



CHEROKEE CHRISTIAN CREATIVE ARTS
Developing the arts Created within us.

2011-2012 Program



MISSION STATEMENT

The Cherokee Christian Creative Arts Program seeks to:

- Foster our students' recognition that God is the source of our creative gifts and we are to use them to His honor and glory;
- Cultivate our students' joyful discovery of their natural talents so that they may pursue a lifetime of self-directed study; and
- Guide our students to appreciate the arts as a reflection of God's attributes and recognize what is good, true and beautiful.

"Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things." Philippians 4:8

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CCS Fine Arts Administration and Faculty

Mrs. Susan Gum	<i>Director of Fine Arts</i> Foundational Drawing, Studio Art, Drama, Digital Media, 3D Modeling and Design, AP Studio Art, AP Art History, Cultural Studies Trip Program Coordinator	susan.gum@cherokeechristian.org
Music Teacher	General Music K-5, After School Elementary Choir, MS Choir, HS Choir, HS Music Appreciation	@cherokeechristian.org
Band Director	MS Instrumental Ensemble, HS Jazz Ensemble	@cherokeechristian.org
Mrs. Elaine Stephens	After School Elementary Dance Program	elaine.stephens@cherokeechristian.org
Mrs. Sue Wahle	General Art K-5, After School Elementary Art Program, MS Visual Art Elective, Day of the Arts Program Coordinator, Cultural Studies Trip Assistant Program Coordinator	sue.wahle@cherokeechristian.org



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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The visual and performing arts offer all students the opportunity to use the creative gifts that God has given them. Through the arts our students learn to solve problems and make informed decisions. They learn how to work collaboratively and develop skills in organizing, evaluating and interpreting information. They become adept at making decisions concerning materials and techniques. Research shows that students who complete cooperative creative group tasks tend to have higher academic test scores, stronger social skills and greater content knowledge and skills.

The visual and performing arts classrooms at Cherokee Christian Schools provide students an environment where the process of discovery, exploration and creativity is celebrated. The creative ability of each student is developed into talent through practice and perseverance. In elementary school, students progressively build on the foundational fine arts skills and knowledge learned in the year before. By the time the students enter middle school, they are offered more specialized fine arts training. The students can choose from Visual Arts, Choral Performance, Instrumental Ensemble or Theater Arts. Those students wishing to take their talents to the next level of proficiency may elect to specialize in a **three-year fine arts track**, concentrating their study in one discipline for the duration of their middle school career. Those students that complete all three years of their elected fine arts specialty will receive recognition of this achievement in their middle school transcript and diploma.

Students may continue their fine arts development in high school, participating in advanced study as well as arts leadership opportunities and international travel through special arrangement with the Director of Fine Arts.

The different components of the elementary, middle school and high school fine arts offerings are described in detail on the following pages.



Much Ado About Nothing by William Shakespeare, performed May 2010

ELEMENTARY FINE ARTS PROGRAM

Visual Arts

Students in grades K-5 are introduced to the basic elements of design used by an artist when creating a work of art (color, value, line, shape, form, texture and space). Students learn art principles including balance, emphasis, harmony, variety, gradation, movement, rhythm and proportion. Each student develops abilities to:



- express ideas in original works of art in many mediums
- develop an understanding of art and artists of different cultures and historical periods
- learn to evaluate their own artworks and the work of others
- experience collaborative team work and problem solving

Music

Students in grades K-3rd receive general music instruction which introduces:

- the elements of music
- music theory
- music historical history

In 4th grade students are introduced to instrumental music. Students learn to play the recorder and are provided performance opportunities throughout the year. Students in 5th grade continue to build foundational music skills as they delve a little deeper into the musical elements and music theory.

EXTRACURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

After School Program

The Fine Arts Department has designed the elementary extracurricular art program to supplement the weekly arts curriculum. These additional classes may offer experiences not offered in the regular classroom, and build on skills taught in the regular classroom at an advanced level. The philosophy of this program is to build competencies and enthusiasm in our students who have a demonstrated passion for the arts. These extracurricular classes better prepare them for more advanced study in middle and high school electives. All of these classes are staffed by practicing professionals in their field of study. The extracurricular program is run on a fee basis and is completely self-supporting. Elementary classes currently offered include dance, private instruction on musical instruments, drama club, elementary choir and visual arts.

