

## BAND AND ORCHESTRA

**MU101A & 101B Band** (this is a year long class) Grades 9-12 2 semesters/1.0 credit  
Fine Arts Elective Fee Required

Prerequisite: Participation in middle school or high school or at least 2 months of private lessons.

*Auditions required for the drum line.*

Estimated homework expectations: Regular submission of practice logs and recorded playing tests required.

Do you want to be a part of a great high school experience that will certainly result in memories for a lifetime? Sign up for band. Marching band lasts for the first two months and then we transition into symphonic band. If you like playing really funky music as loud as you can, hanging with great people, and performing almost every week, you'll love marching band. Symphonic band starts in November in the comfort of a warm, nicely lit band room and auditorium. Concerts range from performing in the EHS auditorium to playing for other bands at the Elitch Gardens Music Festival.

**MU131A & 113B String Orchestra** (this is a year long class) Grades 9-12 2 semesters/1.0 credit  
Fine Art Elective Fee Required

Prerequisite: Participation in middle school or high school orchestra or 2 months of private lessons on violin, viola, cello, or string bass.

Estimated homework expectations: Regular submission of practice logs and recorded playing tests required.

This course is for students who play violin, viola, cello or string bass. Have you ever heard of Apocalyptica or the Kronos String Quartet? These are string groups that are packing stadiums. Now is the time to be in orchestra. The music ranges from classical to Cajun; from funk to fiddle. Many performances will be given throughout the year both in and outside of school.

**MU105A & 105B Jazz Band** (this is a year long class) Grades 9-12 2 semesters/1.0 credit  
Fine Art Elective Fee Required

Prerequisite: Jazz band requires an audition where students play a prepared piece and play some sight reading.

Co-Requisite: Must also be enrolled in marching/symphonic band

Estimated homework expectations: Regular submission of practice logs and recorded playing tests required.

Do you put the word "like" before every sentence and you end the sentence with the word "man"? Do you refer to concerts as gigs and other musicians as cats? You might be a jazzer. Fortunately, there is help available. Jazz band is an auditioned group that does lots of gigs... aka concerts. These concerts range from playing in the fantastic EHS auditorium to gigs at Oskar Blues.

**MU109 Percussion Ensemble (Drum Set Class)** Grades 9-12 1 semester/.5 credit  
Fine Art Elective Fee Required

Estimated homework expectations: Little to no homework if student attends class regularly and participates in all activities.

Do you find yourself beating rhythms on your desk or on the steering wheel of your car? Do your friends compliment you on your mad stick drumming skills? Do you always get the high score in Rock Band? Here's your chance to actually learn how to play drums. We'll start with basic stick control, how to read music, and later in the semester you will apply these skills to the drum set. You will be playing music from Pink Floyd, Green Day and Weezer, to name a few. There are NO prerequisites for this class.

**MU111 Small Ensembles** Grades 9-12 1 semester/.5 credit  
Fine Art Elective Fee Required

Estimated homework expectations: Minimal homework. There is one after school requirement (Small Ensembles Gig Night)

So...you play an instrument, any instrument; flute, trumpet, bass, piano, drums, just to name a few. Wouldn't it be cool to play with other musicians in groups ranging from woodwind trios to rock bands? You've just found your favorite class. Depending on who else is in the class, you could be performing in everything from a string quartet to playing Led Zeppelin covers...the sky's the limit. The only prerequisite is that you have to play an instrument.

## INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES

### **MU200 Guitar I**

Grades 9-12

1 semester/.5 credit

Fine Art Elective

Fee Required

Estimated homework expectations: Little homework if student attends class and participates in all activities.

“Mommy, mommy! When I grow up I want to be a guitar player!” “Now Johnny, you can’t do both!” Actually you can do both. This course is for the person who has little or no prior guitar experience. Students will learn how to read music as well as tablature, basic and advanced chords, and basic and advanced melodies. Individual work and weekly playing tests are emphasized. A limited number of guitars are available for those who don’t own their own guitar.

### **MU205 Guitar II**

Grades 9-12

1 semester/.5 credit

Fine Art Elective

Fee Required

Prerequisite: Beginning Guitar I or teacher approval

Estimated homework expectations: Little homework if student attends class and participates in all activities.

