

Elective Course Description Sheet - 6th Grade 2019-20 School Year

Art 6 (*Nature, Science and Art*) (*semester*) explores painting, drawing, printmaking, and sculpture building through a variety of skill based projects. Students will learn how to generate original concepts from their own personal experiences and ideas and translate them into communicative works of art. Whether you are a beginner or an experienced artist, this course will open doors to the way you perceive art making in the 21st century.

Band 6 (*year*) is offered to any student who would like to learn how to play a brass, woodwind or percussion instrument. **No experience is necessary to become involved in the band program!** Each student will be given the opportunity to try a number of different instruments before choosing their instrument. Attention is focused on introductory music fundamentals, technical achievement, musical understanding and acquisition of performance skills through exposure to a variety of musical literature. Students will perform in at least two concert performances and will audition for All City Band. This is one of the best experiences we can offer our future musicians!

Introduction to Computers (*Semester*) This semester course in creative coding introduces students to computer science as a vehicle for problem solving, communication, and personal expression. As a whole, this semester focuses on the visible aspects of computing and computer science, and encourages students to see where computer science exists around them and how they can engage with it as a tool for exploration and expression.

Intermediate Computer Exploration (*Semester*) This semester course in creative coding lets students explore the impact of computer science on society. Students will see how a user-centered design process produces a better application, how data is used to address problems that affect large numbers of people, and how physical computing with circuit boards allows computers to collect input and return output in a variety of ways. **Prerequisite: Introduction to Computers**

Chorus 6 (*year*) **Chorus 6** (*year*) Do you like to sing and perform? Then this is the class for you! Chorus 6 is the foundation of the choral music program at Old Donation School and is made up exclusively of sixth graders. Students in Chorus 6 will perform in solos and small ensembles, as well as performing with the full Chorus. They will also learn and improve their music reading and sight-singing ability. **Chorus students will have the opportunity to learn and extend their skills in playing the piano and guitar.** Highlights of the year will include several concerts and auditions for the All-City Chorus. Chorus 6 students will also participate in the annual Old Donation School Chorus Musical, and will experience all aspects of producing and performing a Broadway musical. **Chorus students may audition for the All-City Chorus and the Chorus Musical. Some after-school rehearsals will be scheduled for these events.**

Orchestra 6 (*year*) is designed to develop music fundamentals, technical achievement, and acquisition of performance and rehearsal skills through exposure to a variety of literature. Students in this course will range in ability from the beginner level to having up to three years of experience with an instrument. Several after-school performances and rehearsals will be required.

Theatre I (*semester*) is a course that will focus on the development of student creativity, intuitive, and presentation skills, while refining collaborative work efforts and skills acquired through Improvisation and Scene Study. Students will analyze and portray complex characters and experiences to refine technique in stage acting and Scene Building; this includes skit writing. This course will introduce to students various roles in production, and facilitates the comparison of theatre arts to others forms of performance in preparation for further theatrical study. Both actors and non-actors are welcome!