



# MAT Elective Major Process

**Elective Major:** All students at MAT must choose an Elective Major. Please choose *carefully* as you will be asked to keep your major for all three years at MAT, which provides you with an opportunity to develop and advance your skills, and grow as an artist or musician. **This is the MOST important choice you have at MAT.**

## Elective Major Choices:

- A) **Art Major:** Students will have exposure to a wide variety of artistic mediums. Some main focuses will be art history, color theory, observational drawing, and visual problem solving incorporated into various art projects. Students will strengthen observational skills as well as develop their ability to conceptualize, make creative decisions, and learn to navigate artistic processes. Over the course of three years, students will create a substantial body of work, which they can use to develop a High School Audition Portfolio. **3 days per week.**
- B) **Art Core:** Students will have exposure to a wide variety of artistic mediums. Some main focuses will be art history, color theory, observational drawing, and visual problem solving incorporated into various art projects. Students will strengthen observational skills as well as develop their ability to conceptualize, make creative decisions, and learn to navigate artistic processes. Over the course of three years, students will create a substantial body of work. Art Core will move through similar units as Art Majors, and while some of the course content may be slightly abridged, the workload and learning goals will be just as rigorous. **2 days per week.**
- C) **Concert Band:** Students choose to learn one of the following instruments: Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, or Baritone Horn (a small tuba). Students learn how to read notes and count rhythms. Students learn music vocabulary and terms, learn to play their instrument in tune, to blend and balance with other students, and listen to and analyze band and classical literature. Students learn scales, technical exercises, and concert selections, and will perform twice a year. **3 days per week.**
- D) **Percussion Ensemble:** The major focus of this class will be on snare drum rudiments, and keyboard instrument note-reading. Students learn how to read notes and count rhythms. Students learn music vocabulary and terms, and listen to and analyze band and classical literature and will perform twice a year. Students also have the opportunity to play orchestral percussion instruments including snare drum, bass drum, crash cymbals, and xylophone. The drum set is not a part of this curriculum. **2 days per week.**

**Friday Choice Day:** Art Core students and Percussion students at MAT will be assigned to either the Advanced Sports or Advanced Technology class on Fridays. Unlike the Elective Major, this class will change on a yearly basis. Alternatively, they may choose to participate in the MAT Chorus.

**Friday Choice Day**

- A) **Chorus:** Open to any student who wants to sing in a group! Students will learn a diverse range of music, including choral pieces and pop/rock songs, and students will learn to sing in multiple languages. They will also learn healthy singing habits, how to sing in harmony, and the basics of reading music notation. This class is taught by our excellent Elementary Music Teacher, Mrs. Lee.
  
- B) **Advanced Technology:** The purpose of this class is to inspire you to explore technology beyond the classroom. This class is about “you!” What have you always wanted to try that is tech related but did not get a chance because of whatever reason? Why don't you test out those ideas during this time! In 6th Grade, you will have guided lessons on topics like Video Editing, Graphic Design, Web Design, Python Coding, etc. In 7th and 8th grade, you will choose one area to focus on for Independent Study.
  
- C) **Advanced Sports:** Students will participate in an intramural sports program where they will play a different sport every season of their own choosing. They will also take part in selecting and managing teams, as well as keeping track of statistics, etc. The following sports will be conducted: Flag football, basketball, softball, indoor hockey, soccer, lacrosse, kickball, capture the flag, rock climbing and volleyball.

**Sample Elective / Choice Day Schedule**

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<i>Art Major</i>	<b>Art Major</b>	PE	<b>Art Major</b>	Tech	<b>Art Major</b>
<i>Art Core</i>	PE	<b>Art Core</b>	Tech	<b>Art Core</b>	Choice
<i>Concert Band</i>	<b>Band</b>	Tech	<b>Band</b>	PE	<b>Band</b>
<i>Percussion Ensemble</i>	Tech	<b>Percussion</b>	PE	<b>Percussion</b>	Choice

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Enrichment Class:** All 6<sup>th</sup> Grade students will be given the opportunity to take an additional elective class on Thursday and Friday, which we call Enrichment Days. This class is only offered during the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Students may take ANY of these classes, regardless of their major.

### **Enrichment Days (Last period, Thursdays & Fridays)**

- A) **Art Enrichment:** Students will experiment with a variety of artistic tools and materials. Art Enrichment contains projects that are meant to introduce inquiry (learning by exploring) into the arts learning process by providing more freedom within simple constraints.
- B) **Technology - Lego Robotic Programming:** Students will learn robot design and programming with LEGO Mindstorms EV3 robots. This is a self-paced class where you will work with a partner to build and modify the EV3 robot with different sensors and pieces. You will also be given different challenging tasks to complete, such as make Ev3 say a Joke, use the ultrasonic sensor to detect objects, etc. Since this curriculum is designed for you to learn and explore at your own pace, you will have ownership to how much you will learn and complete by the end of the course.
- C) **GPS - Guitar, Piano, and Song Writing:** Students will learn the basics of playing the acoustic guitar and the electric keyboard. They will also study the craft of writing songs by listening to and analyzing great songs from American Pop/Rock/R&B. By the end of the semester, students will write their own songs, and have the opportunity to perform them.
- D) **Health and Fitness Class:** Students will learn about the functions of the human body and its various systems, nutrition, exercise and how to keep a healthy body. One day will be in the classroom and one day will be spent exercising in our tech video game fitness room or outside in one of our many athletic fields.

### **After-school Information**

**After-school Sports:** All MAT sports activities are scheduled during after-school hours. Mr. DeMatteo and other coaches will provide information and permission forms for students interested in participating in any of the sports offered this year.

**After-school Music Club with Mr. Sutton:** Jazz Lab – an audition-only small group for advanced instrumental musicians (no beginners). (Mondays & Tuesdays, 3:00 – 4:00 PM)

**ISS (Immigrant Social Services, Inc.) – 212-571-1840:** We also have a Community-Based Organization in the building that offers several After-School Programs. For more information, you can contact the program directly.