

BELMONT HILL SCHOOL

2020 Summer Enrichment





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June 16, 2020

Dear Belmont Hill Families,

I hope this note finds you well and ready for the summer months. As we sorted through feedback from our current families after a spring of online learning, one common thread started to emerge. Coronavirus has been just as disruptive to our boys' summers as it was to their springs. Summer camps, jobs, and athletic commitments have either disappeared or been drastically altered to conform to new guidelines recently administered by the state, and many boys who once had packed summers are finding them unsettlingly wide open.

Additionally, in recent weeks there has been a growing appetite across Belmont Hill to create structures for our community to access key work on race and racism in America and engage in informed conversations about this important topic.

To fill each of these voids, the Belmont Hill faculty have worked hard to create cost-free programming for both returning and new students during the months of July and August.

- **JULY 6-31: GET ENGAGED.** This faculty-directed program offers range of one-week, two-week, and one-month opportunities, ranging from book clubs and cooking classes to a month-long *New York Times* movie group.
- **AUGUST 3-14: GET CAUGHT UP.** This program features faculty-run two-week review modules in the Classics, Math, and Modern Languages to ensure that our boys are ready to go when we resume classes this fall.
- Throughout the summer, our website will have a dedicated page with resources for students and families. These resources include an array of links and suggestions to provide our students and families with a range of opportunities, including but not limited to anti-racism and social justice, the arts, athletics, coding, and community service. Belmont Hill faculty will not be administering the offerings from our web page.

I want to emphasize that the programming we are offering this summer is designed to be fun, engaging, and meaningful. To register for a course, simply click the signup button next to the course offering and fill out the corresponding Google form. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me via email at smith@belmonthill.org.

Sincerely,

Eric Smith
Dean of Studies



GET ENGAGED: JULY 6-31

From July 6-31, Belmont Hill will be offering a wide variety of programming to wake your brain up after a month of summer and get you engaged with your classmates and teachers. These programs come in a variety of shapes and sizes. Some provide you with space to examine and discuss complex topics like race, politics, sexuality, and identity, and others provide you with space to pursue your own passions and interests. Whichever route you choose - and we suggest you choose multiple ones - we have carefully curated programming that we hope appeals to each Belmont Hill Student.

To **ENROLL** in any of these programs please click on the **REGISTER** button on the following pages and complete the corresponding Google Form or Document.

SINGLE WEEK: Books, Movies, and More: Connect with your friends and teachers over a book, movie, or cooking class. Students should expect to meet virtually 1-2 times.

TWO WEEK MINICOURSE These courses provide students with a deeper dive into subjects that members of the faculty have a particular passion for. Expect an engaging and enlightening inquiry-driven experience. Students should expect to meet with their teacher 2-4 times.

MONTH LONG CLUBS: Join Mr. Choi and Mr. C. Schneider for a movie watching discussion group or Mr. George for an exercise club geared toward endurance athletes.



GET ENGAGED: JULY 6-31

GET ENGAGED: ONE WEEK: Books, Movies, and More

[REGISTER](#)

