

GOODPASTURE
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



HANDBOOK

2026-2027

MISSION

At the heart of the Fine Arts Department at GCS, we are driven by a shared mission to infuse creativity with faith, weaving the transformative power of Jesus into every brushstroke, note, and performance. Our dedicated faculty, enthusiastic students, and supportive parents collaborate harmoniously to shape an environment that fosters spiritual growth, academic brilliance, and the cultivation of artistic skills.

Guided by our commitment to Christian values, our mission is threefold:

1. **Inspiring Creative Worship:** We believe that artistic expression is a divine gift, allowing us to connect with God and communicate profound emotions. Through our programs, we encourage students to create art that celebrates their faith, reflecting the beauty and depth of their relationship with Jesus. We endeavor to nurture an environment where creativity becomes a form of worship, fostering a deep and personal connection with God.
2. **Pursuing Academic Excellence:** Our department is dedicated to academic rigor, challenging students to excel not only in their chosen artistic disciplines but also in their understanding of the world around them. By upholding high standards, we aim to equip our students with the intellectual tools necessary to engage with the complexities of both their art and their faith, fostering a well-rounded education that prepares them for the challenges and opportunities of their future.
3. **Cultivating Servant Hearts:** At GCS, we understand that our artistic talents are a means to a greater end—serving others. Through our comprehensive curriculum and hands-on experiences, we instill in our students a deep sense of compassion, empathy, and responsibility towards their communities. We empower them to leverage their artistic skills as tools for positive change, embodying the spirit of Christian service and making a lasting impact on the lives of others.

In alignment with the values of the GCS community, our Fine Arts Department is committed to fostering an atmosphere where creativity flourishes, academic excellence thrives, and a life of Christian service becomes a natural extension of artistic expression. By harmonizing these elements, we prepare our students to be compassionate, skilled, and faith-driven individuals who will enrich the world through their art and their commitment to others.

CODE OF CONDUCT

At Goodpasture Christian School, the Fine Arts Department upholds the values of Christ-centered living, excellence in artistic pursuits, and respectful collaboration. Our Code of Conduct outlines the expectations and principles that guide our students, faculty, and staff in creating a nurturing and uplifting environment.

1. Christ-Centered Conduct

We commit to modeling our behavior after the teachings of Jesus Christ. Our actions and interactions will reflect love, compassion, honesty, and humility, fostering an environment where each individual is treated with dignity and respect.

2. Integrity in Artistic Expression

We value the integrity of our artistic work and hold ourselves accountable to uphold the highest standards of honesty and authenticity. Plagiarism, forgery, and misrepresentation are incompatible with the principles we stand for.

3. Respectful Collaboration

We acknowledge the diversity of talents, backgrounds, and perspectives within our department. We will collaborate with kindness, patience, and understanding, fostering an atmosphere of unity and mutual support.

4. Stewardship of Gifts

Recognizing that our artistic talents are gifts from God, we commit to developing and utilizing these gifts responsibly and purposefully. We strive for continuous improvement, using our talents to honor God and inspire others.

5. Professionalism

We will adhere to professional standards in all our endeavors. This includes punctuality, preparedness, and a commitment to give our best effort in rehearsals, performances, exhibitions, and all other artistic activities.

6. Positive Language and Behavior

Our words and actions hold the power to impact those around us. We will choose language that builds up and encourages, refraining from gossip, negativity, or any form of harassment or bullying.

7. Modesty and Respect in Attire

Students are expected to dress appropriately for the setting and in a manner that reflects respect for themselves, others, and the values of our school community.

8. Gratitude and Humility

We will cultivate an attitude of gratitude, recognizing that our talents are blessings from God. We will approach critiques and feedback with humility, understanding that they contribute to our growth as artists.

9. Accountability and Restoration

When we fall short of these principles, we will take responsibility for our actions and seek restoration. This includes making amends where necessary and learning from our mistakes.