You’ve either taken the Guitar I class or have taken lessons on guitar for a number of months. You’re ready to tuck your spandex into your socks and shred. Guitar II is for students who have a grasp of the basics and want to get into scales, alternate techniques, and lots of tunes. Performances will take place every other week so you can show off your mad skills.

### **MU210 History of Rock & Roll**

Grades 9-12

1 semester/.5 credit

Fine Art Elective

Fee Required

Estimated homework expectations: Little homework if student attends class and participates in all activities.

Have you ever wondered why your parents are into 80’s music? Why Elvis is considered the king of rock and roll? Why the Beatles are so important? Learn what happened at Altamont Raceway and why certain songs were banned for creating riots. This course covers rock from its beginnings with Afro-American spirituals to ragtime, jazz, be-bop, teen idols, the west coast surfing sound, girls groups to the present. What are you waiting for...sign up now!

### **MU104 B Wind Ensemble (Concert Band)**

Grades 10-12

1 semester/.5 credit

Fine Art Elective

Fee Required

Prerequisite: Wind Ensemble requires an audition where students play a prepared piece and some sight reading.

Estimated homework expectations: Regular submission of practice logs and recorded playing tests required.

Wind Ensemble is comprised of a select group of instrumental music students who thrive on the challenge of more difficult band music. The type of literature performed is designed for an ensemble of fewer than 50 players and focuses primarily on more contemporary music. An audition is required. This class takes place second semester only. Students can participate in symphonic band as well but students are not required to be in both classes. Students who participate in Wind Ensemble will be able to: Perform at a high level of competency as a soloist, section member, and ensemble member; Understand the concepts of ensemble and individual balance, blend, intonation, phrasing, dynamics, articulation, tone, rhythmic precision, color, and ensemble clarity, as well as their relationship to quality performance; Appreciate quality wind ensemble repertoire; Work creatively and collaboratively with others.

## CHOIR

**MU159A & 159B Men's Choir** (this is a year long class) Grades 9-12 2 semesters/1.0 credit  
Fine Art Elective Class Fee Required

Estimated homework: Minimal practice outside class time required. Outside class work may incur with absences. Men's Choir also attends various Men's Choir festivals during the school year and performs in every Erie Choir department concert.

Men's Choir is a non-auditioned choir for male students of any ability level. This choir will focus on a repertoire that showcases the male voice. Boys in this choir will work together to sing music of all different genres and styles. All students will learn to sing with proper male vocal technique, such as learning to navigate through the voice change, how to support their sound, and correct breathing. Students will also learn the basics of music theory.

**MU156A & 156B Concert Choir** (this is a year long class) Grades 10-12 2 semesters/1.0 credit  
Fine Art Elective Class Fee Required; Uniform (tenor/bass: vest ensemble; soprano/alto: dresses) fee required

Prerequisite: 1 year high school choir experience

Estimated homework expectations: Minimal practice outside class time required and at least two required performances.

This course is a non-auditioned mixed choir. Students will focus on building basic musicianship and vocal skills for both male and female students, as well as work on blending within a large choral sound. This choir will perform a variety of repertoire, which may include classical, folk, foreign language, jazz, and pop music. This choir is for students who have already taken a high school choir class.

**MU164A & 164B Select Choir (Topaz)** (this is a year long class) Grades 9-12 2 semesters/1.0 credit  
Fine Art Elective Class Fee Required; Uniform (dress) fee required

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation, audition

Estimated homework expectations: Outside class work may incur with absences. Summer rehearsals and practice required. Frequent practice time, part test submissions, and at least two required concert performances.

This course is an auditioned choir for female students with more challenging repertoire. The group will focus on a variety of musical literature as well as proper female vocal technique. This choir has an emphasis on performance and students should have strong musicianship skills to be successful. Uniform required.

**MU167A & 167B Women's Ensemble** (this is a year long class) Grades 9-12 2 semesters/1.0 credit  
Fine Art Elective Class Fee Required

Estimated homework expectations: Minimal practice time outside class time required. Outside class work may incur with absences. There are at least two required concert performances.

This course is a non-auditioned choir for female students focusing on repertoires that showcase the female voice. Students in this choir range from beginning to advanced choral skills, and will work together to achieve higher levels of repertoire. All women will learn to sing with proper female vocal technique. Students will also learn basics of music theory. This choir will focus on a variety of choral literature.

