



# Middle School Audition Requirements

7th – 8th graders audition in **two (2)** fine art areas listed below.

## VISUAL ARTS (7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade)

### Audition

**Technical Skill:** Students will have 20 minutes to use graphite sticks to draw from a still-life containing a variety of simple three dimensional shapes and wooden drawing mannequins.

**Creativity:** Students will have 25 minutes to compose an original composition based on a universal art theme/idea to demonstrate their creative problem-solving and personal art making style using a variety of color and black & white drawing media to choose from to create an original artwork that visually communicates a big idea in art.

Students will present a portfolio that demonstrates what they are passionate about in their own art. Your portfolio should contain the following:

- At least five (5) drawings and/or paintings indicating the applicant's ability to draw and paint. You must include at least **one (1) portrait** (people), **one (1) landscape** (places) and **one (1) still life** (things).
- Please do not include drawings/tracings of copyrighted material (i.e. Disney or Anime characters)
- You may include artworks you created for school assignments or works you made on your own within the last two years.
- Student work should be presented nicely in a folder, portfolio bag, or inside a folded poster board and should not be drawn on notebook paper or ripped out of a sketchbook.

### Evaluation

- Composition
- Value
- Balance
- Proportion
- Space

## CHOIR (7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade)

### Audition

Students should be prepared to perform the following:

A prepared song, to be sung from memory, which demonstrates the singer's best musical attributes. This selection should be from the [Class II or III University Interscholastic League Prescribed Music List](#) or a comparable selection. (<http://wwwdev.uiltxas.org/pml/>)

The student will be asked to sing vocalises to determine vocal range, ability to match pitch, and tune intervals.

Short sight-reading examples may be included as part of the audition.

Students should **bring 2 copies of the song** they are singing. One copy will be used by the judge and the other will be used by the accompanist. An accompanist is provided. CD accompaniment will not be permitted.

### Evaluation

- Pitch / Intonation
- Tonal Production
- Diction / Articulation
- Musicality
- General Presentation

## DANCE (7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade)

### Audition

Applicants will learn and perform combinations in the following genres:

- **Ballet** – barre work, adagio, petite allegro, grande allegro, and turns across the floor
- **Modern dance** – center floor and progressions including a variety of body isolations, turns, traveling steps, jumps, and leaps
- **Jazz** – progressions across the floor involving basic movements performed in classical jazz including turns, jumps, and leaps

### Evaluation

- Body alignment
- Dance technique
- Musicality
- Performance Skills

### Attire

**Girls:** solid-colored leotard, tights, ballet and jazz shoes. Hair secured back.

**Boys:** form fitting t-shirt, dance pants, ballet and jazz shoes.

**For the modern dance portion of the audition, all applicants must be barefoot.**

## THEATER (7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade)

### Audition

Students will participate in an ensemble audition setting which will include theater-related activities and exercises.

7th & 8th graders will perform a monologue that is thoroughly prepared and memorized. It should be a minimum of one (1) minute and no more than 1½ minutes in length.

Students will be asked to cold read a script.

Students should choose monologues from published plays.

Sources may be obtained from your local library, the internet, bookstores or play publishing companies such as:

- Samuel French ([www.samuelfrench.com](http://www.samuelfrench.com))
- Dramatists Play Service ([www.dramatists.com](http://www.dramatists.com))
- Dramatics Publishing ([www.dramaticpublishing.com](http://www.dramaticpublishing.com))
- Playscripts ([www.playscripts.com](http://www.playscripts.com))

When choosing material for these auditions, students should choose characters that are close to themselves in age. Middle School aged students should **avoid** poetry, original material, or monologues from movies found online.

### Evaluation

#### Monologue

- Stage Presence
- Expression
- Vocalization
- Preparation
- Physicality

#### Cold Reading

- Stage Presence
- Expression
- Vocalization
- Preparation
- Physicality

#### Creative Dramatics

- Imaginative Play
- Ensemble Participation
- Risk-taking/Choices
- Taking Direction
- Listening

### Attire

Nice, casual, comfortable clothing in which you can move.

If students have a dance audition before or after, they can stay in their dance clothes.

Hair out of face and secured back. Closed toed shoes; no sandals, flip flops, or high heel shoes.

No costumes or props are necessary.

*Last modified: Dec 2018*