



THE ARTS CONSERVATORY

V E R N O N M I D D L E S C H O O L

In these times of high-stakes testing, budget crises and program cuts, we have seen a dramatic decline in the number of visual and performing arts courses in our schools – not only in California but also across this nation. Our leadership in the Ontario-Montclair School District has remained strongly committed to arts education by developing exciting and innovative arts programs; first with the Buena Vista Arts-Integrated Magnet School for grades K – 6 and now with **The Arts Conservatory at Vernon Middle School** for seventh and eighth grade.

Students across OMSD and within neighboring school districts will have the opportunity to apply and transfer to Vernon Middle School as **Arts Majors** in the Vernon Arts Conservatory. Parents must provide transportation for their students. Students within Vernon’s attendance area will also have the opportunity to enroll as **Arts Majors** in the Arts Conservatory.

In order to be an Arts Major at Vernon, students must commit to attending a zero period (7:00 am) Physical Education class for the entire school year, enabling them to have two elective options during the regular school day. Students will not be allowed to drop this class during the year, so it is important to consider your family’s schedule when making this decision.

All required documents (Application, Teacher Referral Form, copy of student’s most recent academic transcript, and Elective Course Selection Form) must be completed and submitted to Vernon no later than 3:30 p.m. on Monday, March 2nd. Incomplete or partial applications without required documents will not be accepted.

Additionally, if needed, transfer requests to Vernon are also due by March 2nd.

Sample **VAPA** student schedule (*this is only an example*)

Period 0	Physical Education	7:00 – 7:50 a.m.
Period 1	Language Arts	8:05 – 9:10
Period 2	Social Studies	9:14 – 10:06
Period 3	Advanced Band	10:10 – 11:02
Period 4	Physical Science	11:06 – 11:58
	Lunch	11:58 – 12:28 p.m.
Period 5	Art	12:32 – 1:24
Period 6	Algebra 1	1:28 – 2:20

Vernon Elective Course Descriptions

Elective forms are not included in this packet. They will be distributed at the elementary school sites to 6th grade students who live in vernon's residential area.

BEGINNING BAND (Band 1)

Band 1 is for students who have an interest in learning a wind instrument for the first time or are at the 'beginner' stage of performance. The instruments taught in this class include the flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone and tuba. ***This is a performing ensemble and will involve on and off campus performances.***

ADVANCED BAND (Band 2)

Band 2 is for students with two or more years of experience playing an instrument of the woodwind or brass families – and have progressed to the advanced stages of middle school musicianship. This is a performing ensemble and will involve on and off campus performances.

PIANO

This class introduces students to a basic and fundamental understanding of rhythm, notation, harmony, composition, and performing while learning how to play the piano. Students will participate in a culminating piano recital in the Spring.

ORCHESTRA

This class is for students who have an interest in learning or who currently play a string instrument for the first time or are at the 'beginner' stage of performance. The instruments taught in this class include the violin, viola, cello and bass violin. This is a performing ensemble and will involve on and off campus performances during and after school hours.

PAINTING

This course is designed for students who have an interest as well as an aptitude for learning the process of creating a painting using more credible student materials (acrylic paint). The purpose of the course is to enhance and give breadth to the studio instruction of two-dimensional painting using more permanent and professional materials, as opposed to the more transitory materials found in a school classroom (tempura, watercolor). Direct instruction will be given in color mixing and theory, composition, designing and transferring a drawing to support surfaces, different brushes and their usage, brush technique, brush care, care of paints and palette. The goal is to create artworks that will be displayed outside on campus over classroom doorways in order to initiate dialogue regarding local, national and international heroes and role models for students to align with and foster an investment and interest in their school.

CHOIR

Students will be required to perform challenging choral music appropriate to their abilities. Areas of study include music theory, music history, sight reading ear training, proper vocal care and technique, small and large ensemble participation, district music festival, and trimester concerts.

