



**Ladera Vista**  
Junior High School  
**of the Arts**

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Fullerton School District

Catalog of Electives  
2021 – 2022

<http://ladera.fullertonsd.org>

# **Ladera Vista Junior High School of the Arts ~ 2021 – 2022**

*Chart your Course! Explore! Learn! Achieve!*

## **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

*“Chart your Course! Explore! Learn! Achieve!”*

The Ancient Greeks set out to sea much as our Spartan Students will set out into the world. They used the tools, skills, and knowledge at their disposal and depended on teamwork and collaboration to ensure a successful voyage. Our entire Ladera Vista Junior High School of the Arts Staff is committed to supporting each student by encouraging you to chart your course and make a commitment to excellence. The course you choose is up to you, our promise is that you will have our unwavering help and encouragement along the way.

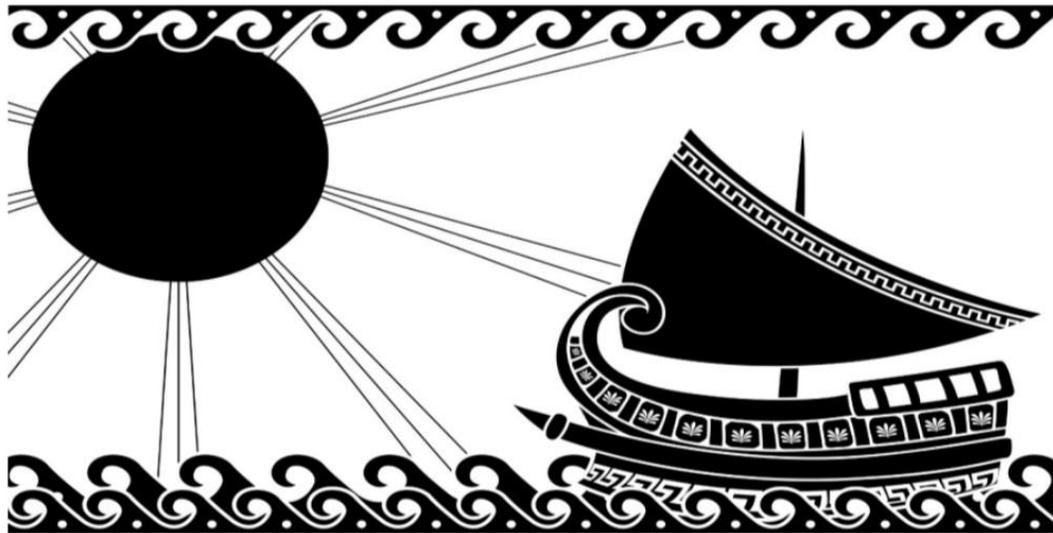
## **OUR SCHOOL VISION**

At Ladera Vista Junior High School of the Arts, we envision our school as a center for innovation and creativity. It is our desire to provide students with meaningful, relevant, and rigorous learning opportunities. Through our infusion of the visual, performing, and digital arts, we strive to support each student in making meaningful connections in their learning. As a school community, we exhibit a passion and enthusiasm for exploration, learning, and achievement, and we celebrate and encourage each student’s success. We take pride in creating a warm and welcoming school community, where each of you know you are safe and are expected to meet your greatest potential.

## **THE ARTS-INTEGRATED EXPERIENCE**

Numerous studies over the past decade have demonstrated the benefits of arts-infused education. Students who have access to the arts benefit from creative outlets, find greater success in mastering core subjects, have fewer disciplinary problems, and show significantly higher graduation rates. A 2011 study, “Reinvesting in Arts Education”, found that integrating the arts with other subjects also raises academic achievement levels. An Arts-based Education doesn’t just raise test scores, but also supports the learning process itself. Studies show that students participating in the Arts have been found to improve their IQ scores by several points. Other studies have reported similar scientific findings on the Arts’ impact on the brain, showing that sustained Arts Education is an essential part of adolescent social and intellectual development

Using a unique balance between challenging Academic and Arts Curriculums, Ladera Vista Students experience an Arts-Infused Common Core Curriculum, through which you’ll connect to a rigorous academic curriculum while integrating the arts. These courses include a strong emphasis on 21st Century Learning and Preparedness, with our 1:1 iPad program providing round-the clock access to technology



## **Ladera Vista Junior High School of the Arts – Electives**

We offer so many wonderful electives for students to select from at Ladera Vista! Students may select to be a part of our “Triple Threat Program” (Dance, Choir, and Theatre), participate in our many Visual and Digital Arts Classes, be a part of our Instrumental Music Program, learn Spanish, or French, or try a little bit of everything. This is your time to Explore! Learn! Achieve! Listed below you will find detailed descriptions of our electives classes. Students are asked to select six electives and to list them in the order of preference. You will be assigned two electives per semester, and we always try our best to enroll you in your top choices.