Summer Arts Program

The Summer Art Camp is designed as an extension of the arts programming at CCS. This program is open to both CCS students and the community at large. The program incorporates many mediums and is generally theme-based. The intent of the program is to incorporate all aspects of the visual and performing arts. The camp is staffed by practicing professionals in their field of study and is run on a fee basis making it completely self-supporting.

MIDDLE SCHOOL FINE ARTS PROGRAM

THREE-YEAR FINE ARTS TRACK TO BUILD PROFICIENCY

When students enter middle school, those students wishing to take their talents to the next level of proficiency may elect to specialize in a **three-year fine arts track**. The students can choose from **Visual Arts, Choral Performance, Instrumental Ensemble** or **Theater Arts**. Students wishing to try one of these electives do not have to commit to the three-year track to participate, *and* a student may choose to opt out of the three-year program at any time to explore other elective offerings available in other areas of study if they find the program too rigorous. Those students that complete all three years of their elected fine arts specialty will receive special recognition of this achievement in their middle school transcript and diploma. Completion of the program will provide the serious fine arts student an excellent foundation for continuing in advanced fine arts study in high school.

VISUAL ARTS

The middle school *Visual Arts Track* introduces students to the various forms of the visual arts, such as painting, drawing, sculpting and more. Students learn how to look at a work of art, identify and compare key characteristics in artworks, and understand the role that art has played throughout history. Through hands-on studio activities, virtual museum tours, discussion and research, learners develop an overall appreciation for the art they encounter in their daily lives and the ability to manipulate a variety of art mediums. As students participate in this track each year, they will be individually mentored to explore and extend their artistic ability, honing both their observation and technical skills. A third-year student will complete the program with a ten-piece portfolio, representative of their best efforts.



CHORAL PERFORMANCE

The middle school *Choral Performance Track* provides progressive development of choral performance skills from 6th through 8th grade. First-year students are introduced to the basics of choral music, including proper singing techniques as well as beginning performance techniques. Second- and third-year students continue to build on their knowledge of sight-singing, music history as it relates to choral music, musical expression and performance techniques, as well as have opportunities for solo and duet performances. By the end of this three-year track, the middle school student will have mastered choral music history, essential music theory, vocal techniques and performance techniques. The graduating middle school student will be more than prepared to pursue more advanced choral music in high school.

INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE



The middle school *Instrumental Ensemble Track* provides progressive development of instrumental performance skills from 6th through 8th grade. Regardless of whether they commit to the three year track or not, **every student must begin or continue private lessons each summer before the elective begins and be accepted into the ensemble through an audition process.** This process ensures that each student is ready to participate as part of an ensemble and has demonstrated the necessary

work ethic to support this group endeavor. In this course, students will learn to read and play concert ensemble and solo arrangements of popular and traditional music. They will learn necessary practice techniques and discipline as they progressively hone their individual and group performance abilities. As

students participate in this track each year, they will be individually mentored to explore and extend their musical ability. A third-year student who completes the program would be more than prepared to pursue more advanced instrumental music in high school, with the opportunity to join the **Jazz Ensemble, Pep Band** and/or **Praise Band** at the permission of the Band Director.

THEATER ARTS

The middle school *Theater Arts Track* introduces students to theatre as an art form. For first-year students, emphasis is placed on developing the voice, body, and imagination through the use of theatre games, improvisation and ensemble exercises. Each student will have the opportunity to audition for stage roles and/or work with technical aspects of theatre in two full-length middle school drama productions each year. Second- and third-year students are progressively given more responsibility in roles or theater production. These more advanced students are given the opportunity for leadership roles, mentoring other students, serving as student directors for their own one-act plays, and auditioning for additional roles as available in high school theater productions.



James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl, performed Winter 2010

EXTRACURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

After School Fine Arts Program

The Fine Arts Department has designed the middle school extracurricular art program to supplement the weekly arts curriculum. These additional classes may offer experiences not offered in the regular classroom, and build on skills taught in the regular classroom at an advanced level. The philosophy of this program is to build competencies and enthusiasm in our students who have a demonstrated passion for the arts. These extracurricular classes better prepare them for more advanced study in high school electives. All of these classes are staffed by practicing professionals in their field of study. The extracurricular program is run on a fee basis and is completely self-supporting. Middle school classes currently offered include private instruction on musical instruments and an art club.

