



# 2022-2023

## SPRING ACADEMIC ELECTIVES

Mark your selections on this page and return it to the office by **Thursday, January 19** so we can create class roles.

**Fill out a separate form for each student.**

***Please be very aware of the elective policies before you enroll***

**ONLY TURN IN THIS PAGE – KEEP THE REST OF THE DOCUMENT FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Level:            K-4    5-6    Junior High    High-School

Form of Payment:    auto charge                      auto check

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

1. In most cases, a minimum number of 8 students must be enrolled before the class will be held. Some classes may have limits and are filled on a first-come, first-serve basis.
2. Teachers are chosen based upon their area of expertise.
3. Class may be taken non-accredited or accredited. Unless otherwise noted, accredited elective classes are .5 credits a semester and \$70 per student/per month, due with regular tuition. Non-accredited elective classes are \$50 per student/per month, due with regular tuition. Learning Lab has additional costs. All classes will be charged for 4 months. Charges will be made on February 1, March 1, April 1, and May 1
4. Non-accredited students may drop an elective course within **10 days of the start date**. The balance of the month's tuition will be forfeited but no other drop fees will be assessed. **After** the 10-day grace period, a non-accredited student may drop the class but tuition for the rest of the semester will be owed due to teacher commitments. **Accredited students** may drop an elective course within **10 days of the start date**. The balance of the month's tuition will be forfeited but no other drop fees will be assessed. If an accredited student drops the class after the 10-day grace period, they will receive an F on their transcripts and accredited tuition for the rest of the semester will still be owed due to teacher commitments. Students may change from accredited status to non-accredited status anytime within the first 30 days of the class.
6. Classes will begin January 23,24, or 27 depending on what day classes are held .
7. Classes marked with an \*\*\* are required for accredited students, sometime during their 4 years of high school and may only be offered every other year.
8. There are often additional activity, travel or textbook fees associated with elective classes. They will be noted.

**Please mark which classes you are registering for as Accredited or Non-Accredited**

<b>Elementary Musical Theatre</b>	Monday	K-5	<input type="checkbox"/> Enroll Non-Accredited
<b>Computer Skills and Coding</b>	Friday AM	5-12	<input type="checkbox"/> Enroll Non-Accredited <input type="checkbox"/> Enroll Accredited
<b>Movement and Dance</b>	Friday AM	5-12	<input type="checkbox"/> Enroll Non-Accredited <input type="checkbox"/> Enroll Accredited
<b>Stage Crew and Construction</b>	Friday PM	7-12	<input type="checkbox"/> Enroll Non-Accredited <input type="checkbox"/> Enroll Accredited
<b>Acting Fundamentals</b>	Mon/Wed	9-12	<input type="checkbox"/> Enroll Non-Accredited <input type="checkbox"/> Enroll Accredited
<b>Jr. High Acting</b>	Tues/Thurs	5-9	<input type="checkbox"/> Enroll Non-Accredited
<b>Digital Journalism</b>	Mon/Wed	7-12	<input type="checkbox"/> Enroll Non-Accredited <input type="checkbox"/> Enroll Accredited
<b>Kung Fu Gym Beg-Int</b>	Tues/Thurs	5-12	<input type="checkbox"/> Enroll Non-Accredited <input type="checkbox"/> Enroll Accredited
<b>Creative Writing IV</b>	Tues/Thurs	7-12	<input type="checkbox"/> Enroll Non-Accredited <input type="checkbox"/> Enroll Accredited
<b>Fitness For Life</b>	Tues/Thurs	7-12	<input type="checkbox"/> Enroll Non-Accredited <input type="checkbox"/> Enroll Accredited

**PLEASE REMOVE AND TURN IN THIS PAGE ONLY**



# EVERY DAY

## Elective

### LEARNING LAB

Please Contact the office for availability and to register

#### M-TH

**Time:** 1:30-2:30 p

**Teacher:** Various

Learning Lab is an academic support for students who would like assistance **with homework, classwork, study skills, organizational skills, basic academic skills (i.e., improving reading level or math level), and becoming academically independent.** If sessions fill up, a second tutor may assist in meeting the needs of all interested students.

\* \*Learning Lab is a general term for any kind of assistance needed for students who desire or need support at Liahona. Liahona does not have a special education program or special education teachers. We have found that when students who have struggled in other learning environments have the opportunity to learn in a high-level classroom based on principles of the Gospel with students of various learning styles, they often gain significant confidence and perform better than ever before. However, we also recognize that many students have learning styles and even learning barriers that prevent them from fully accessing the classroom curriculum. There are many ways that we can help students access that curriculum. If you/your student is struggling and you would like to explore ideas for support at school, please contact Kathryn Merrill at [katiemerrill@liahonaed.com](mailto:katiemerrill@liahonaed.com).

