

Fine Arts at Blair

<http://finearts.mbhs.edu>

The Fine Arts Department at Montgomery Blair offers a wide variety of courses to all students in music, visual arts, and theatre. All students in the state of Maryland need one fine arts credit for graduation but many students take a fine arts course every semester in their high school career. **Blair's fine arts courses are open to all students although, as indicated below, some courses may have prerequisites.** Unless otherwise indicated, all are full year (two semester) courses. NOTE: In year-long courses students may NOT take semester 2 without having taken the semester 1 course. For more information about the Fine Arts Department, teacher contact information and courses, please visit our website at <http://finearts.mbhs.edu>. For specific questions you may contact Sara Josey, the Fine Arts Resource teacher, at sara_m_josey@mcpsmd.org or the appropriate teacher.

VISUAL ARTS COURSES



There are opportunities for showing work at all levels.

Entry level courses -- grades 9-12 that fulfill the Fine Arts graduation requirement. These are also pre-requisites for advanced study in the Fine Arts Strand of the Media Literacy Academy.

- **Art and Culture A & B** (one-semester course) #6454-6455 –Focus is on art and art forms of cultures around the world including Aboriginal Art, Mayan sculpting, masks, African weaving and others
- **Ceramics and Sculpture 1 A & B** #6381/6391 A year-long course in the study of creation of 3-Dimensional sculpture and fine crafts in a variety of media with particular focus on clay.
- **Digital Art 1 A&B** #6343/6344 A year-long course in the study of Digital Art
- **Fashion Drawing and Design A & B** #6355/6356 A year-long course studying fashion design
- **Foundations in Art A & B**--(one-semester course) #6055/6056 – Focus is on making two-dimensional art, looking at art from different times and cultures, studying Master Artists and exploring career options. This course is a basic overview of processes and media in the visual arts.
- **Photo 1 A & B** – (year-long course) #6345/6346 -- Focus is on beginning photo techniques, darkroom development and digital photography

Advanced Coursework in Visual Arts - grades 9-12

- **Studio 1 A&B – #6105/6106** Focus is on observational drawing and painting as well as other 2D art forms such as printmaking and bookmaking. Students study master artists, art movements and contemporary art. **Freshmen who already have a portfolio (from private study) should share this portfolio with the Studio teacher for entry into this class: Amanda_L_Wall@mcpsmd.org**

Looking ahead for continued study offered in the Visual Arts:

- Ceramics 2,3, and Advanced Studio
- Digital Art 2 (Advanced Digital Art)
- Photography 2 and Advanced Studio
- Studio Art 2 and 3
- AP Studio 2-Dimensional

ADDITIONAL FINE ARTS COURSES:

THEATRE –

- Theatre 1 A&B # 6926/6927
- Contact teacher Kelly O'Connor: (Kelly_N_O'Connor@mcpsmd.org) for information on upper level theatre courses:
- Advanced Acting #6912
 - Stage Design #6913
 - Play Directing #6914



MUSIC

GENERAL MUSIC: All courses are year long. Students may NOT take semester 2 without taking semester 1.

- **Beginning Guitar A & B #6585/6586** Focuses on guitar playing basics and music reading. Students can play chords and melodies in a very short time.
- **Guitar 2 #6591/6592** (audition or permission of teacher required)
- **Beginning Piano A & B #6520/6521** Focus is on piano playing techniques, music reading. Students can play simple songs from the first day in class.
- **Piano 2 # #6535/6536** (audition or permission of the teacher required)
- **World Drumming A & B #6811/6885** (called "Beginning Band" in MCPS bulletin) Students study music and percussion instruments from around the world. They explore the role that percussion music plays in various cultures and perform on a wide variety of instruments. Performance opportunities will be available throughout the year.
- **Music Theory & Composition #6545/6546**
- **AP Music Theory & Composition #6547/6548**
- **Music Technology #6605/ 6607**



CHORAL PERFORMANCE:

- **Chorus A&B #6711/6712** Open to all students who enjoy singing a wide variety of music in concerts, festivals, and on local and extended trips.
- **Show Choir A&B #6745/6746** Audition required
- **Honors Chamber Singers A&B #6743/6744.** Audition required.

Students must be enrolled in a choral group in order to audition for county and state honors groups. Piano students are often chosen to play for special events both in school and in the community.

INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMANCE:

- **Concert Band A&B – #6821/6822** open to all students, audition required for placement only
- **Concert Orchestra A&B - #6851/6852** open to all students, audition required for placement only
- **Marching Band** is an extra-curricular activity open to all instrumental students.

SPECIAL NOTE: Freshmen of exceptionally high ability may audition in the spring of 2016 with the Instrumental teachers for consideration for the following groups:

- **Symphonic Band A&B – #6826/6827** audition required *
- **Honors Wind Ensemble A&B - #6828/6829** audition required*
- **Beginning Jazz Band A&B** (called Jazz Lab Band) -- #6871/6872 audition required *
- **Symphonic Orchestra A&B # 6866/6867** audition required*
- **Honors Chamber Orchestra A&B #6868/6869** audition required*

***NOTE: If audition for these ensembles is not able to be completed by registration deadlines, register for Concert Band or Concert Orchestra and your placement will be changed if you meet the audition requirements.**

All instrumental groups perform at many local venues throughout the school year. **Students are required to be enrolled in a performing group in order to audition for all county and all state honors groups and solo and ensemble festival.** They also perform at county and State Festivals and some groups travel on extended trips. All honors students are expected to participate in extra concerts, solo and ensemble festival, and to audition for county and state honors groups. All band students are eligible to perform with the marching band during the fall.

Teacher e-mail contacts for music questions and auditions:

- General music -- Mrs. Josey: sara_m_josey@mcpsmd.org
- Choral/Guitar Performance –Ms Hernandez-Cata: Isabel_hernandez-cata@mcpsmd.org
- Instrumental Music –
 - Ms Roberts: Michelle_Roberts@mcpsmd.org (Concert & Symphonic Orchestras, Jazz Bands)
 - Mr. Oldham: raife_e_oldham@mcpsmd.org (Concert/Symphonic/Marching Bands, World Drumming)