***Requirements and Prerequisites: Please note that some electives require a full year commitment while others require a semester commitment. The course descriptions indicate if there are prerequisites for each particular course.***

### **Culinary Arts Elective**

#### **Culinary I – Grades 7 & 8 (One Semester)**

Students explore world cultures, artists, and art history, and use of the latest technology to demonstrate their understanding of cultural connections to the arts and gastronomy. This class offers unique opportunities for students to create artistic three-dimensional works based upon the elements of design, while exploring cultural connections in the world of Culinary Arts.

#### **Culinary Arts II – Grade 8 (One Semester)**

Students will build on the skills from Culinary I to go even more in-depth into the study of Culinary Arts. ***Please note: Students must have already completed Culinary I and have approval from teacher through an application in order to participate in this specialized class.***

## **Digital Arts Electives**

### **Digital Design - Grades 7 & 8 (One or Two Semesters)**

Students utilize the latest technology to create graphic works of art, while employing the elements of design. Students create projects, which promote school productions, concerts, and events, and learn about the field of digital design through this hand-on class. Apple Pencils, iPad Pros, and the Procreate App are used to create unique works of art for a real world audience.

### **Yearbook Grades 7 & 8 (One or Two Semesters - May be repeated)**

In this class, students will gain skills in content planning, writing copy, captions and headlines, digital photography, page design, editing, and publishing in order to produce a creative, innovative yearbook that records school memories and events. There is an emphasis on journalism skills and team building in this class. Students may choose to apply for an appointed position, such as editor or business marketing. *Must complete a thorough application with references and teacher approval.*

## **Performing Arts Electives**

*(Please note: Attendance at all performances is a required component of all Performing Arts Classes)*

### **Beginning Band - Grades 7 & 8 (First Semester Commitment)**

This course is open to all students. No previous musical experience is required, although experience on piano or other instruments, or voice experience can be helpful. Students may choose any woodwind or brass instrument. This class includes note reading and basic instrumental techniques on band instruments. Successful completion of Beginning Band leads to Intermediate Band, depending on ability, instruments needed in upper groups, and student responsibility. Students wishing to study a secondary instrument can also take Beginning Band with teacher permission. Students may be placed in either Intermediate or Advanced Band in the Second Semester based on individual improvement.

### **Intermediate Band - Grades 7 & 8 (Full Year Commitment)**

This course is open to students who are definitely beyond the beginning stages of learning how to play a musical instrument. Successful completion of Intermediate Band allows students to audition for Advanced Band. Some Intermediate Band members have the opportunity to move to Advanced Band in the spring semester if they show marked improvement. Participation in rehearsals and performances outside of class time are a required part of this class. *Director recommendation is a prerequisite for this class.*

### **Advanced Band - Grades 7 & 8 (Full Year Commitment)**

This group of musicians is made up primarily of 8th grade students with some very advanced 7th grade students. The class focuses on more complex musicianship, with an emphasis on mastery of a variety of musical styles. Students must be available to go on field trips (district approved) for off campus performances. Participation in rehearsals and performances outside of class time is a required part of this class. *Director recommendation is a prerequisite for this class.*

### **Guitar - Grades 7 & 8 (One Semester - May Be Repeated)**

Mastering the Guitar is an innovative, exciting way to learn music. In this class students will learn a variety of musical styles and techniques found in today's music. Students will learn notation and tablature along with a vast array of guitar solo, duet and accompaniment styles. Guitars are available for student use. Material is designed for students to work at their own pace, so this class is appropriate for all levels beginning through advanced. Voluntary donations are accepted.

### **Choir I - Grades 7 & 8 (One Semester; May Be Repeated)**

This is a one-semester class for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders with little or no previous singing experience.

Students will sing various styles of music from different cultures and different historical periods. They will study all musical elements including music vocabulary, history and theory. Students will compare and contrast musical works to apply their skills in aesthetic valuing and artistic perception. They will perform a varied repertoire of music and begin to compose original works. This is a performance-based class. Students will perform at the Winter Concert in December and Spartan Sweets in the Spring. Voluntary donations are accepted to offset the costs of the class.