## MONDAY/WEDNESDAY CLASSES

### \*\*\*Fine Arts Credit\*\*\*

#### ACTING FUNDAMENTALS (9 -12<sup>th</sup> grades)

**Teacher:** Jordan Long

This is Jordan's 11<sup>th</sup> year at the head of Liahona's Theatre program. Jordan studied theatre and got his Bachelor's degree from BYU. Jordan has studied theatre and theatre education in New York City with Susan Stroman, Telly Leung, Anne Bogart, and many more. He has helped lead Liahona's theatre teams to 8 Overall National Championships, 6 Overall State Championships, an invite and run at the Edinburgh, Scotland Fringe Festival (twice!) as well as countless individual awards and hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships. Jordan is also the founder and teacher for Cedar Hills Youth Theatre which has been recognized as the top acting studio in Utah County and is the founder and artistic director at Creekside Theatre Fest, a semi-professional theatre company in Cedar Hills.

**Time:** 1:45-3:00p

Time to get back to the basics. Students in this class will learn the fundamentals of acting. What makes acting effective? Students will also learn about acting theorists and others who have made an impact on the art of acting. Students in this class will be required to perform in the play *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* April 12-15th. Students will also be required to be at tech week rehearsals at least one week prior INCLUDING the Saturday of Spring Break. Aside from these rehearsals, all other rehearsals will take place during class time. They will also be required to prepare a piece to travel and compete with at the Region and State Theatre Competition March 23-24 and April 20-22. If cast as a lead, the student may be asked to be at additional rehearsals. There will be a one-time \$40 materials fee as well as a travel fee in the range of \$200-\$300.

**\*\*\*CTE or Fine Arts Credit\*\*\***

**DIGITAL JOURNALISM (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades)**

**Teacher:** Laura Jackson

Laura received a minor in Editing from Brigham Young University where she worked on Stowaway, the university's travel magazine as Copy Editor and Social Media Manager, as well as writing of a feature article and a food article. Laura was honored to serve as the Social Media Advisor the following fall semester and worked the proofreading stage prior to publication both semesters. Additionally, Laura does freelance editing and photography, with advanced talent in social media including blogging and various social platforms, and skills in Adobe Photoshop and InDesign. She looks forward to using her expertise to create a uniquely rewarding digital journalism experience for Liahona students.

**Time:** 1:45–3:00 p

In this course, students will gain experience in digital journalism including: writing and editing articles for online and print publication, creating social media content, and designing/compiling the school's yearbook and newsletter. Students will also have the opportunity to do photography for school activities. Students will create digital-only media for social media, and learn how to engage an audience, gaining real-world digital journalism experience. This class will give them a beginning digital and print publishing experience and the opportunity of creating the yearbook.

## **TUESDAY/THURSDAY CLASSES**

### **JR. HIGH ACTING (5 -9<sup>th</sup> grades)**

**Teachers:** Jordan Long and Gina McGirr

This is Jordan's 11<sup>th</sup> year at the head of Liahona's Theatre program. Jordan studied theatre and got his Bachelor's degree from BYU. Jordan has studied theatre and theatre education in New York City with Susan Stroman, Telly Leung, Anne Bogart, and many more. He has helped lead Liahona's theatre teams to 8 Overall National Championships, 6 Overall State Championships, an invite and run at the Edinburgh, Scotland Fringe Festival (twice!) as well as countless individual awards and hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships. Jordan is also the founder and teacher for Cedar Hills Youth Theatre which has been recognized as the top acting studio in Utah County and is the founder and artistic director at Creekside Theatre Fest, a semi-professional theatre company in Cedar Hills.

Sister McGirr holds both a Master's degree and Bachelor's Degree in Education from Arizona State University, where she studied history, theatre education, and gifted education. She has been on stage since she was a toddler, and essentially grew up in theatre through performing, directing, and working backstage throughout her life. She has been directing since she was 16, when she fell in love with the dream of becoming a drama teacher. This will be her ninth-year teaching! Before coming to Liahona, she developed and ran her own theatre program for four years, winning several region and state level awards. In 2019 she was awarded the Theatre Educator of the Year from the Utah Advisory Council of Theatre Teachers. She also has experience working as a District Department Chair and District Team Lead for several years. Sister McGirr came to Liahona in 2019 and has loved every minute of it! She also serves as the administrative manager for the theatre department, a history teacher, a theatre competition coach, and a Liahona mom.

