

Creative Arts Program

Creative Arts Program Classes

CART 120: Drawing: Seeing & Imagination

This course explores drawing as a process for seeing, generating ideas, and personal expression. It includes drawing the human figure, still life, nature, and the imagination and uses a variety of media and techniques. This course is open to all students, regardless of previous experience in this medium.

Units: 3

Program: [Drawing](#)

CARTS 101: Introduction to Music Composition

This course, open to students regardless of prior musical experience, focuses on developing musical imagination and the ability to realize and communicate the fruits of that imagination. The course emphasizes fundamental music skills (aural skills, basic performing skills, and music literacy) to support students' future and ongoing musical endeavors.

Units: 3

Program: [Music Composition](#)

CARTS 102: Introduction to Songwriting

This course will introduce students to the study of songs and songwriting, with special attention paid to the art of lyrics, melody, harmony, and structure to create songs. We will analyze and compose songs, and listen to popular American songwriting throughout modern history. There are no prerequisites, and no previous knowledge of music reading and notation is required, though students are expected to listen critically and create and collaborate on original song lyrics and music.

Units: 3

Program: [Songwriting](#)

CARTS 110: Music Composition with the Computer

This course explores the fundamentals of acoustics and digital sound and gives students opportunities to use techniques such as software synthesis, sound sampling and editing, and MIDI sequencing in creating their own works. The focus is on the creative process, foundational principles, and familiarizing students with technology to support future endeavors in multimedia production.

Units: 3

Program: [Computer Music](#)

CARTS 130: Beginning Ceramics

This course explores the creative process in the art of ceramics. Students learn techniques of working in clay, building, glazing and finishing works, and traditional and contemporary approaches to ceramic art. This course is open to all students, regardless of previous experience in this medium.

Units: 3

Program: [Ceramics](#)

CARTS 131: Sculpture: Creating Form

This course gives students opportunities to create images in three-dimensional form using a variety of media and processes, including modeling, carving, and casting. The course focuses on human, animal, and non-representational forms from various cultures. Experiences with sculpting lay the foundation for discussions of the creative process. This course is open to all students, regardless of previous experience in this medium.

Units: 3

Program: [Sculpture](#)

CARTS 140: Creative Painting

Students explore technique and creativity through descriptive and expressive approaches to painting. Projects emphasize the application of personal experience and vision to aesthetic problem-solving while helping students to develop painting technique, including mixing and blending colors and different methods of application. This course is open to all students, regardless of previous experience in this medium.

Units: 3

Program: [Painting](#)

CARTS 150: Introduction to Photography

The objective of this course is to introduce students to the fundamental skills necessary to visually communicate ideas using photographic processes. These skills include technical proficiency, knowledge of the characteristics of photography which distinguish it from other media, and a cognizance of the role of the diverse uses of photography and their implications in society. Students are given the opportunity to explore their personal creativity by developing a final project of their own choosing within the larger context of the photographer as a responsible global citizen. This course is open to all students, regardless of previous experience in this medium.

Units: 3

Program: [Painting](#)

CARTS 160: Creative Dance

This course explores the creative process in dance, with an emphasis on expression and improvisation. Students are exposed to different styles of dance and study elements of choreography such as form, composition, and the relation of body movements to music, through developing and performing their own works. This course is open to all students, regardless of level of previous training in dance.

Units: 3
Program: [Dance](#)

CARTS 201: Composing Tonal Music

This course, which requires basic music literacy skills, focuses on composing music based on the “common-practice tonal” tradition of European art music. Students will learn the key elements of tonal theory and practice, develop aural, keyboard, and notation skills, and create a series of compositions aimed at imaginative expression in the tonal idiom.

Units: 3
Prerequisites:
CARTS 101, 102, or Instructor Consent.
Program: [Music Composition](#)

CARTS 205: Improvising Music

This course is an introduction to improvising music, and is open to interested students with all levels of prior improvising experience, including none. Students will explore approaches to improvisation found in diverse cultural traditions, learn both theoretical and practical tools and approaches, and engage in both individual and group improvisation exercises, all aimed at developing skill, creativity, and confidence as musicians.

