



FLAGSTAFF ARTS &  
LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

# Middle School Progression & Course Descriptions 2018- 2019

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# Flagstaff Arts and Leadership Academy - Middle School Progression

## 6th Grade

English	Social Studies	Liberal Studies	Math	Science	Elective (Art)	Elective (Dance)	Elective (Theatre)	Elective (Music)	Elective (Other)
1 credit	1 credit	1 credit	1 credit	1 credit	3 credits				
6 <sup>th</sup> grade English	6th grade Social Studies	6th grade Introduction to FALA	6th grade Math 7th grade Math	6th grade Science	* Intro to Art *Yearbook	*Ballet *Jazz *Tap *Modern	*Intro to Theatre *Intro to Musical Theatre *Intro to Film	*Intro to Music *FALA Singers *FALA Action Band	*Engineering/Robotics *Outdoor Explorations

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

English	Social Studies	Math (F)	Science	Foreign Language (in 7th or 8th grade)	Elective (Art)	Elective (Dance)	Elective (Theatre)	Elective (Music)	Elective (Other)
1 credit	1 credit	1 credit	1 credit	4 credits					
7 <sup>th</sup> grade English	7th grade Social Studies	Pre-Algebra Algebra	7th grade Science	Introduction to FALA World Languages	*Intro to Art *Yearbook	*Ballet *Jazz *Tap *Modern	*Intro to Theatre *Intro to Musical Theatre *Intro to Film *Intro to Creative Writing	*Intro to Music *FALA Action Band * FALA Singers	*Outdoor Explorations *Engineering/Robotics

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

English	Social Studies	Math	Science	Foreign Language (in 7th or 8th grade)	Elective (Art)	Elective (Dance)	Elective (Theatre)	Elective (Music)	Elective (Other)
1 credit	1 credit	1 credit	1 credit	4 credits					
8 <sup>th</sup> grade English	8th grade Social Studies	Pre-Algebra Algebra	8th grade Science	Introduction to FALA World Languages/  French 1 /Spanish 1 high school	*Art & Design *Year-book	*Ballet *Jazz *Tap *Modern	*Intro to Theatre *Intro to Musical Theatre *Intro to Film *Intro to Creative Writing *Documentary Filmmaking	*Intro to Music *FALAAction Band *Falunk Music * FALA Singers	*Outdoor Explorations *Engineering/Robotics

- **Not all elective courses are always in rotation at the Flagstaff Arts and Leadership Academy. Courses may be subject to cancellation. Courses may also be added if needed. Some classes may have prerequisites. Courses can reach maximum capacity. Please check with your Academic Advisor/Counselor for elective class availability.**

## Middle School Academic Requirements for Promotion into 9th Grade

Content Area	Minimum Credits
English/Language Arts	3 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
Math	3 credits
Science	3 credits
Liberal Studies	1 credit
Elective (Art, Dance, Theatre, Music, Other), must include Introduction to FALA World Languages	11 credits

Total Minimum	22 credits total
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- 2 semesters of coursework = 1 credit
- **Middle school students must be enrolled in 4 courses each day (for a total of 8 courses each semester). Students must earn a “C” or better in each required academic class (Math, English, Science, Social Studies and Liberal Studies) to advance to the next level. Students attending FALA for high school may take advanced elective classes if they earn a “B” or better in the middle school elective (in the same area) and have the recommendation of the current/previous elective teacher.**
- At any time throughout the school year, any student that receives a failing grade in one of their core academic required courses may be subject to Academic Intervention.

### **Middle School Academic Intervention**

1. **Initial contact for all families is already in place. Teachers frequently update grades in FamilyLink. It is students’ and parent/guardian's’ responsibility to regularly check FamilyLink.**
2. **Academic Advisors will meet with the student to develop an improvement plan.**
3. **Parent notification via email and/or phone call.**
4. **Lunch detention and/or mandatory after school tutoring.**