10. Supportive Environment

We will actively foster an environment where every member feels valued, included, and safe. We stand against discrimination, harassment, and any behavior that creates an unwelcoming atmosphere.

By adhering to this Code of Conduct, we align ourselves with the values of Goodpasture Christian School and the teachings of Christ. Together, we create an environment that encourages artistic excellence, spiritual growth, and mutual respect, preparing ourselves to serve our community and the world with integrity and purpose.

POLICIES

Attendance

Regular attendance and punctuality are essential to the success of Fine Arts rehearsals, performances, and events. Because each student's participation affects the work of the entire group, students are expected to honor scheduled commitments and communicate conflicts promptly.

1. **Attendance Expectations:** Students are expected to attend required rehearsals, performances, events, and other scheduled Fine Arts commitments on time and prepared to participate.
2. **Known Conflicts:** When a conflict is known in advance, students should notify the director as early as possible. Students are responsible for communicating scheduling conflicts and following any program-specific procedures for requesting an absence.
3. **Illness and Emergencies:** If illness, a family emergency, or another unforeseen circumstance prevents attendance, notify the director as soon as reasonably possible.
4. **No Call/No Show:** A no call/no show occurs when a student misses a required rehearsal, performance, or event without prior notice or a reasonable explanation. Because an unexplained absence can disrupt the work of an ensemble, cast, crew, or team, it may affect performance opportunities, roles, positions, or eligibility for future activities.
5. **Consistency and Progress:** Regular participation supports individual growth and group preparation. Students who miss rehearsals or events may be responsible for learning missed material or completing other reasonable make-up expectations as determined by the director.
6. **School Conflicts:** When Fine Arts commitments conflict with other school-sponsored activities, students should communicate with the adults involved as early as possible so that an appropriate plan can be developed in accordance with school policy.

Directors will consider the circumstances of an absence, the student's communication, and the impact on the activity when determining any follow-up or consequence.

Social Media

Social media can be an effective way to celebrate Fine Arts work, communicate with the community, and share student accomplishments. Students, faculty, and staff should use good judgment when posting content connected to Goodpasture Christian School, the Fine Arts Department, school-sponsored events, or productions.

1. **School-Connected Content:** Posts, comments, and interactions connected to the Fine Arts Department should be respectful, appropriate, and consistent with the standards of Goodpasture Christian School.
2. **Creative Process:** Behind-the-scenes content should represent rehearsals, performances, exhibitions, projects, and the people involved in them respectfully and accurately.
3. **Privacy and Consent:** Do not post images, videos, personal information, or private communications involving others without appropriate permission. Follow school and event expectations regarding photography, recording, and posting.
4. **Responsible Content Sharing:** Avoid posting content connected to the school that includes profanity, discriminatory language, harassment, inappropriate humor, or material that could reasonably create safety, privacy, or reputational concerns.
5. **Intellectual Property:** Credit original creators when appropriate and do not share copyrighted or protected material without permission. Follow licensing, production, and school requirements for recordings, scripts, music, images, designs, and other creative work.
6. **Respectful Engagement:** Communicate constructively online. Do not use school-connected posts or accounts to harass, embarrass, target, or provoke others.
7. **Addressing Concerns:** Concerns involving the Fine Arts Department should be raised through appropriate school channels so they can be addressed directly and constructively. Students are encouraged to speak with a teacher, director, or administrator when they need help resolving an issue.
8. **Personal Accounts:** Students retain responsibility for their personal online activity. When a student is clearly representing the school, participating in a school-sponsored activity, or posting school-connected content, the same expectations for respectful and appropriate conduct apply.

9. **Accountability:** Social media activity that violates school or department expectations may be addressed by the Fine Arts Department and/or school administration in accordance with school policy.
10. **Reporting Concerns:** Students should promptly report online content involving threats, harassment, bullying, safety concerns, or other serious issues to a faculty member, director, or administrator.

