



**A. E. Wright Middle School
8th Grade Elective Course
Description Catalog
2020-2021**



***ADVANCED FINE ARTS** (8th Grade) (W941):

Did you take Beginning Fine Art as a seventh grader and loved it? Would you like to hone your skills and create a portfolio to take with you to high school? Then, this class is for you! Advanced Art consists of a small group of students who love art and want to take their skills to the next level. Students will have the opportunity to work independently on projects that pique their interest; all under the supervision of Ms. Jaffe. They will learn advanced shading and painting techniques that they can carry to the high school level. Materials cost for take-home project is \$25/year.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Beginning Fine Art with a C or better and/or instructor approval.

***BEGINNING FINE ART** (7th & 8th Grades) (W940):

Have you ever wanted to learn to draw or paint? Use a potter's wheel? Build a sculpture out of junk? Then you are in the right place! Come explore the world of art through the eyes of many different cultures and artists. Using different mediums such as charcoal, pencil, watercolor, and acrylic paint, you will learn the arts of drawing, painting, color, printmaking, and design. Explore creating three dimensional works of art including mask making, papier mache, plaster carving, sculpting, fiber arts, and ceramics. Study the styles of famous artists such as Salvador Dali, Andy Warhol, Georgia O'Keeffe, and Michelangelo and create your own personal masterpieces. Get in touch with your inner artist and see your work displayed in the school art show for Open House! No previous art experience necessary. An advanced curriculum option is available for this class with instructor permission. Materials cost for take-home projects: \$25. (Year Long Class)

***BEGINNING BAND** (6th, 7th, 8th Grades) (W910):

Have you always wanted to learn how to play wind or percussion instrument? You will have the choice of learning the flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, tuba, or percussion in Beginning Band. Amaze your friends and family during a culminating performance at the end of the year. Beginning band covers the basic elements of tone production, instrument care, musicianship, and sight reading. The specific selection of instruments will be made by the instructor during the first few weeks of school. No previous music experience required. (Year Long Class)



***BEGINNING STRINGS** (6th, 7th, 8th Grades) (W901):

If you want to learn to play the violin, viola, cello, or string bass, this class is for you! Students will learn about different musical styles and develop technical skills and musicality. After learning how to play an instrument you amaze your friends and family during a culminating performance at the end of the year. No previous music experience required. (Year Long Class)

***CHORUS (Choir)** (6th, 7th, 8th Grades) (W905):

Do you like to sing or wish that you could sing better? Then this is the class for you! Choir is for students who want to learn how to sing or just love to sing. Students will learn and develop their musicianship including how to read and write music notation, how to sing in different genres of music including pop, jazz, classical, and musical theatre, and will also have opportunities to sing solos. This group will perform several times throughout the year including festivals, concerts and a performance at Disneyland. There is no audition required. (Year Long Class)

***CONCERT/ADVANCED BAND (Wind Ensemble)** (6th, 7th, 8th Grades) (W912):

Continue your musical journey in Wind Ensemble. This group is for students who have played a band instrument for at least 2 years. This group will perform several times throughout the year including festivals, concerts and a performance at Disneyland. Prerequisite: Successful completion of beginning band/concert band and/or instructor approval. (Year Long Class)

***CONCERT ORCHESTRA** (String Orchestra) (6th, 7th, 8th Grades) (W903):

Continue your musical journey in advanced strings. This group is for students who have played a string instrument (violin, viola, cello or bass) for at least one year. Private lessons on your instrument are encouraged but not required. This group will perform several times throughout the year including festivals, concerts and a performance at Disneyland. Prerequisite: Successful completion of beginning strings and/or instructor approval. (Year Long Class)



