## Performing Arts Courses

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<th>Course Title</th>
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Music Theory  
70660  
Credit: 0.5  
Grade: 9-12  

Prerequisites: None  

Graduation Req: Fine Arts  

This class is meant for anyone wishing to develop a deeper understanding of the mechanics of music. Through the exploration of song-writing and simple composition, the students will study the fundamentals of music such as rhythm, melody, harmony, form, structure, and instrumentation.

Orchestra  
70460S1 & 70460S2  
Credit: 1  
$60 Instrument Rental Fee (if needed); Performance attire (if needed)  
Grade: 9-12  

Prerequisites: Prior string orchestra experience or instructor approval  

Graduation Req: Fine Arts  

Orchestra is for Violin, Viola, Cello, and String Bass musicians, experienced and inexperienced who wish to study and perform in the area of Orchestral music. This course is open to all grade levels. Students will study proper techniques for quality sound production on their instrument as well as music from all major style periods. Select string instruments are available for rent. Students will perform in several required concerts per year. Out of school performances will be required.

Jazz Band  
CODE  
Credit: 1  
$30/year to cover cost of music, folders, supplies, etc.  
Grade: 9-12  

Prerequisites: Audition only. Wind/drumset players must be a member of Symphonic Band.  

Graduation Req: Fine Arts  

Jazz Band is an audition-only ensemble with the following instrumentation: 2-3 Alto Saxophones 2-3 Tenor Saxophones, 1 Baritone Saxophone, 5 Trumpets, 4 Trombones, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The course emphasizes the study and performance of traditional and modern jazz big band music. Students will have the opportunity to play many musical styles including swing, bebop, afro-cuban, brazilian, funk, and rock music. Jazz band will play at several performances and festivals throughout the year.
Symphonic Band

**Credit:** 1  $60 Instrument Rental fee (if needed); $50 instrument maintenance fee for percussionists; performance attire (if needed).

**Grade:** 9-12

**70325**

**Prerequisites:** Prior band and music reading experience. If no experience: instructor approval.

**Graduation Req:** Fine Arts

Symphonic Band is the primary band at Ponderosa and is open to all students who play wind, brass, and percussion instruments. The course emphasizes the development of overall musicianship and instrumental technique and grants students the opportunity to perform challenging and engaging wind band music in several performances throughout the year. Prior music reading experience is required.

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**Guitar I**

**Credit:** 0.5  Guitar & $16 Workbook

**Grade:** 9-12

**70487**

**Prerequisites:** None

**Graduation Req:** Fine Arts

This course is designed for the student with little or no guitar experience. Basic guitar skills including reading music, chords, strumming patterns, and tablature will be taught. Students must provide their own acoustic guitar. Electric guitars will not be used in this class.

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**Guitar II**

**Credit:** 0.5  Guitar & $16 Workbook

**Grade:** 9-12

**70488**

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of Guitar 1 or instructor approval.

**Graduation Req:** Fine Arts

Guitar II is for the intermediate to advanced seeking the opportunity to perform in front of an audience. Introductory lead guitar technique will be a focus in this course as well as ensemble work. You must be comfortable performing individually and in groups. You must have basic knowledge of guitar theory rhythm techniques.

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**Piano I**

**Credit:** 0.5  $25 workbook

**Grade:** 9-12

**70485**

**Prerequisites:** None
Graduation Req: Fine Arts

This course is designed as a beginning piano class. This one semester class includes individual and class instruction. Adequate time is allotted during class for practice. Emphasis is on correct piano technique, basic music notation, and development of repertoire. Students should have little or no previous piano background.

**Piano II**

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70486

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Piano I and/or permission of instructor

Graduation Req: Fine Arts

This course is intended for students already capable of note playing and chord playing. Students will build upon basic knowledge learned in Piano I or private lessons by exploring specific keyboard styles and techniques, more advanced structures, and small group playing. Admittance into this class is dependent on instructor approval.

**Estrella Choir**

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70595S1 & 70595S2

Prerequisites: Audition and teacher approval

Graduation Req: Fine Arts

Estrella is a group composed of the finest Treble voices at Ponderosa. Estrella performs choral, world, jazz and popular music. Membership is based on an audition that measures advanced voice quality, sight reading ability, range, tonal memory, and musicianship. Estrella performs at various concerts, festivals, contests, and community group events. Rehearsals and performance schedules require significant extracurricular commitment.

**Pegasus**

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70551S1 & 70551S2

Prerequisites: Audition and teacher approval

Graduation Req: Fine Arts

This mixed choir is composed of advanced choir students selected through auditions based upon voice quality and development, interest in performance at an advanced level, and musicianship. Pegasus performs choral, classical, jazz and popular music at various concerts, festivals, contests and community group events throughout the state and nation. Rehearsal and performance schedules require extracurricular commitment.