Conduct & Accountability

Students are expected to contribute to a safe, productive, and professional Fine Arts environment. When conduct does not meet department or school expectations, directors and administrators may respond with appropriate corrective action.

Consequences may include, but are not limited to:

1. **Verbal Warning:** For minor infractions or first-time offenses, individuals may receive a verbal warning from a faculty member or supervisor. This serves as an opportunity to address the behavior and ensure understanding of the expectations.
2. **Written Reflection:** Individuals may be asked to write a reflection on the behavior in question, considering its impact on themselves and the community. This encourages self-awareness and personal growth.
3. **Restricted Participation:** In cases where behavior disrupts rehearsals, events, or the overall departmental environment, individuals may be temporarily restricted from participating in activities until the issue is addressed and resolved.
4. **Loss of Privileges:** Continued or serious violations may result in the loss of privileges such as leading roles, participation in performances, or involvement in specific projects.
5. **Parent/Guardian Meeting:** In more severe cases, a meeting with parents/guardians may be required to address the behavior, discuss its impact, and collaborate on a plan for improvement.
6. **Counseling or Mentorship:** Individuals may be offered counseling or mentorship to address underlying issues that contribute to their behavior and support their personal development.

7. **Probation or Suspension:** In extreme cases, individuals may be placed on probation or suspended from participation in the department's after-school activities for a specified period.

Consequences will be determined based on the nature, severity, frequency, and circumstances of the behavior and in accordance with school policy. **Behavior during the school day may also affect participation in after-school Fine Arts activities.**

Language & Communication

In the Fine Arts Department at Goodpasture Christian School, our commitment to upholding Christian values extends to the language and communication used within our community. We recognize the powerful influence of words on our environment and the impact they have on our interactions with one another. As such, our language and profanity policy emphasizes the importance of respectful and edifying communication that reflects the virtues of kindness, humility, and love.

We expect all students, faculty, and staff to refrain from using profanity, offensive language, or any form of communication that is disrespectful, derogatory, or harmful. Our goal is to maintain an atmosphere of positivity and mutual respect, where each individual feels valued and nurtured. When engaging in discussions, rehearsals, performances, or any other fine arts activities, we encourage the use of language that uplifts, inspires, and reflects the principles of our Christian faith.

By following this language and profanity policy, we help create an environment built on respect, kindness, and consideration for others. Our words should reflect good character and contribute positively to the community we share.

Academics

In the Fine Arts Department at Goodpasture Christian School, we recognize the intrinsic value of a well-rounded education that encompasses both artistic excellence and academic achievement. Our academic policy is rooted in our commitment to nurturing holistic development in our students. We believe that success in fine arts is intricately connected to intellectual growth and a strong foundation in academics.

Our academic policy underscores the importance of maintaining a balanced approach. Students engaged in fine arts activities are encouraged to prioritize their academic responsibilities, ensuring that their artistic pursuits complement rather than compromise their scholastic endeavors. We believe that a strong academic foundation enhances one's ability to think critically, express creatively, and contribute thoughtfully to the artistic community.

To uphold our academic policy, students are expected to:

1. **Manage Time Wisely:** Develop effective time-management skills to accommodate both academic studies and fine arts commitments.
2. **Prioritize Learning:** Understand that academic excellence is a priority, reflecting dedication to personal growth and a commitment to future opportunities.
3. **Communicate Proactively:** Communicate with teachers, directors, and coaches to ensure a mutual understanding of scheduling conflicts and academic demands.
4. **Seek Support:** Reach out for assistance when balancing fine arts and academics becomes challenging. Utilize available resources such as study groups, tutoring, and time-management strategies.
5. **Plan Ahead:** Plan ahead for tests, assignments, and projects to minimize stress during periods of intensified fine arts activities.
6. **Maintain Accountability:** Strive to meet academic deadlines and responsibilities, recognizing the importance of reliability and commitment.

