
Dr. Michael H. Robinson

Principal

770-472-2838 (office)



Martha Ellen Stilwell School Of The Arts

2580 Mt. Zion Parkway

Jonesboro, Georgia 30236

2018-2019

Principal

Dr. Michael H. Robinson

Assistant Principal

Mrs. Tomeka Crum

Assistant Principal

Mrs. Tanya Kirk

Office of School Counseling

Yumeko Simmons, 10th grade E-J, 11th-12th grade M-Z, Lead Counselor

Carol Bentley, 10th grade A-D, 11th -12th grade A-L, Counselor

Andra' Cole, 9th grade and 10th K-Z, Counselor

School Counseling Secretary

Johnnie Hallett

Registrar

Bonnie Cruver

School Overview

“Pursuing Excellence through the Arts”

Martha Ellen Stilwell was an influential pioneer for the arts. She was an educator in the Clayton County School System and was the first Fine Arts Coordinator for the school district. She originated the now-internationally renowned Spivey Hall Children’s Choir. The work of Martha Ellen Stilwell continues to promote diversity, excellence in academic growth and social development through the creation of Martha Ellen Stilwell School of the Arts (MESSA).

MESSA opened its doors in August 2014 to educate students in the Clayton County Public School System. Built to meet the needs of a rapidly growing fine arts community, its state-of-the art facility is the home to grades 9-12 students with an enrollment of approximately 600. MESSA course progression provides all students with a challenging learning opportunity that ensures they will be able to compete globally upon graduating from high school. All courses are geared toward a rigorous “college-prep” curriculum supported by engaging and relevant instruction. MESSA offers fine art courses in the areas of dance, theatre, vocal music, orchestra, band, guitar, piano, and visual arts. Additionally, students attend field trips, participate in performances and competitions, and work with professionals to become familiar with careers in their chosen performance area. This approach has MESSA ranked among the top 3% of the highest performing high schools in Georgia on the state assessment for three consecutive years.

Martha Ellen Stilwell School of the Arts
Honors, Gifted, Advanced Placement and GAVS Courses

| Academic Honors – Gifted Courses: | Fine Arts Honor Courses: | AP Courses: |
|---|----------------------------------|--|
| 9 th Literature/Composition Honors- Gifted | Band I Symphonic | AP Language Literature Focus |
| World Literature Honors - Gifted | Band II Symphonic | AP Literature |
| American Literature Honors - Gifted | Band III Symphonic | AP Calculus - GAVS |
| GSE Accelerated Algebra I/Geometry | Band IV Symphonic | AP Statistics - GAVS |
| GSE Accelerated Geometry B/Algebra II | Choral Ensemble I | AP Biology |
| Algebra I – Gifted | Choral Ensemble II | AP Chemistry - GAVS |
| Algebra II – Gifted | Mixed Chorus I Advanced | AP Physics I - GAVS |
| Biology I Honors - Gifted | Mixed Chorus II Advanced | AP Physics C - GAVS |
| Geometry- Gifted | Mixed Chorus III Advanced | AP Government |
| Geometry-9- Gifted | Mixed Chorus IV Advanced | AP United States History |
| Chemistry I Honors - Gifted | String Orchestra I Advanced | AP Macroeconomics- GAVS |
| Human Anatomy/Physiology - Gifted | String Orchestra II Advanced | AP Microeconomics- GAVS |
| Physical Science - Gifted | String Orchestra III Advanced | AP Spanish Language - GAVS |
| Physics - Gifted | String Orchestra IV Advanced | AP Art History - GAVS |
| World History Honors - Gifted | Music Theory II | AP Studio Art - GAVS |
| United States History - Gifted | Drawing and Painting II | AP Computer Science - GAVS |
| | Select Studio I | AP Music Theory |
| | Select Studio II | Georgia Virtual High School (GAVS) Courses: |
| | Visual Arts and Video and Film I | Astronomy |
| | Modern Dance III | Chinese I & II |
| | Modern Dance IV | French III |
| | Ballet III | German I & II |
| | Ballet IV | Japanese I |
| | Jazz Dance III | Latin I, II & III |
| | Development of Acting | Spanish III |
| | Development of Theatre | Math of Finance |
| | Music Theatre II | Introduction to Digital Technology |
| | Music Theatre III | SAT Preparation |
| | Music Theatre II | Forensic Science/Criminal Investigation |
| | Music Theatre III | Foundations of Engineering Technology |
| | | Oceanography |
| | | Audio and Video Technology and Film |

