

Fine Arts Magnet - WMES



The Program

The Waller Mill Fine Arts Magnet School provides students in grades 1–5 with enriched instruction in choral music, exploratory instrumental music, drama, visual arts and dance. Young artists work together to prepare performances and create exhibitions that display their appreciation of the arts while advancing critical thinking, problem-solving and enhanced self-esteem. Excellence in the arts is both a natural extension of the academic program and an integral part of the core curriculum.

Eligibility

Current Waller Mill Elementary students will attend the magnet unless opted out by their parents or guardians. The remaining slots may be applied for by other YCSD elementary students, York County residents who are currently enrolled in private schools, as well as non-county residents. Accepted non-county residents may attend on a tuition-basis.

Application Process

Applications are available in each elementary school and at the School Board Office. Dates and times for the submission of completed applications for the next school year may be obtained from Waller Mill Elementary School. Applications are grouped by grade level for random, lottery-style selection.



Curriculum Connections

The Waller Mill Fine Arts Magnet integrates the fine arts into core academic areas (e.g., history: a study of the music and art of a particular time period as a reflection of the culture and society of that era). The interdisciplinary focus of the arts/academics program provides students with traditional core instructional hours and prepares students for Standards of Learning tests. Reading and technology skills are also enhanced by the arts and continue to develop through interdisciplinary strategies.

Drama

Original script writing • Student-generated full-length musicals • Improvisational story development • Character development • Integration of the fine and performing arts into the core curriculum • Enrichment

Music

Instrumental: Composition • Rhythm and pitch • Technique • Wind and percussion instruments • Strings and Recorder • SOL song writing

Choral: Song composition • Artwork in response to music • Festival Chorus • Music theory and techniques • Skill development • Music history • Classroom connections with core curriculum



Visual Arts

Potter's wheel • Art shows and competitions • Integration • Sculpture • Technology • Crafts within the core curriculum • Artist studies • Creative expressions • Media techniques and processes • Classroom collaboration

Dance

Development of movement • Self-confidence • Multicultural exploration • Energy and motion • Dance technique • Cultural, history & interdisciplinary connections

Enriching Experiences

Performances • Traveling Troupes • Exhibitions • Career Connections • Live performance field trips • Critical thinking • Problem solving • Visiting Artists • Interdisciplinary classes • Brown Derby Dining • Artists in Residence • Linking Fine Arts (artists, singers, composers, performers, illustrators) to the core curriculum

For more information: Jennifer Goodwin, *principal* | 757-220-4060 | jgoodwin@ycsd.york.va.us