

Design & Innovation Electives 2017-2018

Change Makers

Change Makers is an elective for students who see a need for change in our world and want to gain the skills, knowledge and experience to make change happen. In this class you will:

- Find a cause that you care passionately about: the environment, education for all, animal rights, hunger, homelessness...
- Identify specific needs of your cause
- Learn tangible steps you can take to make a difference
- Discover your hidden talents
- Meet people who have been successful at doing what you want to do
- Take action
- And, along the way, pick up the skills you will need to be an innovator, entrepreneur, and change maker.

Film (Grades 7 & 8 Only)

What makes a movie a work of art? During the first trimester we'll explore a bit of film history but concentrate more on the artistry behind the images on the screen. Then we'll move on to the nuts and bolts of what makes a movie a movie: cinematography, sound, music, screenwriting, and film editing. During the third trimester, the students will be making films of their own.

Future Solutions

The goal of this class is to serve student interest in learning more about the world, identifying global problems, and working toward viable solutions. Participants will hone their public speaking skills through speeches, presentations, and plenty of organized debate. We also plan to continue and strengthen our participation in the San Diego Model U.N. Conference. In addition, we will learn through the use of some immersive simulations and games that will reflect the challenge, balance, and complexity of global politics and relations.

Genius Hour

In Genius Hour students are allowed to explore their own passions and creativity in the classroom. Students choose what they want to learn: their "passion project". Students research their topic of choice and create a product that will be shared with the school.

Students in grades 7 and 8 will also have the opportunity to participate in Future Cities should they choose or to use elective time to work on science fair projects.

Inquiry Arts

Be creative.

Be inventive.

Be innovative.

Join Inquiry Arts Elective.

There is no limit to what a young imaginative artist can investigate as long as you are passionate about it! In Inquiry Arts, students are free to work on any type of art project that interests them! This is an opportunity to learn something new; something that you have always wanted to do in art. There is absolutely no limit to what you can learn and accomplish, as long as you're devoted to investigating your chosen art subject area. Through the completion of this task you will gain new skills, knowledge and a greater understanding about something that you are completely invested in!

As an Inquiry artist, you will be delving curiously into an art subject matter of your interest by researching and investigating all pertinent concepts regarding your art topic and creating your own unique artwork. You will have the opportunity to select from a range of art mediums such as acrylic paint, watercolor, printmaking, chalk or oil pastels, ink, pencil, photography or 3D paper and wire materials. Bi-monthly art workshops will be scheduled featuring techniques and processes of the various mediums and art concepts that are relevant to your artwork.

Music Composition and Technology

Students will write, compose and record their own music using Garage Band and MIDI. Mr. Florentine's in-depth experience running his own recording studio will enhance students' understanding of the music industry. Some activities will include: creating music for commercials, movies and collaborating with students in the film class.

Theater

In conjunction with San Diego Jr. Theater (you might remember them from your 4th grade experience), students will continue to develop the basic concepts of theater arts. Students will use various creative drama techniques to build confidence and trust, stimulate imagination, movement and role-play. Acting study will be based on group games,

memorized scene work, monologues, improvisation, and imagination. Students will learn and use drama and theater vocabulary in class discussions. Students will have the opportunity to showcase their work with the middle school and beyond.

Yearbook

Students will take on the role of being the school's memory capsule. This class is designed to teach the skills needed to produce our Rhoades School yearbook. Students will have the opportunity to apply basic principles of photography, page design, and layout. Students will operate desktop publishing software to develop graphic design skills. While capturing memorable school moments and daily Rhoades School life, students will be responsible to shoot, select, and crop photographs for the yearbook layout.

During the year, students will rotate jobs and be responsible for photography, digital uploading, page making creativity, illustrating, and editing. Students will collaborate on building the school yearbook with their own personal touches. They will learn strategies of planning, proofing, and working independently. This elective will surely be tech savvy and creative.