

# MSSPA

MAIN STREET SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

Welcome to MSSPA! You will find everything you need to know about being a music major here in this handbook. Read it and refer to it often.

## MUSIC INSTRUCTORS

Matthew McFarlane - [mmcfarlane@msspahs.org](mailto:mmcfarlane@msspahs.org)

Rachel Mollick - [rmollick@msspahs.org](mailto:rmollick@msspahs.org)

Steve Mollick - [smollick@msspahs.org](mailto:smollick@msspahs.org)

## In this handbook, you will find:

- Opportunities available to you as a musician at Main Street
- Main Stage Performances for 2011-2012
- In School Expectations
- Code of Conduct
- Jury Information
- Lettering Information
- Music Course Offering List
- Additional Handouts: Lettering Form & Endorsement Requirements

## Opportunities Available

### In Class Performances

MSSPA offers countless classes where performance is at its core. In more than one class, you will be asked to create, rehearse, and perform as part of your overall assessment for the class.

### Block 5 Ensembles

You may audition for one or more of the following ensembles that rehearse after school during block 5:

- Mon: Classical Coachings
- Tues: Small Group (vocal)  
Instrumental Ensemble
- Wed: Jazz Band  
Women's Ensemble (vocal)
- Thurs: Blues Band
- Fri: Jazz Combo A & Jazz Combo B

### No Shame!

No Shame is a monthly performance of student work (music, dance and theatre or a combination). In order to perform, students must present their performance to two teachers (one academic and one arts) AND be passing all of their current classes when their application is submitted. A final show order will be posted the week of No Shame!

### Music Theory Tutoring

Mr. Mollick will be hosting music theory tutoring sessions every Tuesday and Thursday after school. He can help with any level from Theory 1 to AP. Stop by if you need help on homework, more clarification on a new subject, or just want to nerd out of theory-isms. Rm. 301, Tues & Thurs

## Main Stage Performances

### Main Stage Performance

*Fall Concert: Synergy*

**Monday, Oct. 24, 2011**

**7:00 pm**

*St. Joseph's Church, Hopkins*

The first half of this concert will be mostly vocal ensembles conducted by Ms. Mollick's student teacher, Ms. Seely. Choir, Chamber Singers, and some soloists will perform.

The 2nd half will be a collaborative performance put together by Mr. Thompson, Mr. McFarlane, and Ms. Maloney and some of the classes they are teaching 1st quarter.

This is sure to be unique concert. Don't miss it! (Plus, many of you will be performing in it!)

### Main Stage Performance

*Electric*

**Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2011**

**7:00 pm**

*McNally Smith College of Music, St. Paul*

This concert will feature members from Advanced Ensemble/Steel Drum, Chamber Singers, Choir, and most of the Block 5 ensembles. The Music Instructors may also hold auditions for possible solo or small groups to perform.

We are really excited to perform in this new venue at McNally Smith. Hope to see as many students on stage performing in what is going to be a great winter concert the last week before Winter Break.

### Main Stage Performance

*The Producers*

**Wed-Sat, Feb. 15-18, 2012**

**Performance Times Vary**

*The Lab Theatre, Minneapolis*

This production, directed by Mr. Thompson, is bound to be a one of a kind version of this hilarious and entertaining musical.

The artistic staff is hoping for a large cast for the flashy chorus numbers and lots of dancing old ladies!

Auditions will occur mid-November, so brush off your dance shoes, warm up your voice and be ready to be part of *The Producers*!

### Main Stage Performance

*Dream*

**Tuesday, May 15, 2012**

**7:00 pm**

*St. Joseph's Church, Hopkins*

This concert will feature the same groups as the Winter concert, plus some selected seniors who are being considered for the Music Department Awards for Outstanding Performer of Music and Outstanding Creator of Music.

### NEED STAFF PAPER?

**Buy a binder full of MSSPA staff paper from Mr. Mollick for \$3.00. What a deal!**

"Water bottles and ear plugs the latest fall trend. All the cool kids are doin' it. You Should Too!"

-Your favorite music teachers

## In School Expectations

We have a high level of expectation for you here at MSSPA. You are a part of a community of artists who support each other in ways that are astounding to see. We expect you maintain a level of respect for yourself, your peers, and your teachers. We also expect a high standard of behavior, academic effort, and artistic expression. Additional information can be found in the student handbook.