***EARLY COLLEGE ACADEMY** (7th & 8th Grades) (ECA8)

The LVUSD Early College Academy was established in 2018 and provides students with access to a wide breadth of college coursework as high school students. The four year high school program is specifically designed with introductory college topics during the first year, moving to discipline specific classes starting the second year. The program culminates in a graduation celebration for the cohort. Throughout the four years, students receive comprehensive, consistent student support as well as opportunities to connect with other cohort members at social events. The program has expanded to Middle School in Grades 6-8. A cohort of students will be identified in Grade 7, and will stay together for six years as they move through the Early College Academy program. The Middle School program will include Field Trips, and the use of the Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID) curriculum. This curriculum focuses on developing Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading skills necessary for students to be successful in their high school college coursework. Students will have the opportunity to complete enough units to enter college with sophomore standing, completing the majority of either the CSU and/or UC General Education requirements. Furthermore, with approximately 30 additional degree-specific units at Moorpark College, students can earn an A.A., A.S., or AD-T within one year of graduating high school, as well as apply for transfer as an upper division student. The cost savings to students is significant, given the yearly tuition at a CSU is \$5,742 and at a UC is \$12,630.

***GUIDANCE** (7th & 8th Grades) (R66G)

This elective will cover a variety of different fun and useful topics. Activities and lessons will include topics such as study skills, organization techniques, problem solving, teamwork, mindfulness, yoga, stress reduction, public speaking character education and college and career guidance.

***INTERMEDIATE BAND** (6th, 7th, 8th Grades) (W911.1):

Continue your musical journey in Concert Band. This group is for students who have played a band instrument (see above list) for at least one year. This group will perform several times throughout the year including festivals, concerts and a performance at Disneyland. Prerequisite: Successful completion of beginning band and/or instructor approval. (Year Long Class)



***LEADERSHIP:** (7th & 8th Grades) (W960)

Leadership is the student government program at A.E.Wright Middle School. The primary purpose of the program is to develop confident and positive student leaders. Students also learn about teamwork, goal setting, decision making, and time management. In addition, students in the leadership program have a very important responsibility as they represent their peers. The Leadership class is also responsible for organizing and coordinating many activities. Some of these activities include: assemblies, spirit days, fundraisers, socials, Back to School Night, Mock Rock, and dances. In other words, leadership students have a huge impact on our school. Interest form and interview MUST be completed.

***ROBOTICS A/B** (7th & 8th Grades) (Z180):

Are you interested in engineering, technology, or design? Do you want opportunities to express your creativity and problem solving skills? Then robotics is the course for you! Join us as we work in collaborative groups to learn the fundamentals of computer programming, 3D modeling, electronics, and engineering while designing and building robots! All robotics students will also participate in Full STEAM Ahead projects that allow them to pursue their personal interests through a yearlong public service, entrepreneurial, or self-improvement project. Students will have opportunities to work with equipment including Arduinos, VEX IQ robotics, 3D printers, and more. (Year Long Class)

This is a year long course with no prerequisites. Robotics A & B cover different content each year, but can be taken in any order.

Students that pass two years of Robotics A/B qualify to start in Robotics 2 in high school.

***SCHOOL SERVICE** (8th Grade Only) (W981):

Assisting a teacher in a classroom or assisting in an office such as the Main Office, Counseling Office, Attendance Office by taking passes to a classroom, and other very light office duties. Prerequisite: Student must be in good standing in citizenship and have no discipline issues.



***SPANISH 1 B** (8th Grade) (W923):

This class is the second year of the two-year Spanish program. There is a continuing emphasis on communicative language skills and an increased focus on written skills and grammar. Prerequisite: “B” or better in Spanish 1 A or instructor permission. In order to advance to Spanish 2 in the high schools, a final semester grade of a “B” or better must be earned in the class. (Year Long Class)

***YEARBOOK** (7th & 8th Grades) (W970):

Capture the school year at A. E. Wright by becoming a member of the Yearbook Production team. Students will learn basic graphic design, journalism skills, and photography skills to create the school’s yearbook. Students will use software that includes Online Design, Adobe Photoshop, Flippar, and Apple iMovie. Students must be independent and able to meet deadlines. Prerequisite: Teacher approval. (Year Long Class)