JULY 6	<i>Between the World and Me</i> by Ta Naehsi Coates “An impassioned letter to his teenage son...counseling him on the history of American violence against the black body, the young African-American’s extreme vulnerability to wrongful arrest, police violence, and disproportionate incarceration.” - <i>The New Yorker</i> . What narrative could be more timely and relevant in the wake of George Floyd’s murder?	Mr. Conway Dr. Fast Ms. McDonald Mrs. O’Connor Mr. Zellner
JULY 6	<i>The Matheny Manifesto: A Young Manager’s Old-School Views on Success in Sports and Life</i> by Mike Matheny. MLB manager, Mike Matheny, diagnoses the problem at the heart of youth sports — it starts with parents and coaches — and offers a hopeful path forward. Along the way, he uses stories from his small-town childhood, as well as his career as a player, coach, and manager, to explore eight keys to success: leadership, confidence, teamwork, faith, class, character, toughness, and humility.	Mr. Cunningham
JULY 13	<i>Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail</i> by Cheryl Strayed UPPER SCHOOL ONLY Facing despair and loss, Cheryl Strayed embarks on an 1,100 mile solo hike from the Mojave Desert to Washington State along the Pacific Coast Trail. This is a story about coping, a story about how we might find ourselves, a story about the journey for solace. Through one woman’s trek, we encounter stunning, shocking landscapes of the natural world and the human spirit: if you have ever considered a quest, if you think of embarking on a journey of self-discovery, if you find the immense power of the natural world moving, join us in a conversation about the book!	Ms. D’Annolfo Mr. McAlpin
JULY 13	Two Spike Lee Joints: “<i>Malcolm X</i>” & either “<i>Do the Right Thing</i>” or “<i>Get On the Bus</i>” Since 1986, when his film <i>She’s Gotta Have It</i> was released, Spike Lee has been one of America’s most important filmmakers, bringing the great diversity of African-American lives and cultures onto the big screen via his film production company 40 Acres and a Mule. During this week we will watch and discuss two of Lee’s films, the 1992 epic film <i>Malcolm X</i> (with Denzel Washington in the title role) and one of the following films: <i>Do the Right Thing</i> (1989), which depicts a single, burning hot summer day in N.Y. when neighborhood tensions explode; or 1996’s <i>Get On the Bus</i> (which follows a diverse group of African-American men who board a bus in South Central L.A. headed to Washington D.C. for the 1985 Million Man March).	Mr. Smith Ms. Zener
JULY 13	Cooking with Mr. Richards! Spend some time learning a new recipe and upgrade your skills in the kitchen with our faculty chef, Mr. Richards.	Mr. Richards

GET ENGAGED: ONE WEEK: Books, Movies, and More

[REGISTER](#)

JULY 20 **Hatchet** by Gary Paulson

A 13-year-old boy crash lands in remote wilderness and has to survive for many weeks with nothing but (You guessed it!) a hatchet. Requirements: read the book, have a pre-Zoom flipgrid, have one Zoom group discussion, have a post-Zoom flipgrid.

Mr. Leonardis
Mr. Trautz

JULY 20 **The Hate U Give** (Movie)

"An emotional powerhouse about a police shooting of an unarmed black man... [It] snaps like a livewire. It means to shake you—and does."—*Rolling Stone*
NOTE: Rising Form III students are still required to carefully read the book, which is distinctly different from the movie.

Ms. D'Annolfo
Dr. Tift

JULY 27 **Boys & Sex: Young Men on Hookups, Love, Porn, Consent, and Navigating the New Masculinity** by Peggy Orenstein

[UPPER SCHOOL ONLY](#)

"Masculinity doesn't have to be toxic—but so much of what we communicate to boys about masculinity is just that. The amazing Peggy Orenstein does more than just document the atrocities. She listens to boys and bears witness to their efforts to free themselves from the trap the culture sets for them. Boys & Sex is required reading for anyone who has ever loved, raised, been, or will become a boy."—Dan Savage

Mrs. Rupley
Dr. Tift

JULY 27 **Hidden Figures** (Movie)

Three brilliant African-American women at NASA -- Katherine Johnson (Taraji P. Henson), Dorothy Vaughan (Octavia Spencer) and Mary Jackson (Janelle Monáe) -- serve as the brains behind one of the greatest operations in history: the launch of astronaut John Glenn (Glen Powell) into orbit, a stunning achievement that restored the nation's confidence, turned around the Space Race and galvanized the world. Join me for a conversation about the movie.

Mrs. Sweeney

JULY 27 **Red Army** (Documentary) by Gabe Polsky

The 2014 sports documentary film *Red Army* tells the story of the Soviet Union's famed Red Army hockey team through the eyes of its players via a series of entertaining interviews and original footage. The Red Army's unique training and playing style birthed perhaps the best hockey team ever to play. Learn how the players experienced life under the Soviet Union and why the Red Army's most famous group of players all defected to the United States.

