



A Magnet School for the Arts

Arts Application & Audition Guidelines

Incoming 6th Grade Students

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Deadline to Return Audition Packet: Friday, January 26th, 2024
Auditions will be held January 31st & February 1st

It **STARTS** *With the* **ARTS**



Audition & Admission Process

Please read this entire packet completely.

Oak Hammock Middle School, located in the MS Proximity Zone JJ, is a Magnet School for the Arts, offering innovative arts classes alongside a rigorous academic curriculum. Our Arts Program encompasses a variety of courses at varying levels including dance, art, band, orchestra, chorus, theatre, television production, film production, and music production. Incoming 6th-grade students who are interested in coming to our Center for the Arts as one of our selected arts students can live anywhere in Lee County, however, students living outside middle school proximity zone JJ will not have transportation provided by the Lee County School District. Students living outside zone JJ who are accepted on an arts seat must provide their own transportation. Incoming 6th-grade students interested in being selected for our Center for the Arts must complete their Student Enrollment Application before applying and auditioning at Oak Hammock Middle.

Please follow the procedures described on the following pages carefully. The entire application process for the Center for the Arts at Oak Hammock Middle includes the following steps:

1. Complete the Lee County School District Student Enrollment application either online or paper.
2. Complete the enclosed Student Application and return the entire packet by **January 26th, 2023**. You may also find an application online or in our main office. The application must include the following to be considered:
 - A completed application
 - Two letters of recommendation, at least one from a current teacher and one who can speak to the student's artistic ability or desire to be part of our Center for the Arts. Letters may not be from a member of the applicant's family.
3. **Late applications will not be accepted. There will not be any exceptions.**
4. Audition appointments will be scheduled for qualifying students after applications have been reviewed.
5. If auditioning, be at Oak Hammock on either **January 31st & February 1st for an audition start time between 5 and 6 p.m.** based on audition choice. Auditions are first come, first served. Auditions will be complete by 8 PM.
6. Prepare for your audition(s) following each program's audition guidelines labeled, "Audition Requirements."
7. All auditions are closed to observers. This is for fairness and equity for all students auditioning.
8. Arrive at the main office of OHMS at the appointed time. Auditions are on a first-come, first-served basis.
9. A letter will be mailed from OHMS no later than February 15th regarding the status of each student's acceptance.
10. If selected for the Center for the Arts at Oak Hammock Middle School, you will get an intent form which needs to be filled out immediately and mailed or hand-delivered to OHMS by February 21st, 2024.
11. Students selected will be removed from any other assigned school through Student Enrollment. This will be taken care of by OHMS.
12. Students are expected to make a three-year commitment to the Arts Program at Oak Hammock Middle School. This commitment includes participation and attendance for ALL performance-related after-school activities.
13. Parent/Guardian involvement is HIGHLY recommended and welcomed.



Theatre Arts

Oak Hammock's theatre program trains students in the fundamentals of theatre. Student coursework focuses on but is not limited to acting, vocal performance, dance/movement, non-dance movement, and staging. Over the three-year magnet curriculum, students will refine their skills and collaborate as a functioning theatre ensemble. Topics explored include but are not limited to acting, directing, playwriting, theatre history, the great American playwrights, theatre design, and musical theatre. Rehearsals and performances are a required part of this program.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

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

- Memorize and perform TWO short, contrasting monologues (about one minute each; no more than two minutes each).

OR

- Memorize and perform ONE monologue (about one minute; no more than two minutes) AND a 1-minute cut of a musical theatre-style song. Instrumental accompaniment tracks for songs are preferred, but students may sing a cappella (without music). Pop music is NOT allowed!

Audition Attire Students must wear appropriate audition attire. No shorts, t-shirts, or sandals of any kind will be permitted. Please dress as you would if you were attending a special event, but remember to also dress in a way that allows for movement. Hair should be secured away from the face.

Applicants should bring a current headshot and resume (if applicable/available) to their audition. This is by no means a requirement but simply a helpful tool.

Visual Arts



The visual arts program at Oak Hammock Middle School teaches an appreciation of Art across time and cultures. The Beginning Art course concentrates on developing students' artistic skills and techniques and allows for placement into the Advanced Art Program. Students will become strong visual communicators, creative thinkers, and resourceful problem solvers. Throughout the curriculum, students will be expected to create both two- and three-dimensional artworks as well as maintain a personal portfolio with the opportunity to participate in district art shows.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

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

- Students will be required to sketch with a 6B pencil and charcoal without erasers.
- Students will have a choice of still-life compositions to draw. Sketches made during the audition will NOT be returned to students.