## Middle School Required Core Academic Course Descriptions

### ENGLISH

#### **6th Grade English**

**Grade Level: 6**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

The English/Language Arts program begins the traditions of the Flagstaff Arts and Leadership Academy which include: fine and performing arts, college preparatory and leadership skills. This year-long course addresses reading and writing as outlined in the Arizona's English Language Arts Standards. This course is designed to challenge students' reading and writing skills. The purpose is to develop independent, capable learners at an accelerated pace. The texts we will examine in class will fall under the genres of narrative, poetry, explanatory/informational, literary analysis, and argument. The emphasis will be on the use of argument (i.e., claim, reasons, evidence, opposing viewpoints, refutation) to inform and analyze. Goals of this course are: (a) to prepare students for next level classes at FALA; (b) to be fully prepared for summative reading/writing tests such as AzMERIT; and (c) to create lifelong learners who can read, write, speak and think in ways that are democratic, articulate, intellectual, socially just, informed, and culturally responsive. The rigorous college preparatory curriculum emphasizes analysis of literature and informational text, student driven research and self-reflection resulting in personal conclusions through the application of critical thinking and problem solving.

#### **7th Grade English**

**Grade Level: 7**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

The English/Language Arts program offers processes of reading, writing, listening, and speaking taught in an integrated and interrelated manner. Course components include the study of rich and varied literature as well as writing in the genres of narrative, persuasive, expository, response to literature, summaries of reading materials, and fictional forms. There is direct instruction in language arts skills and strategies, including vocabulary development and good writing habits, a balance of oral and written language activities, and ongoing analysis and assessment. (7th Grade AzMerit Assessment)

#### **8th Grade English**

**Grade Level: 8**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

The English/Language Arts program for grade 8 is a literature-based, "whole language" program. This means that the literature studied in class--from a variety of novels, plays, short stories and poetry--forms the backbone of a wider exploration of the English language. The literature we read leads to

a variety of classroom activities that include whole class and small group discussion, creative writing, drama, and essay writing. Grammar, effective expression, and vocabulary are also generated from the literature. (8th Grade AzMerit Assessment)

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

### **6th Grade Social Studies**

**Grade Level: 6**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

Sixth grade strands emphasize World history from its earliest cultures through the Enlightenment, including the early cultures of the Americas. Students will analyze our national experience through time, to recognize the relationships of events and people, and to interpret significant patterns, themes, ideas, beliefs, and turning points in Arizona and American history. Students will understand politics, government, and the responsibilities of good citizenship. Students will be able to understand the human and physical characteristics of the Earth's places and regions and how people of different cultural backgrounds interact with their environment. Students will develop an economic way of thinking and problem solving to understand and apply basic economic principles to decisions they will make as consumers, members of the workforce, citizens, voters, and participants in a global marketplace.

### **7th Grade Social Studies**

**Grade Level: 7**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

Balancing skill development and content, the grade 7 Social Studies program delves into a variety of topics that arise from the convergence of societies on a global scale beginning in the 1600s and ending on the globalized world of the present. In a comparative and comprehensive approach, the class will analyze state, national and international developments and issues essential to this period. Physical and human geography, economics and elements of the Arizona and United States Constitution will be evaluated through the lens of current events and in the study of World History. Analysis of perspective and bias through the extensive use of primary source documents will be an emphasis of the course.

### **8th Grade Social Studies**

**Grade Level: 8**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

The grade 8 Social Studies program delves into a variety of topics, from constitutional law through an analysis of burgeoning nation states and aggressive imperialism. The course will cover historical trends up until the late 20th century, ending on the American civil rights movement. Cultural and social history will be the focus as students evaluate WWI, WWII, The Great Depression, the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement and the current ordering of the global community. Physical and human geography and economics will be addressed through intensive study of current trends and in the study of U.S. and World History. There will be an increased emphasis on independent research skills. Primary source documents will again be a focus, as will the development of sophisticated and respectful discussion skills.

# LIBERAL STUDIES

## Liberal Studies

**Grade Level: 6**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

Students will spend one semester with each teacher for the duration of this year long course. The topic of study each semester will center around concepts relating to the teacher's expertise but the underlying goal of this class is to build a strong foundation of academic and life skills that will allow all students to actively participate in their education and their society. Students will develop their abilities over two years in the following areas: reading comprehension, formulating questions, clarifying information, participating in discussions, and communication of ideas, including public speaking and writing. Students will use their own experiences as a basis to begin their exploration of topics from multiple perspectives. Ultimately, this course will challenge students to integrate their knowledge as they explore relevant and meaningful issues.