Units: 3
Program: [Music Improvisation](#)

CARTS 210: Music Composition II: The Next Step

This course is designed to serve students with some experience composing music, who want to further develop their abilities and explore new approaches to creating new music. Class meetings will consist of weekly seminars, in which various contemporary approaches to composition will be explored, followed by individual lessons, to support each student’s pursuit her/his own interests.

Units: 3
Prerequisites:
Prior composition course (CARTS 101, 102, 110, or 201) or Instructor Consent.
Program: [Music Composition](#)

CARTS 260: Advanced Creative Dance

Developing an awareness of the relationship between dance, music, drama, and the visual arts, analytical and conceptual skills will be applied to the creative and collaborative process of art making. Working together through dance improvisation and arts experimentation, interactive collaborations will culminate in an original art event. When the arts intersect each other, their visual and aural potencies are enriched. Learning how to develop and control these images will be explored. The great collaborations of the 20th Century will be studied through readings, lectures, discussions and viewing videos.

Units: 3

Program: [Dance](#)

CARTS 320: Advanced Studio Art – Drawing II

This course allows advanced students to pursue their creative endeavors in Drawing. Students learn to investigate advanced drawing materials and techniques while completing substantial projects.

Units: 3

Prerequisites:

CARTS 120 or Instructor Consent.

Program: [Drawing](#)

CARTS 330: Advanced Ceramics

This course introduces students to advanced techniques in ceramics, including use of the potter's wheel and advanced hand-building techniques, glazing, decorating and treating surfaces of their ceramic work. The course will also present both historical and contemporary examples of ceramic work that illustrate ideas of design, functionality, and ceremony, so that students can gain deeper understanding and appreciation of the medium.

Units: 3

Prerequisites:

CARTS 125 or Instructor Consent. Prior experience in ceramics is required.

Program: [Drawing](#)

CARTS 340: Advanced Painting

This course, intended for students with some background in painting, aims at further development of painting skills, observation techniques, creativity, conceptual thinking and a theoretical appreciation for painting. Students will examine historical and contemporary conceptual and theoretical issues linked to the art of painting, explore both representational and non-representational contemporary practices, and work with both traditional and non-traditional materials. The course will be structured to include a significant level of independent work, under the guidance of the instructor.

Units: 3

Prerequisites:

CARTS 140 or Instructor Consent.

Program: [Painting](#)

CARTS 350: Advanced Photography

The objective of this course is to enable students to advance and develop their own creative voice in photography beyond the introductory level through exploring both a wide range of processes and media and the study of history and theory of contemporary art. The course includes exposure to various equipment types and advance printing techniques, and is intended for those with prior experience.

Units: 3

Prerequisites:

CARTS 150 or Instructor Consent.

Program: [Photography](#)

MUSICENS 130: Basic Musicianship

This course introduces basic musicianship skills (including literacy, keyboard and aural skills). It is meant for students who wish to learn to play music but don't have sufficient background to begin performance-oriented courses, or those who play but wish to improve in these areas.

Units: 1

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 131: Class Piano

This course is for beginning to intermediate level piano students who have basic music literacy skills. Students will build keyboard skills through technical exercises and weekly rehearsals of ensemble and solo literature, and prepare for a performance at the piano workshop. May be repeated for credit.

Units: 1

Prerequisites:

Instructor permission required.

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 132: Soka Singers

This course is designed for students who want to improve their vocal skills in a group setting and explore singing in a variety of styles such as popular music, classical, jazz and musical theater. Specifics include singing in harmony and developing musical expression/communication with each other and with an audience. May be repeated for credit.

Units: 1

Prerequisites:

Instructor permission required.

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 133: Musical Theatre

This course is designed for students who want to experience performing musical theater in a musical revue to be presented at the end of the semester. Students will be singing alone and/ or in small or large groups. Students are expected to learn basic choreography and possibly perform some accompanying dialogue lines. An emphasis is placed on musical and dramatic expression with each other and with an audience.

Units: 1

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 134: Beginning String Ensemble

This course is for students with basic music literacy skills who wish to learn to play classical string instruments. May be repeated for credit.

Units: 1

Prerequisites:

Instructor permission required.