DANCE

This course is designed for the beginning dancer. Students will learn dance vocabulary, proper stretching and dance technique, and historical development in a variety of dance styles including ballet, jazz, lyrical, hip hop, and cultural dance. Students will gain strength, balance, flexibility, coordination, endurance and agility through barre, center, and across the floor combinations. Students will complete vocabulary quizzes, written assignments, and choreography projects. All students will be expected to perform in the annual dance show.

HIP HOP DANCE

This course is designed for the beginning-intermediate hip hop dancer. Students will learn dance vocabulary, proper stretching, and hip hop dance technique. Students will also learn techniques and the historical development of a variety of dance styles in hip hop including commercial, jazz funk, breaking, popping, locking, house, etc. Students will gain strength, balance, flexibility, coordination, endurance and agility through center and across the floor combinations. Upper body coordination and strength will be emphasized in this course. Students will complete vocabulary quizzes, written assignments, and choreography projects. Students will be expected to perform in the annual dance show.

DRAMA

An introduction to theatre, students will learn about stage directions, character creation, vocal choices, stereotypical characterizations, etc. Through games and exercises, students will discover all aspects of performance. Students will also learn about theatre history, plays, and film through reading and research. We will read plays and watch films with an eye for BOTH the literary merit of the works as well as the effectiveness of directorial choices. Emphasis will be placed on films the students would likely NOT choose to watch on their own. Students are expected to play an active role in both staged performances and literary/research projects.

ADVANCED DANCE/DANCE TEAM-(AUDITION REQUIRED)

The purpose of this course is to provide advanced dance students with a theoretical and hands-on understanding of historically relevant and emerging trends in dance choreography production as presented in entertainment venues and professionally critiqued settings. While examining dance theory as it pertains to professional dance production entertainment elements, students will additionally focus on refining technical proficiency, artistic expression, choreographic variety, revision/modification skills, and performance showmanship. Students are expected to create and produce complex dance works utilizing a variety of production elements that are specific to this niche of advanced-level presentation. Emphasis is placed on performance in a multitude of choreographic genres and production situations including performances at dance camp, school events, district events, parades, competitions, and the annual dance show. Students will learn and be expected to commit to all fundraising, performance, and after school practice times.

ART

The primary focus of this class is building basic two-dimensional skills. Learning to draw is the primary emphasis in this class. The breadth and depth of this class is dedicated to acquiring the needed skills to move into either painting or ceramics. The students will go through a variety of rigorous drawing exercises and media (pencil, pen and ink, crayon, etc.) to help train their eye and confidence. Students will also learn basic color theory (mixing complex color, creating tints and shades) using watercolor. The year progresses into exploring three dimensional form using wire, paper maché, and cardboard

YEARBOOK

Yearbook is a course in which 7th and 8th grade students are using all aspects of visual arts/graphic design to plan, prepare and produce the Vernon yearbook using the *eDesign* program. Students are responsible for taking photos using the digital cameras; they are also responsible for creating layouts, art and graphics, captions, and copy. Each student works individually on creating their page(s) and within a group on their sections. Students will be responsible for writing articles and taking pictures for the school's monthly newsletter, and attending after school functions to take pictures and gather information for the articles.

MULTIMEDIA (COMPUTERS)

During this course, students will be exploring different multimedia presentation programs. We will review MS Word, PowerPoint, Publisher and Excel. Students will also create videos including video shooting and editing with Pro Show Producer. Finally students will be introduced to 3D modeling using Google Sketch Up.

ASB-STUDENT LEADERSHIP

In student leadership, we: Hold meetings concerning activities and bills, arrange spirit days, arrange lunchtime activities, plan dances/decorate/work dances, sell tickets/fundraisers, hold fundraisers, new student ambassadors, plan activities for the principal, collect WICOR envelopes and record data, participate in school site council, create posters (as needed), assist with assemblies and promotion, and beginning of the year orientation/ spirit wear sales. We do not have after school activities other than dances which only last until 3pm. When we don't have work to do, students are encouraged to complete homework and read.

