STAFFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Curriculum Overview
Music Technology

Course Description:
This course will offer students the opportunity to develop an understanding of music composition through the use of digital keyboard, MIDI technology, synthesizers, music notation software and other software. Students will develop skills that will assist them with creative and technical expression. A portfolio of compositions, arrangements, ana recordings representing a variety of styles and compositional situations will be developed through the course.

Essential Skills/Processes: Students will—

Technique
- Use basic features of MIDI keyboard workstations
- Recognize basic terminology and procedures accompaniment, sequencing, and notation software
- How to properly manage, care and operate music technology devices and peripheral equipment
- Elements and principles of music
- Cite reasons for choosing music based on the use of the elements of music, digital and electronic aspects, and connections to interests or purpose
- Explain how knowledge of the structure (repetition, similarities, contrasts), technological aspects, and purpose of the music informs the response
- Learn common methods of digital music composition and their advantages and limitations
- Understand the various methods of composition and arranging in use in current popular music
- Use electronic composition and arranging tools selectively to create original musical works

Production
- Produce basic-level music technology projects
- Use entry-level music technology programs to create new original projects
- Generate melodic, rhythmic, and harmonic ideas for compositions or improvisations using digital tools
- Use digital tools and resources to develop melodic, rhythmic, and harmonic ideas in to a larger work
- Use digital tools and resources to develop and organize musical ideas
- Share compositions or improvisations that demonstrate a proficient level of musical and technology craftsmanship

Music History and Context
- Identify history and development of music technologies
- Discover how technology is used in the production of music.
- To develop a rich understanding on the nature of recorded sound, including stylistic and historical traits and cultural preferences.

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- Develop and explain the criteria used for selected a varied repertoire of music based on interest, music reading skills, and an understanding of the performer's technical and technological skill
- Describe how context, structural aspects of the music, and digital media/tools inform prepared and improvised performances
- Demonstrate how an understanding the context, expressive challenges, and use of digital tools in a varied repertoire of music influence prepared or improvised performances.

Listening/Musical Analysis
- Discover how technology is used in the production of music
- Discover how technology fits invisibly into the recording and production of non-electronic and electronic music
- To express thoughts, ideas and emotions through a musical means
- How technology aids in live music performance: the synthesizer & other MIDI controllers
- Develop a conceptual and deep framework of knowledge and understanding surrounding the legal and ethical issues of digital music creation, sharing, distribution and consumption
- Understand the concept of intellectual property and "fair use"
- Take a critical and informed stance on the use and commerce of digital music
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Essential Knowledge: Students will—
1. Create music using a variety of computer software.
2. Critically respond to music examples through active listening techniques.
3. Transfer knowledge gained through active critical response to composition and arranging.
4. Gain an appreciation for modern world tools to create an art form.

Resources:

Curriculum Connections:
Career Preparations: Composer, arranger, music industry, production engineering, music technology
Language Arts: Reinforcement of vocabulary, grammar, and verbal communications skills.
Fine Arts: Coordinate music, drama, dance and visual art; correlation of music and art.
World Language: Musical terminology in Italian, German, French, Spanish, and Latin.
Mathematics: Analyzing rhythmic values requires working with numbers and fractions; Intervals and musical forms require use of formulas.
Science: Physics of acoustics, properties of sound and sound dispersion.
Social Studies: Music history as it relates to general historical events; History and culture of music literature being performed.

Stafford County Public Schools:
http://stafford.schoolfusion.us/

VA Standards of Learning:
http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Superintendent/Sols/home.shtml

School Report Card (VA Department of Education):
 https://p1pe.doe.virginia.gov/reportcard/

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