# MATH

## 6 Math

**Grade Level: 6**

**Prerequisites: None**

**Term: Full Year**

In Grade 6, instructional time will focus on four critical areas: (1) connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; (2) completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; (3) writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; and (4) developing understanding of statistical thinking. Students will also focus on mathematical practices involving making sense of problems and persevere in solving them, reasoning abstractly and quantitatively, constructing variable arguments and critiquing the reasoning of others, modeling with mathematics, using appropriate tools strategically, attending to precision, looking for and making use of structure, and looking for and expressing regularity in repeated reasoning.

## 7 Math

**Grade Level: 6-7**

**Prerequisites: Math 6, or placement based on AZ Merit Scores**

**Term: Full Year**

The Math Foundations course focuses on developing basic and advanced arithmetic skills, while becoming familiar with foundational mathematical concepts. We will study data analysis, including measures of central tendency and visual representations of data. Students will study math concepts and their relationship to real-world problems and situations. Students will review whole numbers, decimals and fractions. Students will solve

problems with percentages, ratios and proportions. They will interpret numbers using scientific notation and simplify problems using the order of operations. Students will gain an introductory understanding of probability and statistics and basic geometry properties. Students will also graph using a table of values.

### **Pre-Algebra**

**Grade Level: 7-8**

**Prerequisites: Math 7 or placement based on AZ Merit Scores**

**Term: Full Year**

The Pre-Algebra course is an introduction to basic algebra concepts and a review of arithmetic algorithms. This course eases the transition from arithmetic to algebra. Students will study the elements of algebra (integers, rational numbers, irrational numbers, and variables). In addition students learn basic probability, statistics, and graphing concepts useful in everyday life. Students will be introduced to functions and graphing. Students will also review and extend their knowledge of two and three dimensional geometric concepts.

### **Algebra I**

**Grade Level: 7-10**

**Prerequisite: Successfully complete Pre-Algebra**

**Term: Full Year**

Algebra provides tools and ways of thinking that are necessary for solving problems in a wide variety of disciplines, such as science, business, social sciences, fine arts, and technology. This course will assist students in developing skills and processes that will allow them to successfully solve problems in a variety of settings. Students study a variety of topics: probability and data analysis, one-, two- and multi-step equations and inequalities in one variable, graphing linear equations and inequalities, solving systems of equations, factoring and solving quadratic equations, and properties of exponents. Topics include linear equations in one variable, quadratic functions with integer coefficients and roots, and absolute value and exponential functions. This class is a high school level class and will count as a High School credit if taken in 8th grade

## **SCIENCE**

### **6th Grade Science**

**Grade Level: 6**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

Science begins with a focus on FALA's critical inquiry by seeking out, analyzing, and synthesizing different perspectives and allowing these perspectives to change individual understandings, thought processes, and actions. Student will use scientific processes: questioning, planning and conducting investigations, using appropriate tools and techniques to gather data, thinking critically and logically and relationships between evidence and explanations, and communicating results. Students will focus on the human aspects of science and the role that scientists play in the development of various cultures emphasizing the developing the ability to design a solution to a problem, expanding students' biological understanding of life by focusing on the characteristics of living things, the diversity of life, and how organisms and populations change over time, increase their

understanding of the nature of matter and energy, developing an understanding of the Earth, its history, composition, and formative processes, and an understanding of the solar system and the universe.

### **7th Grade Science**

**Grade Level: 7**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

7th Grade Science students will be engaged in learning the ecological aspects of Life Science as well as concepts in Earth Science. Students will learn the process of science through extensive hands-on laboratory and activity based lessons. They will develop a deeper understanding of the history and nature of science and how science contributes to both personal and social endeavors. Students will acquire the ability to use a variety of scientific tools to make observations and gather data. Students will develop writing and communication skills by maintaining a science notebook and presenting laboratory and research results in a variety of ways. Students will develop collaborative and presentation skills through many cooperative learning experiences.

