

***Music Appreciation***

***Ms. Oom***

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Music Appreciation offers students a survey of music history beginning with the students' individual preferences and tastes in music. Using student choices as a starting point, the class will work its way through musical history while exploring the basic elements of music. Active listening of various genres will broaden each student's personal music repertoire. The course will include lecture, discussion, research and hands-on music activities. The text for the course is *Music, an Appreciation* by Roger Kamien. This course is open to students at any level of music experience.

***Vocal Ensemble***

***Ms. Oom***

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Vocal Ensemble is open to upper school students with at least a beginning level of music experience as an instrumentalist and/or vocalist. Piano accompanists are encouraged to join the class for both piano and voice experience. The major focus is on optimal vocal techniques of the individual singer and the ensemble as a whole. Repertoire from various genres and historical periods will be explored. Students will follow a consistent rehearsal/class schedule to prepare for school and community performances throughout the trimester.

***Music Performance***

***Mr. Najita***

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Music Performance is a year-long, instrumental and vocal group that emphasizes basic song writing techniques. A basic foundation in a chosen instrument or vocal training is the only requirement for enrolling. Students will learn to work as a group to write original songs, arrange vocal and instrumental parts, rehearse the pieces into performance ready compositions and finally record them for a spring CD release. There will also be written assignments on specific artists, genres and periods of recent music history to provide students with a practical vocabulary of technique and aesthetics. Regular performances of student work will be scheduled for the school.