**MU170A & 170B CR5 Choir** (this is a year long class) Grades 9-12 2 semesters/1.0 credit  
Fine Art Elective Class Fee Required; Uniform (tenor/bass: tuxedo; soprano/alto: dresses) fee required  
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation, audition  
Estimated homework expectations: Frequent practice time and part test submissions required. Outside class work may incur with absences. There are at least two required concert performances.

This course is an auditioned, advanced mixed choir for male and female students. Students must exhibit advanced vocal techniques, skills in musical theory, maturity, and strong stage presence. Emphasis will be on performance and advanced musical literature. Uniform required. Summer rehearsals and practice required.

**MU150B A cappella/Jazz Choir** Grades 9-12 1 semester/.5 credit  
(year-long recommended but not required)  
Fine Art Elective Class Fee Required  
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation, audition  
Estimated homework expectations: Frequent practice time and at least one concert performance required. Outside class work may incur with absences.

This course is an advanced choir for male and female students that is focused on (but not limited to) vocal jazz, show tunes, pop, and contemporary a cappella! Class will consist of rehearsing repertoire, creating a cappella arrangements, and more! Students should have a strong understanding of music theory, be able to sight-read at a high level, have a keen sense of pitch, intonation and rhythm, and be a strong visual performer.

## DRAMA

**LA400 Drama I (Beginning Acting)** Grades 9-12 1 semester/.5 credit  
Elective Fee Required  
Estimated homework expectations: There will be minimal homework. There are two after school requirements (Drama Studio Night and attending an EHS production)

BOOST YOUR CONFIDENCE! Do you want to build your confidence talking in front of people? Are you nervous giving speeches in your classes? Come be part of the drama department where you will learn the basics of public performing. In this course, students will study an overview of theater. Students will learn the basics of acting, improvisation, stage movement, scene work and monologue study. A brief introduction to script and character analysis will be taught. Students will also learn beginning level acting techniques: emotional recall and recreation, motivation, personality and character development. This course is a great way to be introduced to the EHS Theatre Department.

**LA401 Drama II (Improv Comedy Class)** Grades 9-12 1 semester/.5 credit  
Elective Fee Required  
There will be minimal homework. There are two after school requirements (Improv Comedy Night and attending an EHS production)

IMPROVISATION - Do you enjoy watching *Whose Line is it Anyway* or *SNL*? Do you have an interest in being in a class that you will laugh all the way through? If you do, then you are just who this class is designed for. In the Improv class, students will work on the basics of improvisational skills through spontaneity, staying in the moment, risk-taking, getting out of your comfort zone, finding the story within the scene, developing characters, all in the comfort of the classroom setting. Come be part of the hilarity that will ensue in the Improv Comedy Class. There is no requirement for this class. Drama I is not needed to take Drama II.

**LA402 Adv. Drama (Acting and Play Script Analysis)**

Grades 9-12

1 semester/.5 credit

Elective

Fee Required

There will be minimal homework. There are two after school requirements (Drama Studio Night and attending an EHS production)

Open to Advanced Drama students with a passion for theatre! This course will continue to improve the students' knowledge and understanding of theater. Students will continue to work on improvisation, stage movement, scene work and monologue study. Advanced Drama students will begin to focus on the process of directing and show production. They will expand their knowledge of play script analysis: dissecting a script and creating a prompt book. Advanced drama students are eligible to direct Main Stage One Acts.

**LA405 Stage Tech**

Grades 9-12

1 semester/.5 credit

Elective

Fee Required

There will be minimal homework. There are three after school requirements (Drama Studio Night, attending an EHS production, and two hours of tech work)

Have you ever wondered how the lighting for the Academy Awards is done or how the sound is mixed for your favorite rock band? If these questions have ever popped into your mind, then this course is for you! This course is for all students who have an interest in technical theater and design. You will learn basic techniques in painting, set design, drafting, lighting, costume design and sound design. Students will have an opportunity to help build, design, and paint the set for the Theatre Department's main stage productions.

**LA410 Production Theater (Acting and Directing for Film)**

Grades 9-12

1 semester/.5 credit

Fine Arts Elective

Fee Required

There will be minimal homework. There are two after school requirements (Movie Premier Night and attending an EHS production)

This course is for any student interested in being in front of the camera, behind the camera, or any combination of either of them. Through the use of daily scene and video work, you will develop a basic understanding of shooting a scene, maintaining focus while acting, and how a director chooses the best shots for the scene.