### **8th Grade Science**

**Grade Level: 8**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

8th Grade Science students will focus on the biological aspects of Life Science by studying types of cells and cell cycles, as well as learn basic principles of heredity (genetics). Students will also study Physical Sciences including chemistry and the properties of matter. Students will learn the process of science through extensive hands-on laboratory and activity based lessons. Students will strengthen ability to use a variety of scientific tools to make observations and gather data. Students will further develop writing and communication skills by maintaining a science notebook and presenting laboratory and research results in a variety of ways. Students will improve collaborative and presentation skills through many cooperative learning experiences.

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## **Middle School Elective Course Descriptions**

### **FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

#### **Introduction to FALA World Languages**

**Grade Level: 7-8**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

Students will spend one semester in French class and the other semester in Spanish class. Students will be introduced to uses of French and Spanish in practical situations, but the course will also help students grasp basic grammar, vocabulary and sentence formation. A strong emphasis will be placed on the importance of learning languages and learning about other cultures to be a member of our global society. In this course, students will apply their knowledge of the language and culture to projects emphasizing communication, collaboration, creativity, and investment. The main purpose of this course is to introduce students to the two languages we offer at FALA and help them make an informed decision when they

enroll in their high school language class. This is a required class that students must take in 7th grade or 8th grade.

### **French I**

**Prerequisite - 3.85 GPA in 7th grade and a letter of recommendation from a teacher highlighting the qualities of the students that would allow them to succeed in a high school class.**

**Grade Level: 8-12**

**Term: Full Year**

This is an introductory course to the French language and francophone culture. Students will be introduced to the basic structure of the language and encouraged to express themselves in French as often as possible. This course is focused on developing four essential language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. In this course, students will apply their knowledge of the French language and culture to projects emphasizing communication, collaboration, creativity, and investment. This is a High School level class and students will earn High School credit if taken in middle school. Because this is a high school level class, students must be motivated and in good academic standing to be able to enroll in this class.

### **Spanish I**

**Grade Level: 8-12**

**Prerequisites: 3.85 GPA in 7th grade and a letter of recommendation from a teacher highlighting the qualities of the students that would allow them to succeed in a high school class.**

**Term: Full Year**

This is an introductory course to the Spanish language and culture. This course aims to develop all four-language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. The goal of the course is to help students develop the ability to communicate in Spanish, while at the same time introducing them to the Hispanic culture. Please keep in mind that Spanish classes are designed to present the basic tools necessary for learning Spanish. Students do not automatically become either fluent or proficient by completing this program, as language acquisition must also occur outside of the classroom. This is a High School level class and students will earn High School credit if taken in middle school. Because this is a high school level class, students must be motivated and in good academic standing to be able to enroll in this class.

## **ART**

### **Intro to Art**

**Grade Level: 6-7**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

This introductory, project-based course is engineered to provide opportunities for students to grow in their understanding, appreciation, and production of art. While engaging multiple art and design practices and media we will investigate art historical topics, aesthetics, and both written and verbal critiques of their work and the work of others. This is an entry-level class that requires no background or experience in art; it is intended to prepare students for future art classes.

*Student progress is assessed using Arizona Department of Education Standards for Middle School Media Arts.*

### **Art & Design**

**Grade Level: 8**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

This project-based course is designed to further develop the artistic skills of eighth grade students and prepare them for advanced art classes. Students will experiment with new tools and advanced techniques and are expected to take time with projects, focus on quality and detail, and be able to use critical inquiry to discuss their work and the work of others.

*Student progress is assessed using Arizona Department of Education Standards for Middle School Media Arts.*

### **Yearbook**

**Grade Level: 6-12**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

This course is designed for the student who wants an in-depth experience in layout and design, photojournalism, and desktop publishing. The study and application of photography and composition skills, page layout and design skills, and advertising are emphasized. Students will work as a team to strengthen their analytical and problem-solving skills, improve their communication skills, and manage responsibility. Students receive guided instruction in the fundamentals of photojournalism, graphic design, and organizational skills necessary to produce the yearbook.

*Student progress is assessed using Arizona Department of Education Standards for Middle School Visual and Media Arts.*

## **DANCE**

### **Ballet 1 & 2**

**Grade Level: 6-12**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

Ballet includes barre and floor movements and combinations for the classical ballet vocabulary, emphasizing proper alignment, strength, speed, endurance and flexibility. The course will include a study of ballet history and the objective criticism of dance. It will also explore connections to music, theater and art. Students will participate in a dance performance. The general principles of dance technique requires proper alignment, center point of balance, opposition balance, transfer of weight, specific rhythm patterns, turns and turning techniques. This course will also support students as they refine their technique through more advanced work.