### **Choir II - Grades 7 & 8 (Full Year Commitment)**

This yearlong class is an auditioned group for experienced singers only. Students are placed in one of two Advanced Choirs, Women's Ensemble, or Mixed Vocal Ensemble. Students apply their skills in aesthetic valuing and artistic perception and will compose short pieces in various meters. They will perform a varied repertoire and will be evaluated for their accuracy and expressive quality. Students are expected to participate in many events both on and off campus over the course of the year. This may include Disneyland, Festivals and special District events. Students will participate in the Winter Concert and Spartan Sweets. Voluntary donations are accepted to offset the costs of the class.

*Audition and teacher approval is a prerequisite.*

### **Theatre Arts I - Grades 7 & 8 (One or Two Semesters)**

This course is an introduction to Theatre Arts. Students will participate in ensemble activities and do work in mime and movement, improvisation, vocal variations, and characterization. Students will also learn important Theatre Arts terminology that will be applied to monologues and scene work.

### **Ladera Vista Productions - Grades 7 & 8 (Full Year Commitment)**

Students will perform a full length Broadway style musical in the Spring and will participate in all aspects of production, including acting, singing, dance and various aspects of technical theatre, such as stagecraft, lighting and sound. Strong ability is a plus, but is not a prerequisite. All students must have a desire to be a vital part of a production and must work well as part of a team. *Auditions and teacher approval is prerequisite.*

## **Visual Arts Electives**

### **Art I - Grades 7 & 8 (One Semester)**

This beginning course serves as an introduction to two-dimensional art making practices. Art 1 is designed to introduce the art elements and to develop the artistic skills of the students. Projects include drawing and shading techniques, painting, and color exploration. Students will explore various types of media. Visual vocabulary will be used in classroom discussion. Voluntary donations are accepted to offset the costs of the class.

### **Art II - Grade 7 & 8 (One Semester)**

Advanced art students will learn how to improve their drawing and painting skills. They will experiment with different types of media and be expected to take a more independent and responsible approach to exploring the elements and principles of art. Voluntary donations are accepted to offset the costs of the class. *Successful completion of Art I and teacher recommendation is a prerequisite. Students must also fill out an application.*

### **Arts and Crafts Grades 7 & 8 (One Semester)**

This course serves as an introduction to three-dimensional art making practices. A wide range of media is used in this course including, but not limited to, wire, cardboard, paper mache, tooling metal, yarn printing ink, origami, and paint. Projects may include sculpture, assemblage, mask making, coil basket weaving and printmaking. Voluntary donations are accepted to offset the costs of the class.

### **Ceramics – Grades 7 & 8 (One Semester)**

Students in our new Ceramics Class will learn the basics of ceramics in this introductory course, along with the rich history of ceramics throughout time. Beginning with basic projects, building to slab construction and finally creating thrown pottery on the wheel, students will have the opportunity to create beautiful works of art. Various types of clay and use of glazes will emphasize the chemistry of color. Construction techniques and the business side of art production will be included in this newly developed curriculum.

### **Advanced Ceramics – Grade 8 (One Semester)**

Students will build on the skills from Ceramics. *Please note: Students must have already completed Ceramics and have approval from the teacher in order to participate in this specialized class. Students must also complete an application.*

### **Mosaic Arts – Grades 7 & 8 (One or Two Semesters)**

The art of glass mosaic dates back to the earliest cultures. Students will explore the world of glass mosaic from ancient day to present and will learn a variety of techniques related to the beautiful art form. After completing an individual project, students will work collaboratively on projects designed for installation on our school campus and throughout our community. One of our first projects will be a beautiful piece for our local Saint Jude Hospital. Students will have the opportunity to meet with representatives to learn about the vision and placement of the piece, create an initial design to present to our “customers”, gain feedback through video-conferencing, make adjustments to their designs as needed, and finally, create and install a beautiful work of art to be enjoyed by our entire community.

### **Advanced Mosaic Arts – Grade 8 (One Semester)**

Students will build on the skills from Glass Mosaic. *Please note: Students must have already completed Glass Mosaic and have approval from the teacher in order to participate in this specialized class. Students must also complete an application.*

### **Commercial Arts (One Semester)**

This course explores the commercial aspects of art. The units of study will focus on careers in the arts and techniques will include freehand drawing, lettering, painting, 3-D printing, plaster casting, special effects make-up, logo design with silkscreen techniques for t-shirts and apparel, with digital art enhancements for commercial advertising, posters, illustrations, and content creation.