CERAMICS

This course is designed for students who have an interest in learning about the ceramics (clay) process and have an aptitude for working with their hands. Students will experience the process of creating two and three-dimensional ceramic vessels and forms (using both additive and subtractive methods) by planning and modeling using a variety of techniques, including incising, curing, staining, glazing and firing their wares to completion. Additionally, students will learn how to load and fire a kiln.

****Please note that all performance-based classes will involve performances that will require some after school and off campus commitments. Missing required commitments could negatively affect students' grades.***



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9775 Vernon Ave., Montclair, CA 91763
(909) 624-5036 Fax (909) 445-1720

Kim Medeiros-Tovar, Principal
Tish Tello, Counselor

2020-2021 Application Packet Checklist

- 1. Student Information with signatures
- 2. Parent/Student Acknowledgement with signatures
- 3. Student Grades
- 4. Completed Teacher Referral Page

Students will complete their elective requests within their elementary/7th grade classrooms.

Completed application packets must be turned in to the Vernon front office by March 2nd no later than 3:30 PM.

Please sign below acknowledging that you have read and completed the Vernon Arts Conservatory Packet.

Vernon is my assigned school

I have applied for a transfer to Vernon from another school

Grade Level Next Year

Student I.D. #

Printed Student Name

Student Signature

Printed Parent Name

Parent Signature

Office Use:



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2020-2021 Arts Application

1. Student Information

Name of Student _____ Date of Birth _____

Grade for the 2020-2021 school year (please circle) 7 8

Current School _____ Current District _____

Name(s) of Parent/Legal Guardian _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____ Cell phone _____

Email address _____ Primary Language _____

Are you currently in any special programs? (Please circle **all** that apply): RSP, SDC, Speech, GATE, AVID

2. Parent/Student Acknowledgment

Parent support of Vernon Arts Conservatory students is vital for their success. By signing below, you agree to encourage your Vernon Arts Major student in the following ways:

- ❖ To have your student at school on time each day
- ❖ **To commit to daily student participation in a 0 period class (7:00 am) for the entire year (if assigned). Failure to attend zero period daily and on time may result in revocation of transfer and/or VAPA Program.**
- ❖ To assure that your student maintains superior attendance, academics and behavior
- ❖ To provide a quiet place at home to study, complete homework and practice their ART
- ❖ To support the Arts Conservatory programs, presentations and attend performances

Parent Signature

Student Signature



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3. Student Grades

Please attach a copy of student's current academic transcript.

4. Teacher Referral Checklist (to be completed by a teacher at your current school)

Please rate the applicant on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the lowest score and 5 the highest score.

Responsibility		1	2	3	4	5
Commitment	1	2	3	4	5	
Initiative		1	2	3	4	5
Time Management	1	2	3	4	5	
Creativity	1	2	3	4	5	
Ability to work in a group		1	2	3	4	5

Additional Comments

Teacher Signature & School Site

Date

Phone number

VERNON MIDDLE SCHOOL 2020-2021



ARTS CONSERVATORY ADVANCED CLASS AUDITIONS

All auditions take place at Vernon. Please be on time and prepared.

Advanced Dance Auditions –Mrs. Rynkiewicz

Students will learn a routine on Monday, March 30th. Be prepared to perform that routine on Wednesday, April 1st. Students that excel during the audition will also be invited to audition for Vernon's Dance Team on Thursday, April 2nd.

Monday, March 30th, 2020, 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm – MPR - Dance Clinic
(to learn routine for dance audition)

Wednesday, April 1st, 2020, 2:30 pm to 5:00 pm- MPR – Dance routine audition

Thursday, April 2nd, 2020, 2:30 pm to 5:00 pm – Room 3 - Dance Team audition/call backs (*by invitation only*)