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All courses are quarter long unless otherwise noted.

- **Level II**—*Successful completion of Level I and/or previous theatre experience required.* Students continue developing their acting skills with more challenging projects in dialogue, pantomime, improvisation, speech, diction, and role play. They develop specific skills that allow them to study and create characters for the stage. Students should anticipate some after-school practices and evening performances.

Magnet Introduction to Theatre—Learn the basics of all aspects of theatre production! In this course you will study acting, directing, design, and playwriting. Most activities are hands-on and participation every day is expected—from Greek Theatre to a behind the scenes look at *The Lion King*—you will collaborate and create multiple projects while learning to develop creative skills as a theatre artist.

Magnet Playwriting—*Previous theatre experience required.* Learn the craft of playwriting! In this course you will study plot, characterization, theatricality, and other elements of the playwright's craft. You'll examine great playwrights Arthur Miller, Henrik Ibsen, August Wilson, Anna Devere Smith, Anton Chekhov, Wendy Wasserstein, Tennessee Williams, and others. The course functions as a playwriting workshop as students present exercises in class to be discussed by their peers. Utilizing techniques learned, students will begin work on short plays to be featured in staged performances at the end of the course.

Magnet Technical Theatre

- **Level I**—*Limited to 6th grade students only.* Learn the basic concepts of technical theatre including stagecraft, lighting, and sound. See how the backstage work makes the onstage magic happen!
- **Level II**—*Successful completion of Level I required.* Continue the study of stagecraft with more hands-on experience with scenic design and construction. An active course where students build the world of the play!
- **Level III**—*Successful completion of Level II required.* The real magic of theatre is created by the lighting and sound magicians...seeing and hearing is believing! Learn to make it happen!

Video Production

- **Beginning**—In this course you will learn different aspects of how video is created and produced and for what purposes. Critical view is emphasized. Historical aspects of video production will be studied. Writing, research, and storyboard techniques will be used throughout the class. Hands-on learning is blended with reflective opportunities to study for next steps in projects.
- **Advanced**—*Successful completion of Beginning Level.* This course expands on skills learned in the Beginning Level to support production of the daily news broadcast, MMS News.

Visual Arts

Magnet Advanced Design 2-D—*By nomination only.* This advanced level course emphasizes the principles of art and design to achieve strong compositions. Advanced work will feature multiple approaches to creative problem-solving using a variety of two-dimensional mediums such as collage, graphic design, painting, and photography. Students will be challenged to work with others and contribute to the collaborative process. They will

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have the opportunity for independent study and are expected to be motivated to follow through on a project from ideation to finished product.

Magnet Advanced Design 3-D—*By nomination only.* This advanced level course emphasized the principles of design with a three-dimensional focus. Advanced work will feature multiples approaches to creative problem solving using a variety of mediums including paper, clay, wire, and papier mache. Students will be challenged to work with forces of gravity while utilizing the elements of art and the principles of design. They will have the opportunity for independent study and are expected to be motivated to follow through on a project from ideation to finished product.

Magnet Carolina Crafts—The craftwork traditions of North Carolina are introduced in this course, providing the student with the opportunity to learn the skills and history of folk craft. The class will focus on the once pervasive utilitarianism of crafts and trace the growth of the artistry into today. Students will student the four geographic regions of the state, the natural resources and local craftspeople in each region, along with the techniques that have been preserved or evolved over time. Students will create crafts using techniques such as basketry, weaving, and pottery.

Magnet Commercial Art—This course will put an emphasis on the understanding and application of the principles of design—balance, movement, repetition, emphasis, contrast, and unity. The students will use these principles to design posters, advertisements, mock billboards, and product packages. Craftsmanship will be emphasized. The students will use their understanding of the principles of design to analyze advertisements and determine how each principle is used to convey a message.

Magnet Drawing

- **Level I**—This is a wonderful first choice for students who are interested in taking two-dimensional arts courses during middle school. This introductory course allows students to understand and apply drawing basics as they related to line, shape, value, texture, proportion, and perspective. Drawing media used during this course includes pencils, pen, ink, charcoal, conte crayon, oil pastel, and mixed media. Students can expect to draw from life with still life and figure drawing s well as to incorporate mathematic principles for proportion, scale, and symmetry.
- **Level II**—*Successful completion of Level I required.* In Level II students are provided with an opportunity to establish depth of content and further rigor. Advanced skill with drawn pencils, pen, ink, charcoal, oil pastel, conte crayon, and mixed media will be developed throughout the course and personal artistic expression is cultivated and encouraged. Class will continue the application of elements of line, shape, value, and texture found in Level I as well as provide links to elements of design such as unity, balance, and contrast.

Magnet Fiber Arts—This course will allow the student the opportunity to explore a wide variety of art processes that involve fabrics. Paper, cotton, wool, and other types of fabrics will be used to explore and create functional and decorative projects that connect to our everyday world. Techniques may include batik, tie-dying, papermaking, weaving, and silk painting.