THE COUNTY:

LOCATED just south of Atlanta, Clayton County offers its residents the best of metropolitan living. With the heart of the South's great city only a few minutes away, Clayton County residents have access to the finest restaurants, theaters, museums, shopping malls, recreation and fitness centers, and nightlife entertainment. Perhaps no other county in Georgia offers residents the advantages of the big city, while maintaining its small town charm. Clayton County's proximity to four interstate highways and the fact that it is home to Hartsfield International Airport (one of the world's largest and busiest airports) make it convenient for people on the go. But when it is time to wind down, residents enjoy the tranquility offered by life in the suburbs among numerous lakes and pine trees. Add to that the reasonably priced housing, and it is easy to see why Clayton County is the best place to live.

THE FACULTY:

The professional staff at Martha Ellen Stilwell School of the Arts is composed of over 30 teachers. All are certified in their specialized curricular areas. A majority has earned Master's Degrees and credits beyond the Masters level; some have Doctoral degrees.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS: Successful completion of a minimum of 23 credits including:

| | | | | | |
|-------------|---|--------------------|----|----------------------------|---|
| English | 4 | Social Studies | 3 | Fine Arts/Foreign Language | 3 |
| Mathematics | 4 | Physical Education | .5 | Electives | 4 |
| Science | 4 | Health | .5 | | |

➤ Students are encouraged to participate in community service activities.

INSTRUCTIONAL LEVELS:

| | | | |
|----|--------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|
| AP | Advanced Placement | H | Honors |
| - | Comprehensive (Standard) | DES | Department of Exceptional Students |
| GT | Gifted | DE | Dual Enrollment |

QUALITY POINTS: Advanced Placement courses receive 5 additional numeric points and one additional quality point.

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Advanced Placement | A=5 | B=4 | C=3 | D=2 | F=0 |
| Comprehensive (Standard)/DES | A=4 | B=3 | C=2 | D=1 | F=0 |

AP, Gifted and Honors courses are offered in the areas of English, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science, World Languages and Fine Arts.

CLASS RANK: Class rank will be computed for every high school student by dividing the total number of quality points accumulated by the total number of credits attempted. Students will also be ranked on the basis of a weighted grade point average. Class rank and Grade Point Average lists are produced each semester.

TESTING PROGRAM:

Students at Martha Ellen Stilwell School of the Arts may elect to take a variety of college entrance tests. Testing packets include: SAT I, SAT II, ACT, ACT Writing, and Advanced Placement.

DIPLOMA SEALS:

In addition to students receiving their high school diploma, students are eligible to apply and complete a capstone project to receive an International Skills Diploma Seal and/or a Fine Arts Diploma seal upon graduation. The International Skills Diploma Seal "is awarded to graduating high school students who complete an international education curriculum and engage in extracurricular activities and experiences that foster the achievement of global competencies" while the Fine Arts Diploma Seal is "a signal to employers and higher education institutions that a student is prepared to participate in the creative economy." In addition to the Fine Arts and International Skills Diploma Seal, students are also eligible to earn a Seal of Bilingualism. This seal "recognizes high school graduates who have attained a high level of proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in one or more languages in addition to English."

Martha Ellen Stilwell School of the Arts CEEB code is 111-743.

GRADUATE PROFILE:

Ninety-eight percent of recent graduates pursued post-secondary education at four-year colleges and community colleges. Four percent of graduates pursued employment after high school.