HIGH SCHOOL FINE ARTS PROGRAM

When students enter high school, those students wishing to prepare to pursue the fine arts in college may elect to specialize in a ***fine arts track***. Currently students can choose from Visual Arts, Choral Performance or Theater Arts. Electives available in high school are listed below. Fine arts students should consult with the Director of Fine Arts to develop a logical progression for taking these courses.

VISUAL ARTS

- **Foundational Drawing** (one semester for ½ credit; offered first semester only). This course teaches students the basic principles of drawing that are universal to all design disciplines — mass, volume, form, contour, texture, light and shadow. These principles, introduced through lecture demonstrations, are applied to figure drawing, still life, landscape, architectural, and abstract subjects. Individual instruction in drawing with pencil, charcoal, pastel, and ink is geared to students of all levels. Students may repeat this course to improve skills.
- **Studio Art** (one semester for ½ credit). This course will introduce students to various forms of the visual arts, including painting, drawing, and three-dimensional media. Students will learn how to look at a work of art, identify and compare key characteristics in artworks, and understand the role that art has played throughout history. Through hands-on activities, virtual museum tours, discussion and research, students will develop an overall appreciation for the art they encounter in their daily lives. Students may repeat this course as an advanced segment.
- **AP Studio Art** (offered if demand warrants; prerequisite: Studio Art and/or Foundational Drawing and permission of the teacher). In this course, the student develops a complete portfolio of artwork (Drawing, 2-D Design, and 3-D Design), demonstrating both concentration in a particular medium and breadth of abilities across various media. This course prepares the students to submit their portfolio for evaluation in the spring, serving as a direct demonstration of their achievement.
- **AP Art History** (offered if demand warrants; prerequisite: permission of the teacher). In this course, students will use critical thinking as they develop an understanding and knowledge of diverse historical and cultural contexts of architecture, sculpture, painting, and other media, from ancient times to today. Emphasis will be placed on understanding how and why works of art function in context, considering such issues as patronage, gender and the functions and effects of works of art. This course prepares the student for the AP Art History exam in the spring.
- **Digital Media and Design** (one semester for ½ credit; offered one semester only. May count as fulfilling either the Technology or the Fine Arts requirement, but not both.) This fast-paced course introduces students to Adobe PhotoShop CS4 as they master basic to advanced image editing and compositing techniques. Students will gain exposure to graphic design fundamentals along with a deeper understanding of the elements of art and principles of design. Students may repeat this course as an advanced segment.
- **3-D Modeling and Design** (one semester for ½ credit; offered second semester only. Required for STEM students; may count as fulfilling either the Technology or the Fine Arts requirement for the general diploma as well.) This course provides an introduction to the use of three-dimensional modeling software, particularly in an engineering and design context.

CHORAL PERFORMANCE

- **Choir** (may be repeated for credit; one-half credit per semester) Choir students will learn some basic sight singing skills along with some challenging choral compositions. They will be competing in fine arts competitions and will be involved with the Christmas program and spring recital. **Please note:** Special events and performances *require* student participation in additional rehearsals. Students will need to arrange their schedules so that they are able to participate in these rehearsals. The performance participation grade for the class is determined by participation during rehearsals and performances. There will be extra rehearsals scheduled up to two weeks prior to a major performance.
- **Music Appreciation** (offered if demand warrants; one semester for ½ credit). This course is designed for the high school student who wants to learn the foundational basics of music. Over a semester, each student will study the four main pillars of music: instruments, elements of music, forms of music and a brief history of music including a look at some important composers of each era. The student will learn basic music theory (how to read a music rhythm, melody and harmony as well as identifying basic forms of music such as the fugue, theme and variations, concerto and opera) and how music developed over periods of time (from the Middle Ages to the present). Students will study how music impacts society and what careers can be pursued in the fields of music. There will be quizzes, tests and hands-on classroom work as the student learns to appreciate music at a deeper level.