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Magnet Foundations of Art—(Formerly called Art Fundamentals: Total Picture) Students are encouraged to take an exploratory approach to the creative process within this course. Throughout the quarter the class is introduced to elements of art and principles of design in relation to the gamut of visual art in two- and three-dimensional units. The work of different artists and the value of the creative process will be stressed. This class is a great foundation for any visual arts class!

Magnet Mask Making—This course is an introduction to the tradition of masks. Students will explore the superstition, power, and functions of masks in ancient and contemporary cultures. Students will design and construct masks using a variety of materials including clay, papier mache, paper, and wire. Each project will broaden students' concepts about masks and challenge them to create new identities.

Magnet Painting

- **Level I**—In this introduction to painting students will understand and apply the basics as related to elements of art—color, line, and shape. Media utilized during this course includes tempera, acrylic, oil, watercolor, and India ink. Students can expect to understand color theory before painting to assist with color relationships and mixing. Likewise, students will use value to appropriately apply hue and intensity.
- **Level II**—*Successful completion of Level I required.* Students are provided with depth of content as they work with advanced color theory and technique. Additional emphasis will be placed on independent problem-solving and advancement of personal style. Course will integrate elements of color, value, line, and shape with principles of design including balance and emphasis to structure compositions

Magnet Pottery

- **Level I**—*An introductory level art class would be helpful before taking this course, but is not required.* This course is an introduction to the versatile, organic material of clay. Students will build functional and decorative pots using traditional hand-building techniques including pinch, coil, and slab. Pots will be glazed and fired in kilns. Students will gain an understanding of ceramics, specific vocabulary, and study the ceramic traditions of different cultures. A study of local pottery traditions will be included.
- **Level II**—*Successful completion of Level I and teacher recommendation required.* This advanced art class will deepen students' understanding of ceramics and clay using the hand-building techniques introduced in Level I. Students will create more complex projects using pinch, coil, and slab techniques. Students will also be introduced to the potter's wheel. Students will work independently to create a final project that demonstrates their accumulated skills. A detailed study of glazes, form, and local pottery traditions will be included.

Magnet Printmaking—*Foundations of Art required.* This course is a commercial form of art through the creation of multiples. Students will learn how vital planning and the artistic process are in addition to the value of negative space while creating their printing plates. Element and principle relationships will continue to be implemented into printmaking. Students will also be learning how to appropriately handle tools such as linoleum cutters, X-acto blades, the printing press, and others in order to maintain a safe working environment.

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Magnet Sculpture

- **Level I**—This course will use plaster, wood, clay, paper, and papier mache to make sculptures in relief and in the round. The art concepts of texture, patterns, shape, and color will be explored as they relation to the three-dimensional form. Emphasis will be put on building forms that are free-standing. Sculpture will also be explored as functional and non-functional forms. This course will also examine the history of sculpture to discover how it related to the cultures in which it was created.
- **Level II**—Using skills from Level I students will further explore the third dimension by creating sculptural forms with more complex structures and themes.

Vocal Music

Magnet Choral Ensemble— *Previous choral experience required.* Emphasis will be on performance of small ensemble literature and the development of greater singer independence. Students will apply the principles, fundamentals, and techniques of a well-produced singing voice. Application of musical symbols, terms, notation, and concepts appropriate to the literature as well as development and mastery demonstration of skill through singing two and three part harmony as well as homophonic and polyphonic forms will be a part of this course.

Magnet Honors Chorus—*Instructor recommendation and/or audition required.* Students must demonstrate mastery of intermediate levels of performance and knowledge during the audition process to become members of the group. Students will extend their development in vocal production and technique, interpretation, and reading. Their ability to integrate and demonstrate mastery and use of rhythm, melody, harmony, timbre, tempo, dynamics, and expression as well as their use of form.

Men's Ensemble/Women's Ensemble— Students learn correct signing techniques for their changing voices and various elements of musical expression through age-appropriate and history vocal literature. Students learn how to use traditional notation in order to learn music and respond to conductors' gestures in rehearsals and performances. Students will also student vocal music and its relationship to other cultures, eras, and geographical locations.

Magnet Treble Chorus—*At least one semester of choral experience required.* Students will use the music reading skills learned in Vocal Exploration and continue to expand their knowledge. They will perform daily exercises to help them with breath control, posture, intonation, and vowel formation, consonant articulation, balance, blend, and musicality. They will also learn how to care for their voice, anatomy of the vocal mechanism, and health issues related to singing. They will sing a variety of pieces from different genres including folk songs, novelty songs, multicultural music, and songs from musical theatre and popular culture.

Magnet Vocal Exploration— (Formerly called Beginning Chorus) Students learn correct signing techniques and various elements of musical expression through age-appropriate and history vocal literature. Students learn how to use traditional notation in order to learn music and respond to conductors' gestures in rehearsals and performances. Students will also student vocal music and its relationship to other cultures, eras, and geographical locations.