



Shiloh Middle School

Fine Arts Information

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: April 11, 2022



There is sufficient evidence to support that study and participation in the fine arts is a key component in improving learning throughout all academic areas. With that in mind, we are happy to provide your child with the opportunity to begin his/her journey in Fine Arts. We invite you to take advantage of this wonderful program.

Fast Facts about SMS Fine Arts:

1. The fine arts classes meet during the school day as a part of one of your child's connections classes. It is a yearlong class from August- May. Due to staffing and scheduling, students must remain in the chosen yearlong fine arts course for the entire 2021-22 school year.
2. Each child may only select to be in one fine arts class in hopes that they choose to continue in that program for all three years of middle school.
3. All fine arts courses require additional fees for instruction and performances. It is the responsibility of the parent to rent or purchase instruments, purchase performance attire and practice materials, etc. Please see individual program details below.

Band Course Description:

Band classes are performance ensembles in which 6th grade students at the Beginning level are introduced to instruments such as flute, clarinet, saxophone, percussion, and much more. The AKS for Band instruction uniquely embraces a performance- and standards-based curriculum. Throughout the year, band students participate in a number of performances and may participate in various local, statewide, regional, national, and international festivals and competitions.

Band Course Requirements:

- All parents are required to rent or purchase an instrument for their child. **Please do not purchase or rent an instrument until notified by the band director.*
- **All parents are required to pay band dues (\$50) which include a band polo (\$18), an instruction book for their child (\$12), SmartMusic Interactive Program (\$20), and classroom supplies (\$5).**
- All students are required to practice a minimum of 60 minutes per week.
- **This course requires a yearlong commitment. No course changes will be made after the 2nd week of school in August.**

Orchestra Course Description:

Orchestra classes are performance ensembles in which 6th grade students at the Beginning level are introduced to instruments such as violin, viola, cello, and bass. The AKS for Orchestra instruction uniquely embraces a performance- and standards-based curriculum. Throughout the year, orchestra students participate in a number of performances and may participate in various local, statewide, regional, national, and international festivals and competitions.

Orchestra Course Requirements:

- All parents are required to rent or purchase a string instrument for their child. **Please do not purchase or rent an instrument until notified by the orchestra director.*
- **All parents are required to pay Orchestra dues (\$35) which include an orchestra polo (\$20), and an instruction book for their child.**
- All students are required to practice a minimum of 60 minutes per week.
- **This course requires a yearlong commitment. No course changes will be made after the 2nd week of school in August.**

Chorus Course Description:

Chorus classes are performance ensembles in which 6th-grade students at the Beginning level are introduced to the art of using their voices as their instrument. The AKS for Chorus instruction uniquely embraces a performance- and standards-based curriculum. Throughout the year, chorus students participate in a number of performances and may participate in various local, statewide, regional, national, and international festivals and competitions.

Chorus Course Requirements:

- **All parents are required to pay Chorus dues (\$25) which include a Chorus polo (\$18), Large Group Performance County Evaluation (\$4) and Buses for Field Trips (\$3).**
- **This course requires a yearlong commitment. No course changes will be made after the 2nd week of school in August.**

Instrument Fitting Night for Band and Orchestra:

Last Name (A-L): April 20, 2022, by scheduled appointment

Last Name (M-Z): April 21, 2022, by scheduled appointment

More Information About Our Performing Arts Groups:

Band: Mr. Belle - eisenhower.belle@gcpsk12.org

Band instruments include those in the brass, woodwind, and percussion instrument families. The specific instruments offered to sixth-grade students at Shiloh Middle School are the flute, oboe, clarinet, bass clarinet, bassoon, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, French horn, trumpet, trombone, and euphonium. Percussion students are chosen during the year based on proficiency and behavior, as decided by the director. Students may choose one instrument to play during their three-year commitment to our program. While in band, students will perform several mandatory concerts at the school during the year, as a part of their curricular commitment to the program, and may be invited to perform at other events at the director's discretion.

Chorus: Ms. Palmore - deirdre.palmore@gcpsk12.org

Students in the Shiloh Middle School Chorus will be using their voices as their instruments. The director will work with students to decide on proper voice placement in the choir (soprano, alto, tenor, or bass) once students commit to joining this program. While in chorus, students will perform several mandatory concerts at the school during the year, as a part of their curricular commitment to the program, and may be invited to perform at other events at the director's discretion.

Orchestra: Mr. Pearson - thomas.pearson@gcpsk12.org

Orchestra instruments include those in the string instrument family. The specific instruments offered to sixth-grade students at Shiloh Middle School are the violin, viola, cello, and bass. Students may choose one instrument to play during their three-year commitment to our program. While in band, students will perform several mandatory concerts at the school during the year, as a part of their curricular commitment to the program, and may be invited to perform at other events at the director's discretion.

Why Join a Performing Arts Group?

Being in chorus, band, or orchestra not only teaches students how to play an instrument or develop their vocal technique, but it also improves student's leadership abilities, responsibility, and provides a unique social opportunity for your child to develop life-long friendships. Here is some research that shows some other great positive outcomes you could see in your student if they join one of Shiloh Middle's outstanding performing arts groups:

Improved Academic Performance and Emotional Well-Being

**The College Entrance Examination Board found that students involved in public school music programs scored 107 points higher on the SAT's than students with no participation. - Profiles of SAT and Achievement Test Takers, The College Board, compiled by the MENC (2002)

**A research team reports that early music training dramatically enhancing children's abstract reasoning skills. These findings indicate that music uniquely enhances higher brain functions required for mathematics, chess, science and engineering. - From Neurological Research, Feb 28, 1997; Frances Rauscher, Ph.D., Gordon Shaw, Ph.D, University of California, Irvine

**A two-year Swiss study involving 1,200 children in 50 schools showed that students involved in the music program were better at languages, learned to read more easily, showed an improved social climate, showed more enjoyment in school, and had a lower level of stress than non-music students. -Weber, E.W., Spychiger, M. & Patry, J.L. (1993)

Improved Life Skills

**Arts involvement teaches children many skills necessary to succeed in life, including problem-solving and decision making, building self-confidence and self-discipline, the ability to imagine what might be and to accept responsibility for it, teamwork, the development of informed perception, and articulating a vision. - Compiled from various research documents and reports

**Secondary students who participated in band or orchestra reported the lowest lifetime and current use of all substances (alcohol, tobacco, illicit drugs). - Texas Commission on Drug and Alcohol Abuse, Houston Chronicle, January 11, 1998

For questions, please contact Assistant Principal Stacey Brown via email: Stacey_Brown@gwinnett.k12.ga.us