

Cypress Lake Middle School
Passion for Success—Academics, Arts & Life



Application and Audition Guidelines 2018-2019 Incoming 6th Grade Students

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Deadline to Return Audition Packet: Friday, February 16, 2018



Audition and Admission Criteria

Please read this entire packet completely.

Cypress Lake Middle School is an Arts School located in the South Zone. We offer four levels of Band, Dance, Art, and Theatre and three levels of Orchestra and Chorus. Incoming 6th Grade students who are interested in coming to Cypress Lake Middle as one of our selected arts students must live in Sub Zones 1 or 2 in the South Zone and complete their Student Assignment application before they are able to apply and audition.

Please follow the procedures described on the following pages carefully. The entire process for application into Cypress Lake Middle School Arts Program includes the following steps:

1. Complete the LCSD Student Assignment application either online or paper.
2. Complete Student Application (enclosed) and return by **February 16th**.
 - Application
 - Two letters of recommendation (one from a current teacher and one that can speak to the student's artistic ability. Letters must not be from a member of the applicant's family.) See forms included in packet.
 - Late applications will not be accepted, no exceptions.
3. You will be contacted to schedule this audition on one of the following dates: February 22nd, February 26th, February 27th, February 28th, or March 1st. Please block out these dates on your calendar now. On our school webpage there is a link to all of the audition rubrics and music.
 - Prepare for your audition by following the audition guidelines as listed under each art area in this Audition and Admission Criteria packet.
 - Come to your audition at the appointed time. All auditions are closed to observers.
 - If a student becomes ill and is unable to audition, written verification documenting the illness from a doctor must be presented to the school within three (3) school days of the date of the of the student's scheduled audition. A new audition date and time will be selected for the student by the school.
4. If you auditioned:
 - You will receive notification by mail no later than 15 days from your audition date.
 - If you are accepted for one of the 15 seats, an intent form will also be included. This letter of intent is due back to Cypress no later than March 23rd. After that date, we will go to the next student on the waiting list.
5. If you are selected for the Arts Program at Cypress Lake Middle School:
 - You are making a three year commitment to the Arts Program at Cypress Lake Middle School in the arts discipline that you auditioned for.
 - For example, if you auditioned for Dance, you will remain in the Dance program all three years.
 - The student is required to maintain a full academic course load on the Cypress Lake Middle School campus.
 - Participation and attendance for performance related after school activities is required.
 - Parent/Guardian involvement is **HIGHLY** recommended and welcomed.
6. **It is an expectation that you adhere to all the deadlines.** Failure to meet deadlines will result in forfeiting your seat at the school at which you auditioned.

Arts Program Descriptions/Audition Requirements

The arts provides an exciting opportunity for artistically talented elementary school students of Lee County. Once selected at an arts designated school, students become part of an artistic environment designed to develop their talents to the highest possible level while fostering an appreciation and love of the arts which will serve them well in the pursuit of the next step in their educational training and chosen careers.

Just a reminder...in addition to the arts application/audition packet, a zone school application **must** also be completed according to the published timeline. ALL auditions are closed to all observers with no exceptions. This is for the purpose of fairness and equality for all students auditioning.

Dance

At CLMS dance students will be provided with a wide range of quality opportunities and experiences that will allow them to prepare for advance study, creative growth, and personal fulfillment. Students participating in dance will study the major dance styles and choreography, with a strong focus on performance practices and individual creative expression. In the dance classroom, skills are developed through classwork, technique, individual and class projects, and performance opportunities.

Audition Requirements:

Each student will participate in a live audition to include but not limited to the following:

- A short assessment of ballet barre exercises such as plie, tendu, degage, and grand battement.
- A short assessment of locomotor movement such as chasse, leap, and chainés.
- A short assessment of basic jazz exercises such as pivot turn, Jazz Square, and pirouette.
- A short paragraph or resume outlining student's dance experience and desire to be a member of the Cypress Lake Middle School Dance Department.

Audition Attire

Please be sure to wear appropriate dance wear or clothing that is easy to move in. Hair should be secured up and out of the face in a ponytail, bun, or French braid. Feet can be bare or appropriate dance shoes may be worn.

Theatre

CLMS Theatre students will study and explore all aspects of the theatre process. Through classroom study and studio work, students will be trained in the art and craft of theatre. Drama students gain skills in acting, pantomime, costumes, lighting, sound, stage craft, literature, history, vocal techniques, and playwriting. Students will learn successful communication in the theater involves the full integration of all of these parts.

Audition Requirements

Each student will participate in a live audition to include the following:

- Prepare gender-specific monologue provided on the Arts Auditions link on the Cypress Lake Middle School website. The monologue must be memorized.
- Students may be asked to participate in a cold reading exercise.
- Students may be asked to answer a few questions about themselves, e.g. hobbies, activities.

Applicants are expected to arrive at the beginning of the audition time block. Students will be auditioning one at a time. Parents and guardians will NOT be allowed in the audition room. The only set piece will be a single chair.

Audition Attire

Students are to dress as they would for a professional audition but be able to move freely. Flat, closed-toe shoes that cover the entire foot are suggested. Students should not be wearing sandals, flip-flops or other inappropriate footwear. Hair is to be secured away from the face. Ladies are asked to please NOT wear skirts or dresses.

