	dionnekatinas@comcast.net awolfe@bfccps.org
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Description:

Learn the history and techniques of printmaking using different mediums, while exploring past and current printmaking artists.

Goals:

1. Learn about past and current printmaking artists.
2. Explore different printmaking materials and techniques.
3. Learn color theory.

Requirements:

Creativity, exploration of techniques, and enjoy working with paint/ink.

Cartooning

Instructor	Bret M. Herholz	E-mail	herbertzohl@gmail.com
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Description:

This art block will focus on everything to do with cartooning, comic art and the basics for traditional drawn animation. As well as helping to build the students writing skills.

Goals:

Students will learn the fundamentals of creating their own original characters.

Students will learn the value of fleshing out and scripting out their own comic book and comic strip stories.

Students will learn the basics for creating traditional drawn animation while utilizing many of the current computer technology (i.e Flash and Photoshop) as well as the history of traditional animation.

Students will learn how to take their comic book pages and comic strips and use the computer technology available to make them ready for print.

Requirements:

Cartooning, comic art, traditional animation and the fundamentals of scriptwriting and storytelling

Brass Ensemble

Instructor	Chris Heater	E-mail	cheater@bfccps.org
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Description:

-Students will perform in an ensemble situation with attention focused on proper tone quality, intonation, technique, and accurate rhythm.

Goals:

- Students will practice warm-ups and technical drills to encourage proper tone production.
- Students will learn the principles of good rehearsal technique.
- Students will perform brass ensemble literature with appropriate phrasing and articulation.

Requirements:

- Brass Ensemble is open to students who have at least two years of experience playing on a brass instrument or by approval of Mr. Heater.
- Students are required to attend Brass Ensemble rehearsal prepared to play their individual parts alone or with the group.

Architecture Firm

Instructor Ms. Beth Sharistianian

E-mail bsharistianian@bfccps.org

Description:

From mansions to townhouses, architecture is in the works! Students build an understanding of the problems and pleasures of designing a house by learning the different types and necessary elements of house design, the correlation between income and mortgage eligibility, and the costs of house construction and home furnishings. Some of the activities include evaluating the pros and cons of building single-family homes, calculating the number of square feet in a given area, and designing and drawing specific floor plans.

Goals:

- Students will evaluate the pros and cons of building single-family homes , condominiums, and mobile homes
- Students will calculate the number of square feet in a given area
- Students will design and draw specific floor plans that meet the needs and budget of their clients
- Students will choose furnishing, appliances and other items to finish the interior of their designs
- Students will maintain budget records

Requirements: Students will complete and present a house design, collage portfolio, and budget records by the end of the term.

You Are What You Eat

Instructor	Kelsey Kolic	E-mail	kkolic@bfccps.org
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Description:

We all eat food every day -- but how often do we really think about it? In this course we'll look carefully at food: the science, history, and culture that define our meals, from the farm and garden to our tables.

Goals:

To explore the science behind the composition, cooking, and eating of various foods, through experimentation.

To learn about the cultural and historical significance of various foods.

Requirements:

Weekly pre-reading questions

Picnic Presentation

Creative Writing I

Instructor	Lewis	E-mail	jlewis@bfccps.org
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Text:

A writing journal

Description:

Students will flex their right brain muscles and hone their craft at creative writing through a variety of approaches (drawings, other stories, prompts, etc). In order to be a skilled writer, one must also be an avid reader, and as such, students will also serve as peer editors and share their weekly writing assignments in class.

Goals:

Create interesting and fresh ideas and characters for short stories

Through the work of your peers, grow as a writer and a constructive critic

Write in several different genres

Create work you're proud of

Requirements: An imagination!

History of Modern American Music

Instructor	Mr. Ed Callahan	E-mail	ecallahan@bfccps.org
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Description:

Students will explore modern American music and the connection of the different genres of music.

Goals:

Students will be able to follow the progression of American music

Students will be able to explain the differences and similarities of American music

Students will enjoy and have fun studying the different styles of American music

Requirements:

Attendance and participation are key to a class such as this

Photoshop Skills (Beginner)

Instructor	Kim Ng	E-mail	kng@bfccps.org
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Text:

None; Class note provided by instructor

Description:

This course teaches beginners the essential concepts and knowledge of Photoshop techniques. Students will learn various tools and the layer concept using Adobe Photoshop Elements (v.3) for editing and manipulating digital images. The course is suitable for Grade 6 - 8 students without having prior knowledge of how to handle digital photos.

