

Colorado Mesa University Middle School Music Camp 2016

Descriptions for the Music Enrichment Courses

On-line Registration begins May 31st @ 9:00 a.m. Please register for classes on-line

Singing for Enjoyment – All campers will come together forming an all female choir and an all male choir, learning to sing together in fun and enjoyable environment. No singing experience required! These choirs perform on the final concert.

Music Technology – (limited to the first 32 students who register)

You may already play an instrument, but can you play a computer? Not video games; but turning the computer into a musical instrument. Come and join us in the Tech Lab for some music creation with Garage Band. We will combine pre-recorded loops with your own synthesized creations to produce a CD that you can take home. (If you already have Garage Band experience or have taken this class before at music camp, please choose something else.)

Listen to the Music! – An in depth look into the elements of music and how they relate to all styles of music. What do you really listen to when you listen to music? What should you be listening for?

Exploring the Keyboard – (limited to the first 32 who register) - This class will explore, in a fun, accessible and interactive way, some basic concepts of the piano. The class will be flexible, in accordance with the musical backgrounds and abilities of the participants.

Music Theory for Beginners – Students will learn about basic theoretical concepts such as reading in different clefs, key signatures, chords, scales, intervals, etc.

Jazz Ensemble (by audition only) - Open to the standard instrumentation for a Jazz Ensemble: saxophone, trumpet, trombone, drumset, piano, bass guitar and guitar. Focus will be on learning advanced skills to play in a jazz ensemble setting with improvisation opportunities. Students should indicate their interest at the audition. Instrumentation: 5 saxophones (2 alto, 2 tenor, 1 bari; 4 trumpets; 4 trombones; standard rhythm section) This ensemble performs on the final concert. Rhythm section auditions separate from your primary instrument.

Jazz Workshop (open to all instrumentalists) - This course is open to all instrumentalists who are interested in learning and playing the jazz style, and is the alternative course for those students who are not placed in the jazz ensemble. Focus will be learning the basics of playing in a jazz ensemble with improvisation opportunities. No jazz experience necessary. This group does not perform on the final concert.

Jazz Improvisation – students will learn the skills to play a jazz improvisation solo, no prior jazz experience necessary.

Drum Circle – Learn about the world of rhythm and percussion instruments! Activities include playing percussion instruments, learning about rhythm, and playing a variety of musical games. No previous percussion experience required.

Beginning Conducting – This class will explore the fundamental techniques that all conductors use when leading an ensemble. Conducting patterns, meters, dynamics, and style are a few of the topics that will be covered.

The Singing Actor – Learn how to be an expressive singer! Through improvisation games, character analysis and preparation for a performance at the Talent Show, singers will learn how to bring song texts to life and create interesting characters. This is your chance to take some risks, be silly and have lots of fun on stage!

Beginning Guitar— (Limited to the first 20 students who register) This class is for students who have no or very little experience playing guitar. Students will learn basic chords, chord progressions, strumming patterns and simple songs. Guitars are provided, but if you have your own, bring it!

Bassoon – a – Palooza! - This course is only for those students whose band director has recommended them for this course, provided them a bassoon and seat strap, and have purchased a reed. This course will focus on learning fundamental techniques on the bassoon with the intent of switching to this instrument, and/or seriously studying this instrument outside of the normal band class.

Improvisation: Not just for Jazz! - (Limited to the first 15 students who register) In this enrichment class students will explore improvisation within classical music. Improvisation is usually thought of as a skill found today only in jazz or popular music, but improvisation also existed in earlier musical styles. We will not only improvise, but also explore how to communicate musical ideas to fellow players in the moment! All instrumentalists and vocalists are welcome.