Beechwood High School

EDGE

Performing Arts Minor
THE BEECHWOOD EDGE PROGRAM INTRODUCTION

As a part of the Continuous Improvement Plan, Three-year Strategic Plan, and The Beechwood Way, we aim to develop globally competitive students. Moreover, we acknowledge that growth as a leader and learner is more complex than mastery of reading and math alone. Based on what our students, parents, community, and region told us, we began considering ways to enhance the experience for all students at Beechwood.

The Beechwood EDGE addresses the following: To be globally competitive, our children need exposure to new content, problem solving, industry engagement, and leadership opportunities. As we continue to be innovative, we worked with universities and industry to determine what would give all of our students an “edge.” There was a clear consensus: we need to provide opportunities for experiential learning to develop next-generation skills. The district has now integrated the rigor of college prep content with experiential learning to provide intellectual richness and flexibility, while maintaining the integrity of our high academic standards.

THE BEECHWOOD PERFORMING ARTS MINOR OVERVIEW

The Performing Arts minor provides students with the skills, knowledge, and experiences to perform at a high level within an arts discipline. Coursework covers instrumental music performance, vocal music performance, AP music theory, playwriting abilities, acting opportunities, and forensics. The opportunities within the performing arts minor also includes collaboration with professional musicians, arts administrators, educators, and directors of major arts organizations. These unique experiences prepare performing arts minor students with the knowledge and skills necessary to be competitive in the field. Students gain professional industry experience and experience an EDGE curriculum that was developed with partners such as:

- The University of Cincinnati CCM
- CSO Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra
- Thomas More University
- Northern Kentucky University
- May Festival Chorus
- KMEA

The EDGE Program focuses on a set of core concepts that are embedded throughout the curriculum - Preschool through 12th grade.

- Research & Data Analysis
- Communication & Collaboration
- Plan & Be Strategic
- Reflect & Grow
- Sustain Inquiry
- Excellence of Outcomes
- Think Critically & Creatively

Based upon our research with universities and industry, students are lacking these skills upon entrance into college and the workforce. Again, we are maintaining high expectations and rigor, while allowing students to go through a curriculum that is also focused on rich experiences. The EDGE program supplements our strong foundation of English, math, science, and social studies. Each business and university partner has helped us to develop an experiential-learning curriculum, which will help us to better prepare, engage, and retain our talent for leadership in the region.

GIVING OUR STUDENTS AN EDGE

The EDGE Program begins in Pre-K and runs through 12th grade for ALL students.
- Students will experience a personalized, learner-centered design.
- We will focus on developing skills that are transferable across real world settings.
- We will implement a challenge-based curriculum that embeds the core concepts.
- We will ensure a hybrid of rigorous content with a rich experiential curriculum.
- We will engage the community, businesses, industry, and university for curriculum development and experience alignment; multiple universities and over 25 business partners have helped us to develop an innovative, challenge-based curriculum centered around the core concepts.
- Students will build a portfolio and evidence-based documentation of their Pre-K through 12th EDGE experience.
- Students are assessed through their process of reflection on the application and synthesis of core concepts.

PERFORMING ARTS COURSE OPTIONS

Choose any course(s) to earn three credits. These are all 9th-12th grade courses.

SYMPHONIC BAND & PERCUSSION METHODS

LEARNING & LEADING:
- Develop instrumental musicianship skills
- Collaboration with composers, professional musicians, and educators
- Explore careers in music
- Analyze performances

THE EDGE:
- Master classes with professional musicians
- Collaboration with CSO and Mayfestival
- Marching Band, Pep Band, and Jazz Band
- District Honor Band and Collegiate Honor Bands
- Pit Orchestra

AP MUSIC THEORY

LEARNING & LEADING:
- Interval, chord, and part writing
- Melodic and harmonic transcription
- Ear training

THE EDGE:
- Composition projects
- Fugue challenge
- Musical critical thinking and partner feedback
- Notation software training

HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR

LEARNING & LEADING:
- Vocal technique, musicianship skills, & music reading ability
- Collaboration with composers, professional vocalists, and educators
- Explore careers in music
- Analyze performances

THE EDGE:
- Master classes with professional vocalists
- Collaboration with CSO and Mayfestival
- District and state vocal performance assessments
- All-State junior and high school choir & District Honor Choir
- A Cappella Choir and high school musical

DRAMA & FORENSICS

LEARNING & LEADING:
- Fundamental acting and public speaking skills
- Speech writing
- Performing monologues, scenes, & plays
- Theatre history and career exploration

THE EDGE:
- Know Theatre visit
- Work with debate coach
- Masterclasses
- Public performances

YEAR 4 - PERSONALIZED CAPSTONE

Option 1 - Internship, mentorship, or shadow rotation with independent research project
Option 2 - Early College - specifically aligned to minor through NKU or TMU (on campus)
Option 3 - Dual Credit - specifically aligned to minor through NKU or TMU (online or at Beechwood)

Any of these can be combined with an AP Seminar course.
### Pre-K Through 4th Grade Core Concepts

- Media Design
- Intro to CS
- AP Principles
- Comp. Sci A
- Intro to Media
- Adv. Design
- Virtual Design
- Yearbook
- Broadcasting/Journalism

### 5th Grade Seminar

- Communication & Collaboration
- Critical & Creative Thinking
- Reflection & Growth
- Plan & Be Strategic
- Sustained Inquiry
- Excellence of Outcomes
- Research & Data

### 6th Grade Seminar

### 7th Grade Seminar

### 8th Grade Seminar - Survey of High School Minors

**Media Design**
- Intro to Media
- Adv. Design
- Virtual Design
- Yearbook
- Broadcasting/Journalism

**Comp Sci**
- Intro to CS
- AP Principles
- Comp. Sci A

**Engineering**
- IDEA Lab I
- IDEA Lab II
- IDEA Lab III

**Culinary**
- Foods & Nutrition
- Culinary I
- Culinary II
- Master Chef

**Biomed**
- Intro BioMed
- Honors Biology
- Anatomy & Physiology

**Performing Arts**
- Symphonic Percussion
- HS Chorus
- AP Music Theory
- Drama
- Forensics

**Fine Arts**
- General Art
- Specialized Art
- Ceramics
- AP Art & Design
- AP Art History

**Entrepreneur**
- Business & Marketing
- Accounting & Finance
- Principles of Entrepreneurship

#### 9th Grade Students Are Able to Choose a Minor 3 Year Course of Study (Optional)

- Media Design
- Intro to Media
- Adv. Design
- Virtual Design
- Yearbook
- Broadcasting/Journalism

- Comp Sci
- Intro to CS
- AP Principles
- Comp. Sci A

- Engineering
- IDEA Lab I
- IDEA Lab II
- IDEA Lab III

- Culinary
- Foods & Nutrition
- Culinary I
- Culinary II
- Master Chef

- Biomed
- Intro BioMed
- Honors Biology
- Anatomy & Physiology

- Performing Arts
- Symphonic Percussion
- HS Chorus
- AP Music Theory
- Drama
- Forensics

- Fine Arts
- General Art
- Specialized Art
- Ceramics
- AP Art & Design
- AP Art History

- Entrepreneur
- Business & Marketing
- Accounting & Finance
- Principles of Entrepreneurship

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