Music Department – 8th Grade Exploratory Music

Washington Middle School

Year: 2022-23 Teacher: Ms. Polly Huppert

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**Introduction and Course Description:**

8th Grade Exploratory Music is a music appreciation class that offers a variety of musical experiences and develops skills as a music consumer and listener. Students will learn music theory and reading, performance skills on instruments, music technology and media arts.

**Required Materials:**

* Notebook. Students will need a standard notebook for daily activities.
* Pencil with eraser.

**Expectations:**

* A GOOD ATTITUDE! This is the most important requirement to be successful in Exploratory Music.
* Be in your assigned seat unless asked to do otherwise
* Raise your hand to speak
* Be respectful of other students and your teacher
* No food or drink without permission
* Be on task and complete your work

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

* Learn basic skills on various instruments, which may include: African Drums, Keyboard, Guitar and Ukelele.
* Learn/review basic music theory, reading music and composition.
* Learn about different styles of music and music history.
* Develop listening skills.
* Learn how music and other art forms are related.
* Examine many different aspects of the field of music including production and career aspects.

**Grading:**

Grades will be based on Daily Points, Performance Exams, Journal Entries, Assigned Work and Group/Individual Projects. The standard grading scale of A (90% ), B (80%-89%), C (70%-79%), D (60%-69%), and F (59% -) will be used.

* Each student can earn up to **5 participation points** per day based on the following:
* Attendance (tardy or absence)
* On-task and prepared
* Participating in class assignments/discussion/team participation
* Behavior and attitude
* Musicianship

ALSO:

* Weekly projects are worth between 30-60 points depending on the project.
* Each student can earn up to 5 points per daily journal entry and 3 points per jam session entry in journal.

**Units to be explored:**

* Theory, music reading
* Music History
* World Music
* Instrument Units: Keyboard (piano), Guitar and possibly others listed above
* Pop Music, Famous Musicians, Music Careers and other research projects
* Music Technology including Garageband and possibly some multimedia projects

**Extra Credit:**

The opportunity for extra credit may be offered at the discretion of the teacher. Activities might include attendance at performances, reports, etc. All extra credit must be approved by the teacher prior to students attending and submitting assignment.

**Absences:**

Absences and tardies will be dealt with according to school policies. If you are absent, it is **your responsibility** to check on topics covered, announcements made, and assignments given while you were absent.

\*\*\* If you need to contact me I am best reached by the email at the top of this page. Since I travel between two schools that is the best way to reach me.