Music: Band, Chorus, Orchestra

CLMS students have the opportunity to rehearse and perform with one or more ensembles based on their skill and performance area: Band, Chorus, and/or Orchestra. In addition to learning to studying the fundamentals of music theory and performance techniques, each student will participate in a several performance opportunities throughout the year. Students who are auditioning with prior piano/ guitar experience may have the opportunity to learn a concert band or orchestra instrument.

The Cypress Lake Middle School Band Program is designed to help students establish the fundamental techniques needed to perform on a band instrument as well as how to read music. There are four levels of band offered: Beginning Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Band. All students must perform in seasonal concerts and students in the Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Band perform at Music Performance Assessment events each spring.

The Choral Program consists of three levels of chorus: Chorus 1, Mixed Chorus, and Panther Singers. Each group will be expected to perform in front of an audience consisting of student community, family members, and possible community performances. Music theory and music reading are part of the expectations for all three levels of chorus.

The Strings Program consists of three levels of orchestra: Orchestra 1, Orchestra 2, and Chamber Orchestra. Each group will be expected to perform in front of an audience consisting of student community, family members, and possible community performances. Music theory and music reading are part of the expectations for all three levels of orchestra. Chamber Orchestra will have opportunities to audition for All County, All State, and participate in the MPA process.

Audition Requirements

Chorus

Each student will participate in a live audition to include the following:

- A prepared performance of “The Water is Wide.”
- A major scale sung on a neutral syllable, *solfeggio*, or numbers a cappella, evaluated for accuracy
- A rhythmic sight-reading exercise evaluated for rhythmic accuracy
- A melodic sight-reading exercise, evaluated for melodic accuracy
- A tonal memory exercise evaluated by the number of remembered pitches sung
 - *Optional*

Each student may perform an additional song of his/her choice which demonstrates the student's vocal skill. Students may sing a cappella or they may bring a recorded accompaniment. Recorded accompaniments must not contain a vocalist singing the student's part.

Orchestra & Band

Each student will participate in a live audition to include the following:

- A prepared performance of “The Water is Wide.”
- Students must perform at least one Major scale in the style and tempo that demonstrates his/her ability. Students may perform additional scales to demonstrate musical aptitude.
- A rhythmic sight-reading exercise evaluated for rhythmic accuracy
- A melodic sight-reading exercise, evaluated for melodic accuracy
- *Optional: Students may perform an additional piece of his/her choice which demonstrates the student's instrumental skill. Students may use recorded accompaniments. Recorded accompaniments must not contain the student's part.*

Instrument Notes:

- Students are required to provide their own instrument for auditions.
- Students who need percussion instruments and/ or piano for their auditions may use CLMS instruments.
- Music stands will be provided.

Visual Arts

The Visual Arts program at Cypress Lake Middle School develops students' inherent artistic talents and teaches new skills. Students selected to join our Visual Arts program will have an opportunity to obtain intensive training in drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture and ceramics. The course of study includes fundamental elements of art, principles of design, art critique, art history, careers in art, and the creation of personal multimedia artworks. Each of the four integrated levels of Visual Art courses at Cypress Lake Middle build upon the foundation laid in the prerequisite course. We expect students will grow to become strong visual communicators, creative problem solvers and respectful cooperative learners.

Audition Requirements

- Each applicant is required to participate in a one hour audition. During this hour, students will be observed as they draw a still life.
- Applicants are required to bring a folder containing a minimum of 5 flat artworks. Art can include sketches, prints, anime drawings, paintings and the like. Label the back of each piece with the applicant's name (clearly printed) and their current elementary school.
- Please do **not** bring three dimensional artwork such as ceramics or papier mâché sculptures. You may place a photograph of a three dimensional piece in the applicants folder. That photo would be in addition to the 5 handmade artworks.
- If an applicant has a working journal or sketchbook, please include that in the folder.

Portfolios will be taken home by the student following the audition.

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Application: Teacher Recommendation 1

*Recommendations must be in a sealed envelope with the teacher's signature across the sealed back.
Recommendations must be included in the application packet and returned by February 16, 2018.
Please print clearly.*

Student Last Name	Student First Name	Student ID
Name of person making the recommendation	Phone Number	
E-mail address	Years You Have Known the Applicant	

Please rate this student:

	<i>No Basis</i>	<i>Below Average</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Excellent (top 10%)</i>
Creativity						
Self- Motivation						
Self-Discipline						
Work Habits						
Academic achievement						
Interpersonal Skills						
Interest in the Arts						
Written expression of ideas						
Potential for growth						
Ability to follow directions						

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Application: Teacher Recommendation 2

*Recommendations must be in a sealed envelope with the teacher's signature across the sealed back.
Recommendations must be included in the application packet and returned by February 16, 2018.
Please print clearly.*

Student Last Name	Student First Name	Student ID
Name of person making the recommendation		Phone Number
E-mail address		Years You Have Known the Applicant

Please rate this student:

	<i>No Basis</i>	<i>Below Average</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Excellent (top 10%)</i>
Creativity						
Self- Motivation						
Self-Discipline						
Work Habits						
Academic achievement						
Interpersonal Skills						
Interest in the Arts						
Written expression of ideas						
Potential for growth						
Ability to follow directions						

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