

PVHS Art Department – Music Courses

2008-09 Course Descriptions

Advanced Orchestra	This year-long course is designed to allow students to develop an advanced understanding of music by analyzing and interpreting what is presented in the music itself or performance. Students will identify more complex music forms when they are presented aurally. Students will also analyze the uses of the elements of music (melody, harmony, rhythm, texture, form, dynamics, and timbre) in given aural examples from diverse genres and cultures. Students, in addition, will perform on a musical instrument a varied repertoire of instrumental literature (Western and non-Western), including selection performed from memory, with expression and technical accuracy.
Chamber Choir	This introductory course provides opportunities for students to analyze music and make informed judgments on the basis of form, content, technique, and creativity. Characteristics of music from various cultures and traditions are emphasized along with development of vocal music skills in order to perform a varied repertoire of music.
Concert Band	Concert Band is designed for the advancing wind musician. Students will perform on a musical instrument a varied repertoire of instrumental literature, from intermediate-advanced to advanced levels of difficulty, with expression and technical accuracy.
Jazz Band 1	Jazz Band 1 surveys the various styles of jazz through rehearsals, performances, and guided listening and reviews the fundamentals and interpretations of jazz and jazz-rock music. Students rehearse and perform jazz of various styles (Blues, Afro-Cuban, Bop, Swing, Fusion, etc.). The course will present the influence of jazz on the rest of the culture including slang, fashion, and music.
Jazz Band 2	Jazz Band 2 surveys the various styles of Jazz through rehearsals, performances and guided listening.
Music Theory AP	This course is the equivalent of a first-year college course in music theory and musicianship. It integrates the study of the fundamental building blocks of music and their practical application in musical performance and composition. Areas emphasized will include aural skills (dictation and sight-singing), musical analysis (harmony, melody, form, texture, etc.), and composition.
Orchestra	Orchestra explores the intermediate level of orchestral literature through rehearsals and performances in concerts and festivals.