### **Speech and Debate (One Semester)**

Speech and Debate is a one-semester introductory course that covers different public speaking and formal debating skills. Through instruction, research, and practice, students will be able to use their presentation skills and knowledge of information to deliver well thought out speeches and debates . Opportunities to take their knowledge and skills to competition at the local and state level may be made available to students through extracurricular programs, like Speech and Debate Club

### **CyberSecurity 1 - Grades 7 & 8 (One Semester)**

Cybersecurity is defined as the steps and processes taken to protect networks, devices, programs, and data from unauthorized access that can result in theft or damage. Designed for students with no security experience or background, this course covers basic terminology and concepts of CyberSecurity. This course introduces students to digital citizenship, digital and physical security, cyber threats, ethical hacking, cryptography, security management, passwords, protocol, firewalls, intro to networking, and vulnerabilities in security.

## **World Languages Electives**

Speaking, listening, understanding, reading and writing are the communication skills emphasized in learning a foreign language. The culture of the countries in which the target language is spoken will be taught. Oral and written practices are stressed in individual and group assignments. Homework assignments, from 20 to 30 minutes each, are assigned each school night. Upon completion of 1A and 1B, with a “B” or better average in the a foreign language, and with a recommendation from the instructor, the student may qualify for advanced placement in the 2nd year class as a high school freshman.

### **Spanish IA and Spanish IB (Two Years)**

Learn about the language, culture and people of Spanish speaking countries. The emphasis of this class is on mastery of conversational Spanish, as well as an increased ability to read and write in Spanish. *Students must score a Level 6 or higher on the ELA iReady to be approved for this class.*

### **French IA and French IB (Two Years)**

Our new French Class offers students a wonderful opportunity to learn this beautiful language. Students will be exposed to French Culture, Customs, and History through this fun and interesting course while learning to speak conversational French. *Students must score a Level 6 or higher on the ELA iReady to be approved for this class.*

## **School Community Elective**

### **ASB Leadership (Year Long Commitment)**

Student leaders plan and coordinate school wide activities while developing leadership skills. Students may choose to apply for an elected or appointed position. Qualified students should complete an application for each semester. *Application, references and teacher approval required as a prerequisite.*

### **AVID (2 Year Commitment)**

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is a college readiness system designed to increase the number of students who enroll and succeed in higher education and in their lives beyond high school. Today, AVID is implemented in approximately 5,600 schools in 44 states, the District of Columbia, 16 countries/territories, and impacts more than 1.2 million students in grades K–12 and in 40 postsecondary institutions. The curriculum features critical reading/writing, focused note taking, inquiry, collaboration, effective study strategies, high school/college research/visits and leadership activities. *Must complete a thorough application with references and teacher approval.*

### **Yearbook (Year Long Commitment)**

In this class, students will gain skills in content planning, writing copy, captions and headlines, digital photography, page design, editing, and publishing in order to produce a creative, innovative yearbook that records school memories and events. There is an emphasis on journalism skills and team building in this class. Students may choose to apply for an appointed position, such as editor or business marketing. *Must complete a thorough application with references and teacher approval.*

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

The Physical Education program at Ladera Vista is an integral part of our instructional program as we promote the health and wellness of each student. Our programs fulfill all requirements of the law for the State of California. All physical education classes are co-educational.

### **Physical Education – Grades 7 and 8**

Physical Education includes a variety of sports and fitness experiences for students of all ability levels, covering exercises, flag football, basketball, soccer, softball, track and field, field hockey, volleyball and more. Physical fitness and health, combined with development of individual coordination is stressed daily. Students participating in this class participate in State-required Fitness Testing.

### **Dance I - Grades 7 & 8**

In Dance I, the students learn to execute beginning jazz dance isolations, steps and combinations to music. They also learn to demonstrate the relationship of movement to music (count, rhythm, tempo, time signature, polyrhythms). In time, students are expected to choreograph short combinations and conduct self-evaluations. The class also highlights different forms of dance (tap, lyrical, modern, ballet) and includes some of the history of dance. California Fitness Testing is included.

### **Dance II - Grades 7 & 8**

In Dance II, students build upon the Dance I content with the semester culminating in a student-choreographed production, in which students are responsible for the choreography and presentation of a dance production concert. Audition and teacher approval is a prerequisite requirement. California Fitness Testing is included. *Please note: Students must audition and be accepted in order to participate in this specialized class.*

### **Dance III - Grades 7 & 8**

In Dance III, students build upon the Dance II content with the semester culminating in a student-choreographed production, in which students are responsible for the choreography and presentation of a dance production concert. Audition and teacher approval is a prerequisite requirement.

California Fitness Testing is included. *Please note: Students must audition and be accepted in order to participate in this specialized class.*

**Strength Training - Grades 7 & 8**

This course will help develop the three principles of fitness. These principles will include muscular strength, muscular endurance, and flexibility. Designed to be fun and active. California Fitness Testing is included.