**Tenor/Bass Select Choir**

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70513S1 & 70513S2
**Prerequisites:** None

**Graduation Req:** Fine Arts

This choir, which accepts all tenor/bass singers of any age with an enthusiasm for singing, will perform at school and for community groups. Music of all styles will be performed. Rehearsals and performance schedules require some extracurricular commitment.

**Treble Select Choir**  
Credit: 1  
Performance Attire  
Grade: 9-12

70550S1 & 70550S2

**Prerequisites:** None

**Graduation Req:** Fine Arts

This choir, which accepts all Treble singers of any age with an enthusiasm for singing, will perform at school and for community groups. Music of all styles will be performed. Rehearsals and performance schedules require some extracurricular commitment.

**Select Jazz Choir**  
Credit: 1  
Grade: 10-12

70615S1 & 70615S2

**Prerequisites:** Audition and teacher approval. Must be concurrently enrolled in another large performing choir.

**Graduation Req:** Fine Arts

This course is for 12-18 singers and rhythm section. The emphasis of the course is to expose these students to the professional standards of vocal jazz in the area of literature, basic musical knowledge, and proper stylization for performing for public audiences. There will be extra sectional rehearsals required. **Concurrent membership in another performance ensemble is required.** Participation in all performances is required.

**Tech Theatre I**  
Credit: 0.5  
$30/Semester  
Grade: 9-12

70780

**Prerequisites:** None

**Graduation Req:** Fine Arts or Practical Arts

This semester-long course offers students the opportunity to participate in phases of stagecraft activities. Course work may include the following: scenery construction, stage lighting, make-up, sound, publicity, design, theatre organization management, and maintenance.

**Tech Theatre II**  
Credit: 0.5  
$30/Semester  
Grade: 9-12

70810
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Tech Theatre I

Graduation Req: Fine Arts or Practical Arts

This is a course designed for the serious technical theatre student to practically implement skills learned in Tech I. Advanced scene design, lighting, sound, stagecraft, make-up, and costume techniques will be explored. Students will create and carryout theatrical elements and designs.

Tech Theatre III
Credit: 1 $30/Semester Grade: 10-12
70792s1 & 70792s2

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Tech Theatre II and permission by instructor

Graduation Req: Fine Arts or Practical Arts

This year-long course will allow students to learn and apply leadership and management skills related to the technical theatre field. This class focuses on self-motivation and inspiration to take previously attained technical knowledge of the crew and designer to the next level of professionalism. Students will implement previous knowledge from Ponderosa productions as well as explore ways to connect with other opportunities within the school and community. Upon completion of this course, students should have the knowledge, skills and materials (such as portfolios) to apply for jobs within a technical theatre career. This course requires participation/leadership within after-school productions, rentals, activities, as well as other community and facility projects.

Theatre I
Credit: 0.5 $30/Semester Grade: 9-12
70700

Prerequisites: None

Graduation Req: Fine Arts

This semester-length course offers the opportunity for a variety of performance experiences, which include but are not limited to ensemble building, acting fundamentals, character development, monologues, scene work, and improvisation. Major emphases of the class are on developing beginning acting skills and self-esteem in theatre.

Theatre II
Credit: 0.5 $30/Semester Grade: 9-12
70710

Prerequisites: Theatre I

Graduation Req: Fine Arts

This course extends development of acting skills and self esteem. Coursework may include but is not limited to the following: scene work, monologues, playwriting, play and character analysis, auditioning, musical theatre, and Shakespeare.

Theatre III
Credit: 1 $30/Semester Grade: 10-12
**70720S1 & 70720S2**

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of Theatre II & Audition

**Graduation Req:** Fine Arts

This course emphasizes the development of higher level acting skills. Coursework includes, but is not limited to: advanced improvisation, directing, theatre history and styles, musical theatre, stage combat, and advanced acting techniques. Participation in the after-school productions is encouraged, but not required.

**Theatre Production Ensemble**

**70755S1 & 70755S2**

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of Theatre III (or equivalent) and approval of instructor

**Graduation Req:** Fine Arts

This approval-only course is for the advanced theatre student. Students will develop advanced production techniques and leadership skills. Play production is the core of this class. Students may be required to participate in the productions and attend the Colorado Thespian Conference in Denver in December.

**Beginning Film Production**

**50790**

**Prerequisites:** None

**Graduation Req:** Fine Arts

This course is designed to acquaint students with key aspects of film creation. The course will focus on filmmaking techniques and include an emphasis on storytelling, production techniques, and editing while students create authentic film projects. Students will write, shoot, and edit original content.