Audition Attire

Students must wear appropriate audition attire that includes professional dress.



Chorus

Oak Hammock's Choral program is a three-year cumulative program that trains students on skills required to be not only great ensemble singers but also solo singers. Students' curriculum includes, but is not limited to Alexander Technique body mapping, breath control/support, changing the color of one's voice, and smoothly transitioning between the vocal breaks. Most music performed will be memorized. The program includes a minimum of 1 performance opportunity a semester with opportunities to perform in a variety of events throughout the county. Students also will have opportunities to participate in collaborative concerts with the other arts disciplines at OHMS. Proper attendance in rehearsals and performances is a required part of this program.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

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

- Students must prepare the first verse of "My Country Tis of Thee" using an instrumental track from YouTube.
- Students must prepare and memorize a full-length, age-appropriate song. An instrumental accompaniment track is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED, but students may sing a cappella (without music).

*Note: The Judge may ask you to move to your next song before you have reached the end. It is in no way a sure positive or negative thing.

Audition Attire

Students must wear appropriate audition attire. No shorts, t-shirts, or sandals of any kind will be permitted. Please dress as you would if you were attending a special event, but remember to also dress in a way that allows for movement. Hair should be secured away from the face.

Dance



At Oak Hammock Middle School dance students will be provided with a wide range of quality opportunities and experiences that will allow them to prepare for advanced 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. Course offerings include an Introduction to Dance class, Introductory Ballet, Hip-Hop, Salsa and Ballroom Dancing, Jazz and Lyrical Dance, and Advanced Dance.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

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

- Students will be asked to perform simple movements at the barre to demonstrate technique knowledge.
- Students will be asked to perform a series of skills across the floor; these skills will include splits, gran jeté, battements, pirouettes, and tilts.
- Students will need to learn and perform a short contemporary center-floor combination.

Audition Attire

Please wear appropriate dancewear 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.



Television & Film Production

The Television and Film Production Program at Oak Hammock Middle School introduces students to the art of television and film acting and producing. Students will be expected to be part of recording and editing for both recorded and live school news shows, short films, and editorials. Television and Film production will expose students to writing scripts, following teleprompters, acting in front of a camera, editing film clips, and producing television shows and short films. Students in the Film Production class will compete in Film Festivals.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

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

- Students will be given a short prompt to which they will have to respond. The prompt will focus on a possible news story to be expanded upon by the writer.

Audition Attire

Students must wear appropriate audition attire that includes professional dress.

Music Production



The Music Production Program at Oak Hammock Middle School introduces students to the art of lyric writing, creative poetry writing, and music production. Students in this course will learn the art of writing lyrics for the purpose of poetry or for songs. In addition, students may play instruments or sing songs for the purpose of recording their own work. Students in advanced courses will produce music CDs performed by Oak Hammock students.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

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

- The production teacher will interview students to determine which aspect of music production best suits them.
- Students will have 7 minutes to make a music track from scratch.

Audition Attire

Students must wear appropriate audition attire that includes professional dress.



The Oak Hammock Middle School Band Program consists of three ensemble levels: Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Bands. Each group will be expected to perform in front of an audience consisting of the school community, family members, and community members at community events. Music theory and music reading are part of the expectations for all three levels of the band. All incoming 6th graders without prior experience will start in Beginning Band and placement in 7th grade will be dependent upon performance throughout the student's 6th grade year. Advanced and Intermediate Band members have opportunities to audition for All County, and All State, and participate in the Solo & Ensemble Festival.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

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

Students with prior instrumental experience

- Students are to perform Concert B flat, E flat, A flat, and F major scales and arpeggios, or as many as known from memory, at a tempo, range, and style representing the student's current level.
- Students are to perform a prepared solo or etude appropriate to the student's current ability level. Accompaniment is neither required nor recommended.

Students without prior instrumental experience

- Students will be guided on an evaluation of aptitude on each instrument of the band including flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, French horn, trumpet, trombone, baritone, tuba, and percussion. Students will then be placed on an instrument through the evaluation process.
- Students will be required to demonstrate that they can maintain a steady beat.
- Students will listen to a series of 3-5 pitches on the piano and sing them back.
- Students are to bring a prepared short paragraph or resume outlining the student's musical experience and desire to play a particular instrument and be a member of the Oak Hammock Middle School Band Program.

Audition Attire

Students must wear appropriate audition attire that includes professional dress.