Goals:

1. To learn the basic Photoshop skills to modify and enhance the quality of digital images.
2. To practice all the learned skills through the class exercises and to utilize them in the final project.

Requirements:

Basic Windows skills; USB flash drive at least 256 MB.

Intermediate Guitar Workshop

Instructor Patrick Dreier

E-mail pdreier@doubledstudio.com

Description:

Learn how to play the guitar better

Goals:

Increased familiarity and skills with the guitar as an instrument
Since everyone learns music differently, I work individually with students at their own pace.

We will review:

names of parts of the guitar
the names of strings
Tuning the guitar
Care for the instrument

Continued Reading and playing from tablature (tab) sheet music
Continued Reading and playing from chord charts

There are 3 aspects to playing the guitar that we will continue to work on:

More advanced chording
More advanced scales (minor, pentatonic, 2-octave major and minor, etc.)
Bar chords, where appropriate

More advanced and exciting song choices, again asking the students for their preferences

Students will perform at least one song of their choice for the rest of the class

Collaborations with other students are encouraged

I encourage students to bring in music that they want to play, but I always teach songs that will encourage students to utilize chording, strumming and picking techniques that they have learned

Requirements:

Each student will perform at least one song for the class by semester's end

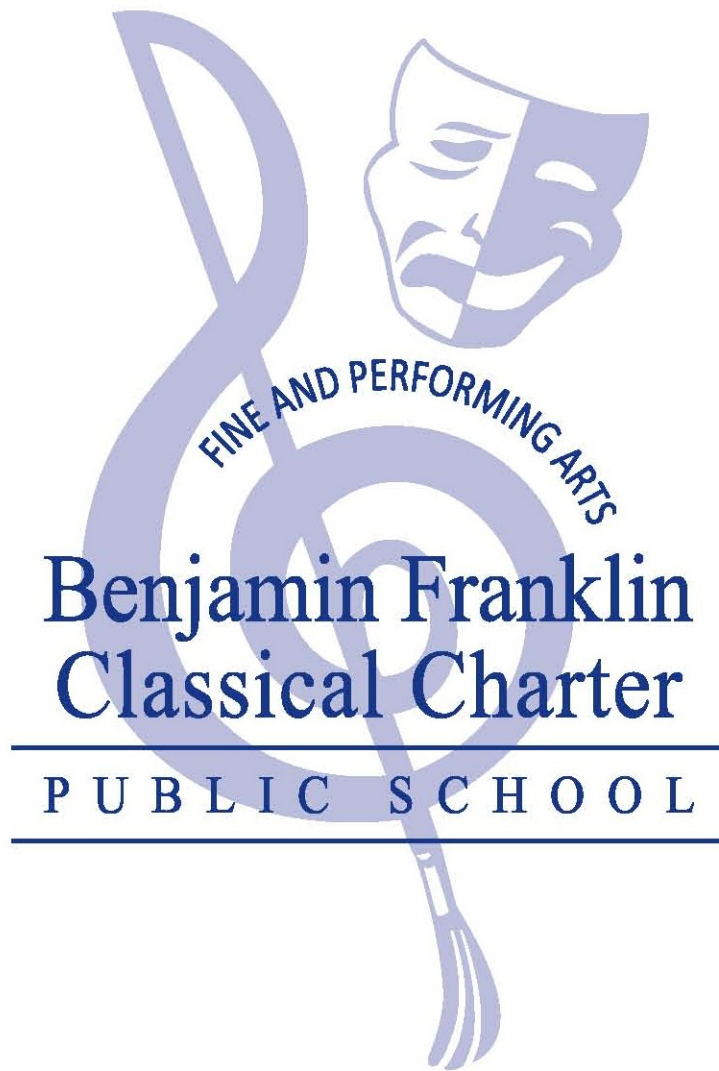
Percussion Ensemble

Instructor Matthew Niebels

E-mail mniebels@bfccps.org@doubledstudio.com

Description:

Beginners to advanced drummers are invited to apply their rhythm skills to a variety of drum and percussion instruments (including hand drums, drum-set, snare drum, xylophone, glockenspiel, shakers, etc.) to make a performance group and learn a variety of musical pieces. This ensemble will perform at least one concert at the end the trimester and also may possibly take a weekend field trip to the University of Rhode Island to participate in an annual adjudicated percussion ensemble festival in early March.