THEATER ARTS

- **Drama** (may be repeated for credit; one-half credit per semester) This provides students with an increased appreciation of and additional experience in theater as an art form. The student will act, direct, or be technically involved in scene development, one-act plays, or full length productions. They will read, write, and evaluate plays as well as view and critique electronic and live performances. History, culture, and technology will be examined, and career opportunities will be explored. Through creating theater, students will grow in their ability to comprehend the world and to communicate with others. Because this is a performance-based class, performances *require* student participation in additional rehearsals evenings and weekends. Students will need to arrange their schedules in advance to accommodate these additional time commitments.



EXTRACURRICULAR INSTRUMENTAL OPPORTUNITIES

At the permission of the Band Director, high school and advanced band students may participate in a Jazz Ensemble. Desired instrumentation includes guitar, bass guitar, drums, sax, clarinet, flute, trumpet, trombone, baritone and piano. A variety of performance opportunities are made available throughout the year, for internal and external audiences.

At the permission of the Praise Team Leader, students may participate on the Praise Team.

FINE ARTS STUDENT LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

FORMAL:

Theater Technical Staff: High school students have the opportunity to apply for theater technical positions to support the Middle and High School Drama Troupes. There are four major drama productions each school year. High school students are trained by the Director of Fine Arts in the following areas:

- Lighting
- Sound
- Set/Prop Design
- Stage Management

Students gain leadership and time management skills, valuable technical experience and service hours for participating in these extracurricular activities.

Assistant Drama Director: At the invitation of the Fine Arts Director, an advanced high school drama student participates as Assistant Director for either the winter or spring Middle School drama production. This student participates in all after school rehearsals and performances, leads pre-rehearsal warm-ups, assists in stage direction and blocking, and works with individual students on characterization and stage movement. This assignment provides the Assistant Director with valuable leadership, mentoring and time management experience.

After School and Summer Art Camp Teacher's Assistant: Advanced high school fine arts students may apply as Teacher's Assistant for the after school arts programs and/or summer art camp. Applications must be approved by the Director of Fine Arts prior to interviewing for these positions. These positions may or may not be paid positions. The programs are all fee-based and are completely self-funded. The student assistant helps the classroom teacher with preparation of supplies, assists students with assigned projects, cleans up the classroom at the end of the lesson and performs other duties as assigned by the lead teacher. Teacher's assistants are provided with valuable leadership, mentoring and time management experience.

INFORMAL:

On an informal basis, advanced chorus, visual art and drama students are asked to mentor other students in the classroom.

INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL STUDIES TRIP

Annually CCS offers our high school students the opportunity for international travel, as we explore the art, architecture and culture of other countries. In years past we have traveled to England, Scotland, Ireland, Spain, Italy and Greece. We contract with a tour company that specializes in educational tours, EF Tours. EF is a world leader in educational travel with over 40 years of experience. There is no better way than travel to ignite a students' curiosity about the world around them and motivate them to become lifelong learners!

CCS generously provides CCHS seniors a travel stipend to participate in this international travel opportunity. Seniors receive \$150 for every year they have consecutively attended CCS, including their senior year. For example, a senior who joined CCS in 7th grade would receive a stipend of \$900.



FINE ARTS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

CCS has established a Fine Arts Scholar program which annually recognizes the outstanding achievements of CCHS fine arts students. Students in grades 9-12 are eligible for recognition through this program, which will apply a designated amount toward the following year's tuition for the selected student or students.

PATRONS OF THE CREATIVE ARTS

The Cherokee Christian Creative Arts (CCCA) could not be successful without the participation of CCS parents. Your support of CCCA programs through prayer and volunteer participation allows the students to flourish and be successful in their artistic endeavors. The CCCA Patrons of the Creative Arts is a parent organization formed to assist CCCA in the following areas:

- Elevating the quality of arts programming
- Focusing on a ramped approach to developing creative abilities:
 - Broad exploration of the arts in elementary
 - development of skills, understanding and work ethic in MS
 - in-depth training and advanced application in HS, with a distinct career focus
- Engaging the parents
- Engaging the community

Areas for CCCA Patron involvement include:

- Advertising/Promotion & Sponsor Solicitation
- Incentive Program (focused on increasing Patron membership and developing/furthering a Fine Arts Honor Society)

- Fine Arts Scholarship Program
- Service and Outreach Programs
- Event Support
- Facility Enhancement
- International Cultural Studies

The CCCA staff encourages parent participation in this essential committee, as we support and seek to further the creative gifts of the CCS student body. Please contact the Director of Fine Arts for membership information.