### **Jazz Dance 1 & 2**

**Grade Level: 6-12**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

Jazz Dance 1/2 is a course in jazz dance technique at a beginning/intermediate level. Emphasis will be placed upon increasing the dancer's performance skills as well as expanding their choreographic abilities and jazz dance vocabulary. Further study in anatomy, injury prevention, fitness for dancers, jazz dance history, important performers and choreographers will also be included. Students will have opportunities to experience several styles of jazz dance and will have at least two required performances.

### **Modern Dance 1**

**Grade Level: 6-12**

**Prerequisites: None**

**Term: Full Year**

Modern Dance 1 is an introduction to and instruction in modern dance technique at a beginning/intermediate level. The elementary movement and terminology of modern dance will be covered as well as basic anatomy, injury prevention and health for dancers. An introductory study of modern dance history, Laban movement analysis, important performers and choreographers will also be included. Students will have opportunities to experience several styles of modern dance, explore some basic choreography and improvisation techniques and start developing performance skills. At least one performing opportunity will be offered, and all students must participate.

### **Tap Dance 1**

**Grade Level: 6-12**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

Tap Dance 1 is an introduction to tap dance technique at a beginning/intermediate level. The elementary movement and terminology of tap dance will be covered as well as injury prevention and health for dancers. A study of tap dance history, important performers and choreographers will also be included. Students will have opportunities to explore rhythm, basic choreography techniques and develop performance skills. At least one performing opportunity will be offered and all students must participate.

## **THEATRE**

### **Introduction to Theatre**

**Grade Level: 6-12**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

This course is an introductory study of various aspects of theatre. Through active participation in acting games and exercises, seventh and eighth grade students will learn the nature and structure of theatre and experience first-hand the discipline and confidence needed to perform on the stage. Units of study will include a history of theatre, improvisation, physical acting/movement, characterization and scene work. An invitational performance will be produced toward the end of each semester.

### **Introduction to Musical Theatre**

**Grade Level: 6-12**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

You will learn the history and basic elements of musical theatre. You will be given opportunities to learn and develop basic skills in singing, movement, and acting. You will also learn to carry out the duties of non-performing roles necessary for the production of a show. This course is designed to provide the singer/actor/dancer, (in any order), introductory training in singing, acting and performance techniques using musical theatre literature, emphasizing the coordination of dialogue, melody, lyric, staging and choreography. This course will include individual songs as well as ensemble singing, acting and dancing. The class will culminate in an invitation performance.

### **Introduction to Film**

**Grade Level: 6-12**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

In this class, students will be introduced to the art of film. Specifically, students will understand how film operates, how it communicates and why it has become the predominant art/entertainment of our time. Beginning with Film Appreciation, we will begin to articulate why a film is good or bad. The development of personal taste and the ability to communicate that taste will be essential for all art studies. Film as Literature will also be covered noting the fundamental differences between a story told on paper and a story told with images. A survey of classic Hollywood genres will help the students to organize and identify some of the archetypal stories and characters that populate them. A unit will also be dedicated to Film Analysis, based on characterization, theme, structure and purpose. Finally, the students will take what they've learned and produce their own short films, based on a structure designed to turn them into their own visual storytellers.

### **Documentary Filmmaking**

**Grade Level: 8 - 12**

**Term: Full Year - Odd Years**

**Prerequisites: None for High Schoolers, Intro to Film for 8th Grade**

**Course Description:** This is a project-based, student-driven class engineered to provide opportunities for you to grow in your understanding, appreciation, and production of documentary film. We will study the historical and contemporary practices of this relatively recent genre of filmmaking. Students will be expected to plan and create their own documentaries. This class will include discussion of social and political issues, and requires an open, creative mind and mature disposition. This is an advanced-level class that requires more than a cursory knowledge in film appreciation and basic film production. Advanced students are expected to actively mentor their less experienced classmates. Student progress is assessed using Arizona Department of Education Standards for High School Media Arts.