***TRIMESTER 3
OFFERINGS***

Mask Making

Instructor	Andrea Wolfe	E-mail	awolfe@bfccps.org
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Description:

In this class the students will observe and discuss examples of masks created throughout the world. They will use paper mache, plaster, and clay to design and construct their own masks. They will then share their final pieces with the class.

Goals:

- Students will observe and analyze examples of masks throughout the world.
- Students will gain perspective on the functions or roles masks play in a variety of cultures.
- Students will design and construct their own masks.
- Students will explore different types of materials to help spark their creativity.

Requirements:

Students should have an interest in exploring masks from around the world and enjoy working with a variety of different materials.

Junk Funk

Instructor Matthew Niebels E-mail mniebels@bfccps.org@doubledstudio.com

Description:

Imagine. Invent. Be Creative. Make "GREEN MUSIC!"

Based primarily in rhythm and recycling, students will invent and build musical instruments made from recycled materials and then create a performance group or "recycled orchestra." As a group, we will compose a musical piece utilizing these instruments, and perform the piece(s) in concert. Another possible project for this group is also to work together to create a musical structure or "play station" which could be played outside in the playground for the whole school to enjoy. For all willing students, we can record a short video of his/her instrument and send it to an online virtual museum of student invented instruments.

Beginning Keyboard Workshop

Instructor Patrick Dreier

E-mail pdreier@doubledstudio.com

Description:

Learn how to play the keyboard/piano

Goals:

Familiarity with the piano/keyboard as an instrument

Since everyone learns music differently, I work individually with students at their own pace.

Requirements:

Each student will perform at least one song for the class by semester's end

Theatre and Drama II

Instructor	Betty Lehrman	E-mail	bettylehrman@rcn.com
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Description:

Drama II students will use games and activities to focus on improvisation and humor. Students will create characters and learn theater vocabulary. The first project will be the creation of an original character presented to the class.

The final project will be a production of scenes from "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" for students in younger grades. We will explore acting techniques and stock characters in presenting the scenes.

5. Goals:

- 1) Students will learn the basics of acting, including movement, voice and characterization
- 2) Students will learn vocabulary including terms used in acting, directing and producing theater
- 3) Students will learn the basics of presenting scenes

Requirements:

Students will participate in all in-class exercises and activities. Students will create an original character and perform a monologue as that character for the class. Students will choose and rehearse a scene from "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" and perform it for an audience of BFCCPS students.

Historical Exploration of Film

Instructor	Andy Fish	E-mail	andy@undercoverfish.com
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Text:

A Historical Exploration of Film Genres and Evolutions in film making.

Description:

This course will explore different genres of films by showcasing several classic (and not so classic but entertaining) films. The films are chosen on historical significance, entertainment value, specific techniques in storytelling outlined by the class and running time (90 minutes or under).

Goals:

Develop an appreciation of film as an art form for telling stories.

Learn about plot devices, storytelling and characterization, while setting mood.

Develop critical thought techniques while learning how to take extensive notes.

Requirements:

Attend each class on time to not miss a screening.

Take notes both during lecture and through the films.

You Are What You Eat

Instructor	Kelsey Kolic	E-mail	kkolic@bfccps.org
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Description:

We all eat food every day -- but how often do we really think about it? In this course we'll look carefully at food: the science, history, and culture that define our meals, from the farm and garden to our tables.

Goals:

To explore the science behind the composition, cooking, and eating of various foods, through experimentation.

To learn about the cultural and historical significance of various foods.

Requirements:

Weekly pre-reading questions

Picnic Presentation

Creative Writing II

Instructor	Lewis	E-mail	jlewis@bfccps.org
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Text:

A writing journal

Work from previous CW class

Description:

In the second part of this creative writing course, students will expand upon the stories they created in the previous trimester. More focus will be paid to details, dialogue, character development, and other aspects of a well-rounded story. By the end of the class, they should have one completed short story manuscript.

Goals:

Develop full characters

Create a vivid scene in the reader's mind with rich details

Find your "voice" as an author

Create work you're proud of

Requirements:

Encouraged to have taken Creative Writing I, but not required. However, must come to first class with at least one 5 page story.

History of Modern American Music

Instructor	Mr. Ed Callahan	E-mail	ecallahan@bfccps.org
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Description:

Students will explore modern American music and the connection of the different genres of music.