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 135: Instrumental Chamber Ensemble

This course is open to students with basic music literacy skills who wish to study and perform a variety of chamber ensemble music. May be repeated for credit.

Units: 1

Prerequisites:

Instructor permission required.

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 136: Concert Band

This course is open to all instrumentalists, including woodwind, brass, string and percussion players, who possess basic music literacy skills. The Concert Band will play both traditional and contemporary large-ensemble repertoire. May be repeated for credit.

Units: 1

Prerequisites:

Instructor permission required.

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 137: Percussion Ensemble

This course is open to all interested students with basic music literacy skills, regardless of prior experience playing percussion instruments. The ensemble will explore a range of literature for percussion, with a focus on helping students develop their rhythmic and sight-reading abilities, as well as ensemble performance skills. May be repeated for credit.

Units: 1

Prerequisites:

Instructor permission required.

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 139: Jazz Theory at the Keyboard

This course is open to students with basic music literacy and keyboard skills who wish to learn jazz performance and improvisation. May be repeated for credit.

Units: 1

Prerequisites:

Instructor permission required.

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 140: Vocal Technique for Singers

This course focuses on developing and improving singing skills, emphasizing vocal technique, musicianship and communication. Specifics addressed include breath control, tone production, pronunciation and interpretation. May be repeated for credit.

Units: 1

Prerequisites:

Instructor permission required.

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 141: Jazz Ensemble – Combo

This course is open to students with basic music literacy skills who wish to learn jazz performance and improvisation in an ensemble setting. May be repeated for credit.

Units: 1

Prerequisites:

Instructor permission required.

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 231: Intermediate Piano

This course is for intermediate level piano students who have completed the first two semesters of beginning piano class, but are not yet ready for advanced piano lessons. Students will build their keyboard skills through technical exercises, weekly semi-private lessons, ensemble experiences, and performances.

Units: 1

Prerequisites:

Instructor permission required.

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 240: Intermediate Vocal Technique for Singers

The course deals primarily with issues related to tone production, breathe control, pronunciation, dramatic interpretation, and choices of popular and traditional song literature. Song choice will reflect an intermediate/advanced level and will serve to help each student increase their singing ability. Students will review basic vocal techniques used by singers and move on to more advanced vocal exercises and repertoire.

Units: 1

Prerequisites:

Instructor permission required.

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 290: Topics in Music Ensemble

Science and Mathematics Program

Units: 1

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 331: Advanced Piano

Advanced level piano students will build technique and repertoire through weekly private lessons.

Units: 1

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 332: Adv. Soka Singers

This course is designed for more advanced singers who want to improve their vocal skills in a group setting and explore singing in a variety of styles such as popular music, classical, jazz and musical theater. Specifics include singing in harmony and developing musical expression/communication with each other and with an audience. May be repeated for credit.

Units: 1

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 333: Adv. Musical Theatre

This course is designed for more advanced, experienced students who want to experience performing musical theater in a musical revue to be presented at the end of the semester. Students will be expected to take additional responsibilities in preparing the revue, and will challenge additional and more difficult repertoire.

Units: 1

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 334: Adv. String Instrumental Ensemble

This course is for intermediate to advanced level string players, and includes private study and recital preparations.

Units: 1

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 335: Adv. Instrumental Chamber Ensemble

This course is open to intermediate to advanced level instrumentalists (including pianists) who wish to explore and perform chamber music (for small ensembles) at a more advanced level (see general description above.)

Units: 1

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 336: Adv. Concert Band

This course is open to all intermediate and advanced level instrumentalists and offers the opportunity for more in-depth instruction and leadership of the ensemble activities. The Concert Band will play both traditional and contemporary large-ensemble repertoire. May be repeated for credit.

Units: 1

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 339: Adv. Jazz Theory at the Keyboard

This course is for intermediate to advanced level jazz pianists, and/or upper division students who wish instruction and performance opportunities.

Units: 1

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)

MUSICENS 341: Adv. Jazz Ensemble – Combo

This course is for intermediate to advanced level jazz performers, and/or upper division students who wish instruction and performance opportunities.

Units: 1

Program: [Music Ensembles](#)