### **Introduction to Creative Writing**

**Grade Level: 6-12**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

This course encourages students to imaginatively express their understanding of themselves, the works they are studying, and the world around them. Journal writing/free-writing will be a key component to the course. Students will read supplementary works in each of the genres we study, then experiment with the craft of the written word to create original works such as poetry, fiction, biography, and scripts.

# MUSIC

## **Introduction to Music**

**Grade Level: 6-10**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

**Course Description:** Introduction to Music is a beginning level class developed to give students basic training in music theory, history, and style. Students will learn basic skills in piano, guitar, percussion, and singing; which will be incorporated into solo and group playing experiences. Students will develop beginning techniques and the fundamentals of music including basic hand position, music reading skills of melodic and harmonic material, and major and minor scales. In completing this course the student should be able to read beginning sheet music or tablature. Each unit will be supplemented with exploration of music from different historical eras and cultures from around the world. All course requirements are aligned with the Arizona Academic Standards for the Arts. Evaluation is based on participation and effort, in-class performances, practice logs, written work, and examinations.

## **FALA Action Band (FAB)**

**Grade Level: 6-12**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

**Notes:** Open to 6-12 grades and all ability levels. Students will be expected to either rent or own an instrument. There will be a limited number of instruments available to borrow from the school. Grading will be based on the number of practice hours and a positive attitude!

Come join a unique and fun version of marching band, except without the marching. Learn music inspired by the Dirty Dozen Brass band, The Rebirth Band, and March Fourth along with contemporary symphonic pieces. This class will introduce and expand student's knowledge of brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments through music and movement. Beginners will understand the basic mechanics of each instrument to develop embouchure, style, and technique. Emphasis on this understanding will provide the necessary foundation to then begin reading music and drum tab. Advanced students will be given separate individualized instruction to further their instrumental and musical development. Open to all grade levels/abilities. This a performance class and attendance at performances is mandatory.

## **Falunk (FALA Funk Band)**

**Grade Level: 6-12**

**Prerequisites: Audition**

**Term: Full Year**

This is a music class that focuses on the development of playing brass and woodwind instruments as well as guitar, bass and vocals while learning/playing funk from the greatest including but not limited to Stevie Wonder, Parliament, Sly and the Family Stone and so many others. This a performance class and attendance at performances is mandatory.

## **World Music Ensemble**

**Grade Level: 6-12**

**Prerequisites: Audition**

**Term: Full Year**

The FALA World Music Ensemble will provide the opportunity for students to learn and perform music from a variety of cultures. By adapting elements of non-Western musical traditions to their own instruments, students will more readily embody these diverse musical styles. This a performance class and attendance at performances is mandatory.

### **FALA Singers**

**Grade Level: 6-12**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

This course is a performance-centered class designed to give the student singer experience singing in an ensemble. Beginning students will learn how to read music. Vocal techniques will be offered in relation to the literature being rehearsed. There will be opportunities for public performance in school and in the community. This a performance class and attendance at performances is mandatory.

## **OTHER ELECTIVES**

### **Outdoor Explorations - Middle School**

**Grade Level: 6-8**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

Note: Some sections of this course are open to 9 - 12 grade and may spend combined class time with the 6-8 course section.

This course is an elective course centered upon experiential learning in the outdoors. Inside and outside the classroom, we will be focused upon understanding human impacts upon the environment, specifically through recreational use of wilderness spaces, sustainability of wilderness environments, and responsible practices in the outdoors. We will take advantage of the wonderful natural world around us and get outside. We will participate in a variety of outdoor activities as the seasons dictate. Students enrolled in this class will be invited to join extra curricular learning trips like backpacking trips, camping trips, or ski trips (if they are in good academic standing). The class will also take part in service learning projects aiming to increase the community's access to the outdoors such as trail maintenance projects, bike workshops, or other projects that reflect the students' interests.

### **Engineering**

**Grade Level: 6-12**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Term: Full Year**

Students will solve engineering problems through computer programming, robot construction/design, 3D printing and robotics competition. Participants can join one of FALA's premier robotics teams: The InFALAbles and The Llamabots, which are supported by, but meet separate from this class. Students will learn engineering problem solving, design and analysis and can specialize in Computer Aided Drafting (CAD), Computer Coding/Programming and Robot assembly (Lego and Metal). Engineering projects may include bridges, rockets and robots.