By adhering to our academic policy, we create an environment where students thrive as well-rounded individuals, prepared to excel not only in the fine arts but also in their academic pursuits. Through the integration of artistic expression and academic rigor, we shape graduates who possess the skills, values, and character to contribute positively to society while honoring their commitment to Christian principles. **Please note that your academic performance may affect your ability to participate in after-school fine arts activities.**

Care of Property & Facilities

Students are expected to care for school facilities, instruments, costumes, uniforms, props, equipment, artwork, technology, and other Fine Arts property responsibly. Items should be used only as directed, returned to the appropriate location, and reported promptly if damaged or lost.

Students may be responsible for replacement or repair costs when damage or loss results from negligence, misuse, or failure to return assigned property.

DRESS CODE

Fine Arts activities require attire appropriate to the demands and setting of each rehearsal, performance, and event. These guidelines are intended to promote professionalism, consistency, safety, freedom of movement, and a polished representation of Goodpasture Christian School.

Directors may provide additional event-specific requirements when costumes, uniforms, staging, adjudication rules, venue expectations, or safety considerations require them.

DEPARTMENT-WIDE OFF-CAMPUS ATTIRE

→ **At Goodpasture Christian School, students are expected to present themselves in a manner that reflects professionalism, good judgment, and respect for the setting they are in. When attending events off campus as a representative of the school or Fine Arts Department, attire should be appropriate to the occasion and consistent with the expectations of the event. When attending events outside of school, please adhere to the following guidelines:**

- ◆ **Professional and Appropriate Attire:** Choose clothing that is appropriate for the event and presents a neat, polished appearance. Avoid attire that is overly revealing, excessively casual, or otherwise unsuitable for the setting.
- ◆ **Fit and Length:** Clothing should fit appropriately and allow students to participate comfortably and confidently. Dresses, skirts, shorts, and pants should be suitable in length and condition for the event.
- ◆ **Coverage:** Tops and dresses should provide appropriate coverage for the setting. Avoid styles that are excessively low-cut or revealing.
- ◆ **Graphics and Messaging:** Clothing should be free of offensive language, images, or messaging. Large graphics, logos, or embellishments that may be distracting or inappropriate for the event should also be avoided.
- ◆ **Footwear:** Wear footwear appropriate for the event that allows for safe, comfortable participation.

Band

→ **Rehearsal Attire**

- ◆ **Weather-appropriate clothing**
- ◆ **Tennis Shoes that allow the ankle to move freely**
- ◆ **Headwear (Ballcap, visor, etc.) Preferred**

→ **Sporting Event Attire**

- ◆ **Pep Uniform - For hot game days and during day pep events/press events**
 - **Pep Band Polo (BSN Store)**
 - **Khaki golf pants/Skirt**
- ◆ **Marching Uniform:**

- Black Compression Short-Sleeve Shirts and Shorts (Form Fitting)
- Long Black Socks
- Black Marching Shoes
- Bibbers
- Tops

→ Concert Attire

- Black dress shirt with black pants or skirt
- Black dress with sleeves
- Black closed-toe dress shoes
- Black socks or black tights
- Skirts and dresses must be mid-calf length or longer. If you are wearing a dress or skirt, you are also required to wear black tights.

Please note that hair for all events should be neatly styled or pulled back away from the face.

Chorus

→ Sporting Event Attire:

- ◆ Chorus T-shirt with jeans, khakis, chinos, or a school skirt. A simple jacket that opens in front may be worn if needed. Students participating in another school activity at the same event may wear the approved uniform for that activity when appropriate.

→ Concert & CPA Attire:

◆ Concert Black!

- Black dress shirt with black pants or skirt
- Black dress with sleeves
- Black closed-toe dress shoes
- Black socks or black tights
- Skirts and dresses must be mid-calf length or longer. If you are wearing a dress or skirt, you are also required to wear black tights.