Goals:

Students will be able to follow the progression of American music

Students will be able to explain the differences and similarities of American music

Students will enjoy and have fun studying the different styles of American music

Requirements:

Attendance and participation are key to a class such as this

Color Exploration

Instructor	Dionne Katinas	E-mail	dionnekatinas@comcast.net
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Description:

We are surrounded by color in our world. In this class students will explore the world of color through self-expression and imagination. Students will investigate the range of color concepts and theories using various materials.

Goals:

- Understanding of color theory
- Experiment with how colors relate to each other
- Learn how to use different mediums
- Take a closer look at artists such as:
Henri Matisse, Paul Cezanne, Wassily Kandinsky and Andy Warhol

Requirements:

Creativity and having fun exploring with color

Photoshop Skills (Intermediate)

Instructor	Kim Ng	E-mail	kng@bfccps.org
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Description:

This course is for Grade 6-8 students who had taken the Photoshop Skills (Beginner) and want to practice the learned skills in various class projects. The projects will start from simple to complex. Students will be using their creativities to manipulate their own digital photos by Photoshop Elements in creating unique compositions. Students will present their works in the class.

Goals:

1. To refresh the Photoshop skills in modifying the quality of digital photos.
2. To practice and utilize all the skills in class projects.

Requirements:

Prerequisite: Photoshop skills (Beginner) familiar with tool and layer manipulation; USB flash drive at least 1 GB; digital camera

Musical Fitness Workout

Instructor	Coach Burke and Simpson	E-mail	mburke@bfccps.org dsimpson@bfccps.org
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Description:

Be prepared for plenty of physical activity in this class. We will be leading the class in high intensity fitness activities such as:

Punkrope
Zoomba
Drums Alive
and more.

Drum Circle

Instructor Chris Heater

E-mail cheater@bfccps.org

Description:

-Students will learn to play together in a drum circle using folk instruments. This class is open to all students in grades 5-8.

Goals:

- Students will learn the history and purpose of drum circles.
- Students will show proper playing technique for a wide variety of folk percussion.
- Students will perform basic rhythms, both within the circle and as the circle leader.

Requirements:

- Students will attend Drum Circle rehearsals prepared to play their individual parts alone or with the group.
- Students will respect the other members of the Circle and the drums by playing together and not trying to play louder than the rest of the group.
- Students do not need prior musical knowledge to be a member of the Circle.

BFCCPS 2010 Arts Block Course Catalog Grades 6-8

Registration Form PLEASE PRINT

Student's First Name _____ Last Name _____

Grade _____ Is Student on an IEP? YES _____ NO _____

Please use one registration form per Student:
Check off your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Choices for each Trimester

Trimester 1

1-Assemblage Art

1st 2nd 3rd

2-Jazz Ensemble

1st 2nd 3rd

3-Drama 1

1st 2nd 3rd

4-Architecture Firm

1st 2nd 3rd

5-Graphic Design

1st 2nd 3rd

6-Songwriters Workshop

1st 2nd 3rd

7-Cartooning

1st 2nd 3rd

8-Beginning Guitar

1st 2nd 3rd

Trimester 2

1-Printmaking

1st 2nd 3rd

2-Cartooning

1st 2nd 3rd

3-Brass Ensemble

1st 2nd 3rd

4-Architecture Firm

1st 2nd 3rd

5-You Are What You Eat

1st 2nd 3rd

6-Creative Writing 1

1st 2nd 3rd

7-History of American Modern Music

1st 2nd 3rd

8-Beginning Photoshop

1st 2nd 3rd

9-Intermediate Guitar

1st 2nd 3rd

10- Percussion Ensemble

1st 2nd 3rd

Trimester 3

1-Maskmaking

1st 2nd 3rd

2- Junk Funk

1st 2nd 3rd

3-Drama 2

1st 2nd 3rd

4-Drum Circle

1st 2nd 3rd

5-Historical Exploration Of Film

1st 2nd 3rd

6- You Are What You Eat

1st 2nd 3rd

7- Creative Writing 2

1st 2nd 3rd

8- History of American Modern Music

1st 2nd 3rd

9-Color Exploration

1st 2nd 3rd

10-Intermediate Photoshop

1st 2nd 3rd

11-Beginning Piano Keyboard

1st 2nd 3rd

12-Musical Fitness Workout

1st 2nd 3rd