

# John F. Kennedy High School

## VISUAL ARTS

### *elective courses*

#### *beginning* **ART**

This is an introduction to visual art through a variety of materials, including pencil, colored pencil, marker, charcoal, watercolor, paint, and collage. Students explore art history, professions in the arts, and participate in critiques.

#### *advanced* **ART**

Here students explore more complex visual arts problems using a variety of art materials. New techniques and materials, such as printmaking, are introduced. Each student creates a portfolio of their work, and they participate in art shows and competitions.

#### *advanced placement* **STUDIO ART**

This is a third-year option for students who have completed Advanced Art or Advanced 3-D Art. AP Studio Art has three portfolios options: Drawing, 3-D Design, or 2-D Design. For each portfolio, students explore a broad variety of media and techniques in the breadth section, and then choose focused theme to create a series of work for their concentration. Students who pass the portfolio review by the College Board will earn college credits.

#### *beginning* **3-D ART**

In this hands-on studio course, students are introduced to working with 3-dimensional materials, including clay, wire, papier-mâché, metal embossing, found objects, and installation art. Students also learn about art history, art professions and participate in critiques.

#### *advanced* **3-D ART**

Using 3-D materials, students stretch their creative abilities and improve their technical skills. New skills including carving and casting are introduced. Students will create a work of public art for the campus or community. Portfolios, shows, and competitions are also a part of this course.

#### **ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN**

This course introduces the design process to students through completion of projects in the areas of architecture and product manufacturing. Through instruction in the areas of sketching, drafting, computer graphics, prototyping, and the principles and elements of design, the student learns to develop and understand not only the scientific theory and facts within the engineering, manufacturing and architectural fields, but also the aesthetic and artistic views of a designer.



*"If art is to nourish the roots of our culture, society must set the artist free to follow his vision wherever it takes him."*

*-John F. Kennedy*

Students are required to take a full year of a visual or performing art to be eligible for UC and CSU acceptance. All John F. Kennedy High School Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) courses satisfy this A-G requirement for all 4-year colleges and universities. Taking a second year or more of VAPA electives will earn students additional elective credits towards graduation.

## Department of Visual and Performing Arts

# John F. Kennedy High School



## *elective courses*

### **Marching** *band*

Marching Band/Concert Band is one year-long elective. In Marching Band the musicians and color guard practice and perform a marching band field show for entertainment, and competition. The instrumentation includes brass, woodwind, percussion, and color guard. \*Not a class for beginners.

### **Concert** *band*

Musicians who participate in the Marching Band participate in the Concert Band on similar instruments. Concert Band rehearses classic and contemporary band repertoire and performs in four concerts. Color guard and percussionists rehearse winter show productions to compete in the spring months. \*Not a class for beginners.

### *beginning* **band**

This class offers band at the beginning level – no experience necessary! The instruments taught are flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone and tuba. Topics include reading, music notation, analyzing and evaluating music, as well as composing and improvising simple melodies. The students present a winter and spring concert.

### **Choir**

This is a year-long course that explores choral music from a wide variety of cultures and time periods through study and performance. The core curriculum emphasizes the basics of vocal technique, sight-reading, music theory, and music history. Students are expected to participate in performances, including one evening concert each quarter.

### **PIANO**

This course teaches the fundamentals needed to perform on the piano. Students will learn chords and keys, accompaniment patterns, and improvisational techniques. Students will play melodies and participate in ensemble playing. We will discover the composers and history behind the music.

### **JAZZ BAND**

Zero period instrumental music class for saxophones, trumpets, trombones, and rhythm section. Students rehearse/perform big band and contemporary jazz band arrangements for five concerts throughout the school year, in addition to any small performances for commission. \*Not a class for beginners.

### *string* **ORCHESTRA**

Zero period instrumental music class for violin, viola, cello, bass, and piano. Students rehearse/perform classic and contemporary string orchestra music for five concerts throughout the school year. \*Not a class for beginners.

### **DRAMA** *character and scene*

Want to discover who you really are? Or would you rather pretend to be someone else entirely? In this drama class we explore the ancient art of pretend and have a great time doing so. Come join the thespians and find out what that word means!

### *production and design*

This is a second-year advanced drama course where we explore set design, make-up, costuming, construction, and lighting. All these practical lessons result in actual productions to be staged for the community. Come turn the world of make believe into reality!

## Department of Visual and Performing Arts