Mr. Phinney
Mr. Smith

TWO WEEK MINI-COURSES

[REGISTER](#)

JULY
6-17

Ancient Warfare

We begin by studying a simple paradigm for the study of warfare. Students will then use this as a point of departure as we examine some of the most important battles of Ancient Near Eastern, Greek, and Roman History. At the end, we will look for modern parallels. Should General Lee have foreseen his defeat at Gettysburg? Can we use what we learned to understand how the German Blitzkrieg worked in WWII or how the allies adapted to counter it? Students should expect to read a little, watch several documentaries, and discuss enthusiastically.

Dr. T. Davis

TWO WEEK MINI-COURSES

[REGISTER](#)

**JULY
13-24**

Art Lessons and Drawing Tutorials

Whether you are looking to refine your existing artistic skills or develop new ones, this course is accessible to all students at Belmont Hill seeking to build their arts acumen this summer. Mrs. Kaplan will host lessons and tutorials on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Mrs. Kaplan

**JULY 15
&
JULY 29
2:00PM**

Play Read-throughs!

Join us for a read-through of a one-act play. You can join one or both sessions as each session will feature a different play, but you must sign up in advance (one week prior) so we can pick a play that has enough roles. Open to students of all levels of experience, including brand-new actors!

Mr. Choi
Mr. Conway
Mr. DiResta

**JULY
20-31**

Sports, Race, and Society

This two-week course and discussion will focus on the crossroads of sports and society by looking at how narratives in sports reflect societal views on race, gender, and politics by looking at contemporary issues in sports. We will discuss which sport is "America's Game" today, how integration reflected society and impacted major sports, and how recent movements on the field such as Colin Kaepernick and kneeling for the National Anthem and pushes for equal pay echo events from the past. We will read short articles/stories, watch episodes of ESPN's *30 for 30*, and other movies.

Mr. Harvey

MONTH LONG CLUBS

**JULY 8
JULY 15
JULY 22
JULY 29
1:00PM**

New York Times "Viewing Party" Series

Join us for a discussion of a different movie every week. The first one will be *13th*, a documentary on Netflix about race and justice in America, and the other three will be based on the *New York Times* bi-weekly series ([see the list of previous movies](#)). We will meet each Wednesday at 1:00 PM on Zoom, and you're free to come to any session you're interested in.

[REGISTER](#)

Mr. Choi
Mr. C. Schneider



WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2020

Join us on Zoom to discuss *13TH* (2016, available on Netflix): An in-depth look at the prison system in the United States and how it reveals the nation's history of racial inequality.

**Weekly
in July**

Training for Endurance Athletes

Maybe you're already a committed runner, cross-country skier, rower, cyclist, or swimmer who wants to use this summer to maintain or improve your fitness. Or maybe this period of physical distancing is steering you towards one or more of these pursuits as a way to stay fit as we await the time when team sports are possible again. Over the month of July, participants will meet weekly over Zoom to discuss training goals, nutrition, trade workout ideas, and provide support and encouragement (and accountability!) for each other.

[REGISTER](#)

Mr. George



GET CAUGHT UP: AUGUST 3-14

Belmont Hill will offer both returning and new students the opportunity to do a little catch-up work prior to the start of the academic year. Our course offerings are limited to disciplines that are cumulative in nature - ie. Latin, Math, and Modern Language. They are designed for students who attend Belmont Hill and are looking to get up to speed before the year begins or are new to Belmont Hill and want to acclimate themselves to our academic program. **It is important to note, these courses are not related to our Head Start program.** **TO ENROLL** please click on the corresponding **REGISTER** button for each subject and complete the Google Form. Please be sure to select the proper course level.

CLASSICS

The Classics Department will offer engaging two-week modules for incoming First Formers and students making the transition from Latin Alpha to Gamma and from Gamma/Latin 1 to Latin 2. This programming will offer boys the opportunity to connect synchronously with their teacher and classmates over Zoom and do some guided work on their own time.

