

## *Frequently Asked Questions*

1.

**Q:** I want to be an engineer (or doctor or lawyer); I do not need the arts, right?

**A:** Wrong. The skill sets that the arts offer are not only transferable but are desirable for a variety of careers including: communication, empathy, discipline, self-esteem, imagination and invention, multiple solution thinking, cooperation, creative and critical thinking, etc. So don't be afraid to think outside of the 'box'!

2.

**Q:** I was involved in the Arts program at my middle school, should I continue in secondary school?

**A:** Yes. The Arts offer a more flexible learning environment for students who enjoy artistic expression. If you enjoyed the arts in middle school, it is certain you will continue to do so in high school.

3.

**Q:** I am not really good at any arts, what do I do?

**A:** Each art discipline uses a specific set of skills. You should take the course that best matches your skills and interests. Read the section on the arts courses offered at Stephen Lewis carefully or talk to an Arts teacher at the school.

4.

**Q:** Can I join co-curricular activities even if I do not take arts courses?

**A:** Yes, however, leadership opportunities are reserved for those who are developing the skills necessary in our classes.

5.

**Q:** Can I take an arts credit in grade 10 without taking the pervious grade 9 course? Or if I take grade 9 can I skip grade 10 and come back in grade 11?

**A:** Based on the Ministry of Education's curriculum this is true. However, courses build skills, talents, and understanding through each year. Therefore, it is recommended that you if you are planning to take the arts through senior grades, that you take each grade level.

6.

**Q:** Does taking senior Arts courses help me get into University?

**A:** Yes it does, regardless of what you plan to go into. Mr. Brard recalls his university experience, where if he had chose to, Engineering at Queens would have given him a full scholarship over one of his friends who actually had a higher mark. The difference – his arts education – it gave him skill sets and experiences that other, pure science and math students did not have.



7.

Q: If I take an arts course, does that mean I don't have to write or do tests.

A: All of the arts include elements of history, theory, and reflection. Writing is always important, no matter which courses you choose.

8.

Q: I don't like any of the arts. Which is the easiest?

A: The thing is there is no easiest arts course. Each course offers different forums to be creative. For example, if you enjoy working more independently, creating things with your hands and understanding our world through visual terms – visual arts is for you.

If you enjoy working more independently, being creative through digital media and understanding our world through visual terms – media arts, photography or non-traditional arts are for you.

If you enjoy working in groups, want to develop communication and leadership skill – drama is for you.

If you enjoy working with as a team, are rhythmic and are focused and disciplined – music is for you.

If you like expressing yourself through movement and communicating non-verbally – dance is for you.