It is important to mention that if you are not in good academic standing or have behavioral issues, you will be removed from any after school ensemble (any art area) until you bring up your grades and prove you have made proper improvement and are ready to rehearse. We take this very seriously. This is a small school - everything you do creates an impression of who you are.

### Code of Conduct

We have created a community at MSSPA based on respect for others and support of fellow performers across all art areas. It is our expectation that music majors lead the way in good citizenship and conduct.

Beyond the MSSPA handbook, it is expected you ARRIVE ON TIME to class and rehearsals *with* you music and all things needed. If you are habitually absent or tardy, you will be replaced. Be committed to the things you do here.

Teachers at MSSPA talk, if you are disrespectful to any teacher or staff member, expect a follow up from one of your arts teachers as well.

### Academics

In order to be part of any after school production or ensemble, you must be PASSING all of your classes in order to rehearse. If at any time you dip below the passing range (60%), you will be removed from your ensemble and spend time working on homework until you return to passing.

**You must also be passing all of your classes and have no outstanding detentions or suspensions to perform in NO SHAME!**

**Support Local Business for your Music Supplies!**  
**BUD'S MUSIC**  
 820 Mainstreet, Hopkins  
 (952) 938-6341 - budsmusiccenter.com  
 Open Mon-Tue, Thu-Fri 9:30am-5:30pm;  
 Wed 9:30am-7:30pm; Sat 10am-4pm

### Interventions

If you are having difficulty maintaining our standards of conduct regarding arts, academics, or both, an intervention will be scheduled with teachers, student, and parents. The purpose of the intervention is to ensure all is being done for you, the student, to have a successful outcome. If a student is unable to make progress, options such as changing majors or finding another school will be explored.

MSSPA is a fun place to attend, but you must be respectful of those around you and making progress as a student and musician is your job in order to remain a part of our school community.

## Important Things of Note

### JURIES

Juries are a yearly check-up with your arts teachers. Juries occur during the middle of the third quarter of the school year, and requirements and schedule will be clearly communicated to you 1 month prior to your jury.

Generally, juries consist of a three minute performance followed by a discussion of your progress through the school year and discussion of class requirements and selections for the following year. Juries are a good time to ask any questions you might have about your artistic progress, get advice about college programs, private lesson instructors, etc.

### LETTERING

By meeting specific performance criteria, you can earn a Music, Dance, or Theatre letter. To letter, you must earn 1000 points. Points are earned by participating in Main Stage Productions (100 points for 1 ensemble, 50 for each subsequent ensemble), *No Shame* performances (50 points), and other performances pre-approved (50 points) by your arts teacher.

Use the provided lettering form to keep track of your lettering progress. When you have earned 1000 points, turn in your form to your arts teacher.

### GUEST ARTISTS

We strive to bring in high quality local and nationally recognized guest artists to inspire you as musicians. Past guest artists have included: Yanni, George Winston, Alison Scott, Dan Wilson, Jocelyn Hagen, Justin Roth, Griffin House, Greg Milliren, Mick Sterling, Mike Crosswell, and Mary Ellen Childs,

***Fact: Theory nerds are the COOLEST of all nerd types.***

## Required Courses to Earn Arts Endorsement in MUSIC

The following courses are REQUIRED to earn you Arts Endorsement in MUSIC. (Transfer students are still eligible, but will be evaluated on a pro-rated basis).

**You must PASS the following courses (14 credits total)**

- Music Theory 1A (Music Fund.)
- Music Theory 1B
- Music Theory 2A
- Music Theory 2B
- Music and Technology

- Choir/Inst. Ens./Chamb Singers/Adv. Ens (at least 1 qtr/sem)
- Choir/Inst. Ens./Chamb Singers/Adv. Ens (at least 1 qtr/sem)
- Choir/Inst. Ens./Chamb Singers/Adv. Ens (at least 1 qtr/sem)
- Choir/Inst. Ens./Chamb Singers/Adv. Ens (at least 1 qtr/sem)

- Senior Creation - MUSIC
- Music Elective: \_\_\_\_\_
- Music Elective: \_\_\_\_\_
- Music Elective: \_\_\_\_\_
- Music Elective: \_\_\_\_\_