August 3-14

7th Grade Grammar Review with Mr. McDougal

[**REGISTER**](#)

Students entering Belmont Hill come from a wide variety of educational backgrounds. This course is an effort to help all students entering Form I to start the year with a common understanding of grammar, and help them to acclimate more comfortably to their work in English, Latin, History, and Modern Languages. The course will introduce and review English parts of speech and basic grammar. This will be followed by a very brief introduction to Latin, just enough to acquaint the boys with the fact that the grammar they know in English will be dictated by the endings of words in Latin (rather than by word order).

From Latin Alpha to Latin Gamma with Mr. Richards

In an effort to ensure that the boys entering Latin Gamma (or Gamma A) from Latin Alpha did not miss too much during our online final marking period, this course will review the basic grammar and vocabulary from Jenney 1-32, focusing in particular on the material covered in the 4th marking period.

From Latin Gamma/Latin 1 to Latin 2 with Dr. T. Davis

This class will be a brief bridge course to bring the boys from Latin 1 and Latin Gamma to common ground in their preparation for the Latin 2 level. It will also offer a helpful review to ensure that a challenging online 4th marking period will not hamper their progress in the next level.

GET CAUGHT UP: AUGUST 3-14

MATHEMATICS

The Math department's Get Caught Up programming is centered on an extra-help model. Students who enroll will receive an email on August 3 from the Math teacher in charge of their course. It will include a set of instructions and a packet of problems to work through, which includes an answer key.

Students will select their work based on their course for the 2020-21 school year. Once they have completed the packet and checked it against the answer key, they will have the opportunity to engage their teacher in an extra help session over Zoom to review concepts they found challenging. Our hope is that this program will provide boys with the chance to reinforce skills and content in preparation for the upcoming school year, the opportunity for individualized instruction, and will introduce our new students to the importance of seeking out extra help.

August 3-14

[REGISTER](#)

2020-2021 Course

Pre-Algebra - Mr. Martellini

Advanced Pre-Algebra - Mr. Murphy

Algebra 1 - Mr. Sullivan

Advanced Algebra 1 - Mrs. Iandiorio

Geometry/Algebra 2/Algebra 2 and Trig - Mr. Sweeney

Advanced Geometry /Advanced Algebra 2 and Trig - Mr. George

Pre-Calculus - Mrs. Iandiorio

Advanced Pre-Calculus - Mr. Feldman

Intro to Pre-Calculus - Mr. Sullivan

Calculus - Mr. Sherman

AP Calculus AB - Mr. Sherman

AP Calculus BC - Mr. Feldman

GET CAUGHT UP: AUGUST 3-14

MODERN LANGUAGE

The Modern Language department has also rooted their Get Caught Up work in extra help. Students who enroll in this program will receive a set of resources from their teachers via email on August 3. **Students should select their program based on their course for the 2020-2021 school year.** After they have worked their way through their resources, they will have the opportunity to connect with their teacher for extra help over Zoom. Our hope is that this program will provide a chance to reinforce skills and content in preparation for the upcoming school year, the opportunity for individualized instruction, and will introduce our new students to the importance of seeking out extra help.

August 3-14

[REGISTER](#)

2020-2021 Course

Form I Chinese - Oúyáng Laoshi

Form I French - Mme Brabo

Form I Spanish - Sr Harder

Chinese 1 - Oúyáng Laoshi and Shen Laoshi

Chinese 2 - Shen Laoshi

Chinese 3 - Oúyáng Laoshi

French 1 - Mme Brabo

French 2 - Mme Montanaro Week 1; Mme Brabo Week 2

French 3 - Mme Montanaro

Spanish 1 - Sr Steffey

Spanish 2 - Sr Harder

Spanish 3 - Sr Steffey



ONLINE RESOURCES

Throughout the summer, we will provide an online [RESOURCE](#) page curated by our faculty. These resources will include physical activities as well as an array of links and suggestions to provide our students and families with opportunities for quality fun and quality education.

CATEGORIES include:

- [Anti-racism and Social Justice Resources](#)
- Arts
- College Search
- Community Service & Volunteering
- Fun & Games
- History & Social Sciences
- Summer Reading
- Virtual Summer Programs