**Time:** 1:45-3:00 p

Time to get back to the basics. Students in this class will learn the fundamentals of acting. What makes acting effective? Students will also learn about acting theorists and others who have made an impact on the art of acting. Students in this class will be required to perform in the play *The Orphanage/The Post Office* April 28<sup>th</sup> - May 1<sup>st</sup>. Students will also be required to be at tech week rehearsals at least one week prior. Aside from these rehearsals, all other rehearsals will take place during class time. 9<sup>th</sup> grade students will also be required to prepare a piece to travel and compete with at the Region and State Theatre Competition March 23-24 and April 20-22. If cast as a lead, the student may be asked to be at additional rehearsals. There will be a one-time \$40 materials fee as well as a travel fee in the range of \$200-\$300 for 9<sup>th</sup> graders.

**\*\*\*Elective ELA Credit\*\*\***

**CREATIVE WRITING IV (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades)**

**Teacher:** Laura Jackson

Laura received a minor in Editing from Brigham Young University where she worked on Stowaway, the university's travel magazine as Copy Editor and Social Media Manager, as well as writing of a feature article and a food article. Laura was honored to serve as the Social Media Advisor the following fall semester and worked the proofreading stage prior to publication both semesters. Additionally, Laura does freelance editing and photography, with advanced talent in social media including blogging and various social platforms, and skills in Adobe Photoshop and InDesign. She looks forward to using her expertise to create a uniquely rewarding digital journalism experience for Liahona students.

**Time:** 1:45–3:00 p

In this course, students will explore creative writing genres including: poetry, journal writing, blogging, vignettes, letters, and speeches, as well as an individual semester-long project option of their choice. Students will have the opportunity to explore online publication tools and group projects while in an inspiring classroom. Students will create a portfolio of various creative writing pieces that will provide them with skills they can generalize for use in other classes, service in their community, and their futures. This class has a required book that will need to be purchased. There are no pre-requisites for this course and students are encouraged to join whether it's the first semester or fourth!

**\*\*\*Physical Education Credit\*\*\***

**KUNG FU GYM (5<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> grades)**

**Teacher:** John Orgill

Through the last 20 years Brother Orgill has been heavily involved in all aspects of education. He has been a seminary teacher, martial arts instructor, high school coach, elementary teacher, high school instructor, and private school instructor. John is also heavily involved in the health and fitness industry as he supports his wife in their home business that teaches health around the country and as he teaches fitness through martial arts. Brother Orgill enjoys sports and outdoor activities like mountain running, biking, rock climbing, and hiking. Systems administration and being a computer geek have always been part of his involvement in education and it's fair to say that fitness has been what he does to keep his sanity.

**Time:** 3:15-4:30 p

Please note- because the office closes at 4:00, students MUST be picked up promptly at the end of class  
Martial Arts is one of the most powerful compliments to education. Confidence, fitness, practical self-defense, and balance are among the core benefits of practicing Kung Fu. Enrolled students in this class will learn traditional kung fu, modern applications for self-defense, the importance of character development, and meditative practices while having the opportunity to increase their skill. Rank advancement will take place if desired at the end of the course and will be awarded through the Sil Lum Kung Fu Schull in Lehi, UT. Beginning and Intermediate students will be taught and advance according to their skills. There will be a one-time \$40 materials fee.\*\*

**\*\*\*Fitness For Life Credit\*\*\***

**FITNESS FOR LIFE (7<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> grades)**

**Teacher:** John Orgill

Through the last 20 years Brother Orgill has been heavily involved in all aspects of education. He has been a seminary teacher, martial arts instructor, high school coach, elementary teacher, high school instructor, and private school instructor. John is also heavily involved in the health and fitness industry as he supports his wife in their home business that teaches health around the country and as he teaches fitness through martial arts. Brother Orgill enjoys sports and outdoor activities like mountain running, biking, rock climbing, and hiking. Systems administration and being a computer geek have always been part of his involvement in education and it's fair to say that fitness has been what he does to keep his sanity.

**Time:** 1:45–3:00 p

Chronic illness is becoming an epidemic. 1 in 4 people will develop a mental disorder. Obesity continues to rise and heart disease kills more Americans than war, murder, and traffic accidents combined. Each of us is at a statistical disadvantage when it comes to living out the future we prepare for as youth. This future, in fact, matters very little if we don't pursue the health necessary to live it- and it is the choices of health and nutrition made as youth that impact future health the most.

Fitness for life is more than an exercise class. It teaches you the different types of exercise and the correct ways to do it. It goes into the nutrition necessary to support exercise and daily health. It delves into the ways nutrition and exercise affect mental health and the ability to learn. It teaches you how to integrate a healthy lifestyle into the life you live rather than impose a fad that is impossible to maintain.

The goal of "fitness for life" the way I teach it is to put you on a path that prolongs youth rather than simply helping you live longer.