Orchestra

The Orchestra Program at Oak Hammock Middle School consists of three ensemble levels: Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced. Each group will be expected to perform in front of an audience consisting of the school community, family members, and community members at community events. Music theory and music reading are part of the expectations for all three levels of orchestra. All incoming 6th graders without prior experience will start in Beginning Orchestra and orchestral placement in 7th grade will be dependent upon performance throughout the student's 6th grade year. Advanced and Intermediate Orchestra members have opportunities to audition for All-County, and All-State, and participate in the Solo & Ensemble Festival.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

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

Students with prior instrumental experience

- Students will perform D, G, and C major scales and arpeggios, or as many as known from memory, at a tempo, range, and style representing the student's current level.
- Students are to perform a prepared solo or etude appropriate to the student's current ability level. Accompaniment is neither required nor recommended.

Students without prior instrumental experience

- Students will be guided on an evaluation of aptitude on each instrument of the orchestra instruments including violin, viola, cello, and bass. Students will then be placed on an instrument through the evaluation process.
- Students will be required to demonstrate that they can maintain a steady beat.
- Students will listen to a series of 3-5 pitches on the piano and sing them back.
- Students are to bring a prepared short paragraph or resume outlining the student's musical experience and desire to play a particular instrument and be a member of the Oak Hammock Middle School Orchestra Program.

Audition Attire

Students must wear appropriate audition attire that includes professional dress.



Keyboard (Piano)

Students develop fundamental piano techniques, learn to read music, apply basic music theory, and explore the role of Piano music in history and culture. Beginning pianists explore musical creativity through basic arranging and improvisation and develop analytical listening and problem-solving skills.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

Students with prior instrumental experience

- Please prepare music that is comfortable and shows your ability on the Piano. No length or style requirement.
- Pieces do NOT need to be memorized. Accompaniment is not required and will not be available at the audition. The audition will last no longer than 5 minutes in total.

Students without prior instrumental experience

- Students with no experience will complete a short interview with Mr. Rivera and will be expected to share their desire to play piano in the arts program.

Audition Attire

Students must wear appropriate audition attire that includes professional dress.

It *STARTS* With the *ARTS*



Oak Hammock Middle School

A Magnet School for the Arts
 Middle School Audition Application Form 2023-2024 School Year
 Phone # (239) 693-0469
 Fax # (239) 694-4089
 5321 Tice Street, Ft. Myers, FL 33905

Please fill out the information below and return by fax, US Mail or in person to our school.

The deadline to submit this application is **Friday, January 26th**.

Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial	Student Identification #
Current Street Address		Apartment Number	
City, State, Zip Code	() (Area Code) Home Phone	() (Area Code) Parent Cell Phone	
Birth Date	Gender	Present School	
First and Last Name of Parent(s)/Guardian(s)		Work Phone	Primary Language (English, Spanish, etc.)
Parent/Guardian e-mail address			

<u>CIRCLE THE DEPARTMENT(S) FOR WHICH YOU WISH TO AUDITION</u> <i>You may audition in more than one area.</i> **ALL AUDITIONS START PROMPTLY AT 5 PM. PLEASE PLAN ACCORDINGLY.** Allow a 3-hour block of time for the audition (5:00 – 8:00). This is your ONLY notification. Mark your calendar!	
Wednesday, January 31st 5:00 – 8:00 PM	Thursday, February 1st 5:00 – 8:00 PM
BAND	KEYBOARD/PIANO
DANCE	MUSIC PRODUCTION
THEATRE & CHORUS	ORCHESTRA
TV & FILM PRODUCTION	VISUAL ARTS

As per district policy, you MUST have a *Student Identification Number* to apply. This is obtained by registering with the School District of Lee County through the STUDENT ENROLLMENT office BEFORE turning in this application. Your student enrollment receipt must accompany this application.

Office Use Only: Received by: _____ Date: _____



Application: Teacher Recommendation 1

Recommendations must be in a sealed envelope with the teacher's signature across sealed the back.

Recommendations must be included in the application packet and returned by January 26, 2024.

Please print clearly.

Student Last Name	Student First Name	Student ID
Name of Person Making the Recommendation		Phone Number
E-mail Address		

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						

(Continue on the other side)



Application: Teacher Recommendation 2

Recommendations must be in a sealed envelope with the teacher's signature across sealed the back.

Recommendations must be included in the application packet and returned by January 26, 2024.

Please print clearly.

Student Last Name	Student First Name	Student ID
Name of Person Making the Recommendation		Phone Number
E-mail Address		

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						

(Continue on the other side)

Please provide a short recommendation for the applying student. Please reference your direct experiences with the student to include details from the criteria on the preceding page.

Signature

Date