## **FRIDAY CLASSES**

**\*\*\*Computer Skills Credit\*\*\***

### **COMPUTER SKILLS AND CODING (7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades)**

**Teacher:** Jake Allen

Jake Allen graduated from the University of Utah with a BS in Finance. He has worked in the Information Technology industry now for approximately 10 years. Mainly focused on software project management, he has overseen IT help desks, systems administrators, and network administrators. He specialized in Agile and Scrum development methodologies. He has run several multimillion-dollar projects for the Department of Defense and most recently overhauled and launched shipping software for InXpress Inc. He is excited to give back some of his professional knowledge in his second-year teaching for Liahona.

**Time:** 9:30-12:00 p

This course is designed to enhance the computer skills of students, using advanced information to utilize the computer for professional and personal projects. Learners will become proficient in all computer functions, including Microsoft Office, internet functions, job searches, and minor computer troubleshooting. Students will also get to branch out and learn more about coding this semester! If you've taken a class from Brother Allen before, you will LOVE this course!

**\*\*\*Fine Arts Credit\*\*\***

### **MOVEMENT AND DANCE (5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades)**

**Teacher:** Mollie Smith

Mollie has been dancing since she was 5 years old. Her love for teaching began when she started teaching dance from her parent's basement studio during the summer when she was 10 years old. She attended the Liahona Preparatory Academy as well as Pioneer High School for the Performing Arts. After graduation she continued her love of dance at Utah Valley University where she majored in Dance Education. She has performed and worked for the Walt Disney Co. in Florida and has been teaching dance for 9 years now since graduating high school. She loves working with students who are willing to work for what they want. She believes dance is where you can bring the mind and the body together in harmony and that's why she continues to dance and teach!

**Time:** 9:30–12:00 p

In this class, you will learn how to become better coordinated as your body moves with music. We will learn the 3 basic forms of dance which are jazz, hip hop, and some ballet. We may even get to learn some tap!

Come prepared to learn technique, and one choreographed dance for each form of dance that we'll focus on. We will sweat as we learn to dress in appropriate clothing like leggings, sweat pants, athletic shoes...etc. you will be graded based mostly on attendance and how well you focus which at the end will lead to your progress!

**\*\*\*CTE Credit\*\*\***

## **STAGE CREW AND CONSTRUCTION (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades)**

**Teacher:** Brian Hadfield

This is Brother Hadfield's fifth year teaching in the theatre department at Liahona. Brother Hadfield has been involved in theatre for nearly thirty years, in community as well as elementary school through college productions. He has participated in nearly every aspect of theatre, from pit orchestra to stage management. You may have even seen him perform on film if you're a fan of the Liken the Scriptures series. Brother Hadfield spends most of his days trying to stop the world's evil hackers from stealing information or otherwise causing trouble. Most of his nights and weekends are spent with his beautiful wife, Melody, and their eight amazing children.

**Time:** 12:30-3:00 p

In this class, students will learn how to operate and design technical aspects of theatre including sound, lighting, costume design, set design, and stage management. In addition, they will learn about basic construction as they work to build the sets for *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*, *The Orphanage* and *the Post Office*, and *Seussical Kids*. Each student will be assigned to work crew for one or two of these shows. They will be required to attend all technical rehearsals and performances for the show they are assigned. If the dates of one show doesn't work, they can request different shows. There will be a one-time \$40 materials fee.

## **MONDAY ONLY CLASSES (for Elementary Students only)**

### **MUSICAL THEATRE FOR ELEMENTARY (K -5<sup>th</sup> grades)**

**Special Price: \$35 a month**

**NOTE: This class runs for the entire year on Mondays and is a continuation from first semester. If you were registered first semester, you are automatically registered for second semester. No need to complete the form again. New students are welcome to join and be a part of the ensemble!**

**Teacher:** Gina McGirr

Sister McGirr holds both a Master's degree and Bachelor's Degree in Education from Arizona State University, where she studied history, theatre education, and gifted education. She has been on stage since she was a toddler, and essentially grew up in theatre through performing, directing, and working backstage throughout her life. She has been directing since she was 16, when she fell in love with the dream of becoming a drama teacher. This will be her ninth-year teaching! Before coming to Liahona, she developed and ran her own theatre program for four years, winning several region and state level awards. In 2019 she was awarded the Theatre Educator of the Year from the Utah Advisory Council of Theatre Teachers. She also has experience working as a District Department Chair and District Team Lead for several years. Sister McGirr came to Liahona in 2019 and has loved every minute of it! She also serves as the administrative manager for the theatre department, a history teacher, a theatre competition coach, and a Liahona mom.

**Time:** 1:30-2:30 p

Students will learn some of the very basic fundamentals of performing musical theatre. This includes acting, dancing, and singing. Students in this class will be required to perform in the musical, *Seussical Kids* May 4-6. Students will also be required to be at a few extra tech rehearsals the week of the performance. Aside from these rehearsals, all other rehearsals will take place during class time. There will be a one-time \$30 materials fee.