◆ Accessories:

- Accessories limited to a pearl necklace and pearl stud earrings or simple gold or silver chain necklaces or bracelets.
- Remove all other jewelry, including bracelets, necklaces, smartwatches, and additional piercings. Nothing should be worn that would direct attention away from your face and performance.

Please note that hair for all events should be neatly styled or pulled back away from the face.

Theatre

→ Rehearsal Attire

◆ Clothing

- Rehearsal attire should provide appropriate coverage, allow unrestricted movement, and be suitable for the physical demands of rehearsal. Students should be able to move safely and participate fully without clothing becoming a distraction or safety concern.
- Approved Rehearsal-Wear:
 - **Tops:** Goodpasture T-shirt; solid black or white T-shirt; solid black or white tank top.
 - **Bottoms:** Black leggings; black shorts with at least a 5-inch inseam; black tennis skirt with appropriate shorts underneath and at least a 5-inch inseam; black sweatpants; or a black rehearsal skirt with approved bottoms underneath.
- Students may wear the GCS school uniform to rehearsals that do not involve significant movement.
- Tank tops should provide appropriate coverage at the neckline and underarm.
- Spandex shorts are not permitted as rehearsal wear; shorts should fit securely and allow safe movement.

◆ Footwear

- Closed-toe shoes with appropriate support are essential for safety during rehearsals. Avoid open-toed shoes, sandals, flip-flops, or footwear that hinders movement.
- As soon as possible, actors should wear their show shoes during rehearsal.

◆ Hair

- Hair should be neatly groomed and tied back if necessary to prevent interference with activities.
- If a student has been cast in a show, please consult the director BEFORE altering your hair in any way (other than regular maintenance trims).

◆ Tattoos and Piercings

- Tattoos must be covered during rehearsals and performances. For piercings, minimal and non-distracting jewelry is allowed, but large or excessive piercings should be removed or replaced for safety during movement. **Dangling earrings are not permitted during choreography rehearsals.**

→ Spotlight Awards

- ◆ We celebrate the accomplishments and talents of our students through our participation in the Spotlight Awards, an event hosted by and at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center, where excellence in performance and dedication to the arts are recognized. To maintain an atmosphere of elegance and respect while adhering to our Christian values, we present the following dress code guidelines for red carpet attire:
 - **Appropriate Attire:** Choose elegant, polished attire appropriate for a black-tie event. Dresses, gowns, suits, and tuxedos should fit well and reflect the formal nature of the occasion. Clothing should provide appropriate coverage and avoid excessively low necklines, very high slits, or other styles that may be better suited for a less formal setting.
 - **Formality:** Select attire that reflects the formality of the event. Gowns, suits, tuxedos, and cocktail dresses are all appropriate choices. Avoid casual or overly casual clothing.
 - **Footwear:** Wear formal shoes that complement your attire. High heels, dress shoes, or formal flats are suitable choices.
 - **Award Attire for Men:** Suits are recommended. A tie or bowtie should be worn, and shoes should be formal.
 - **Red Carpet Attire for Women:** Floor-length gowns, cocktail dresses, jumpsuits, and pant suits are appropriate choices.
- ◆ If there are specific dress code requirements for the Spotlight Awards, they will be communicated in advance. Please adhere to any guidelines provided by the school administration or event organizers.



HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Please remove this page and return the signed copy to your fine arts director. Keep the rest of the packet to reference throughout the school year.

I, _____, have received and read the Goodpasture Christian School Fine Arts Handbook. I understand that this handbook contains important guidelines, policies, and expectations for participation in the fine arts program. By signing below, I acknowledge that I am responsible for adhering to the rules and principles outlined in the handbook.

I recognize the significance of upholding the values of Goodpasture Christian School and the Fine Arts Department, including maintaining a respectful and collaborative atmosphere, embracing positive values, and demonstrating dedication to excellence in artistic endeavors.

I am committed to honoring these guidelines and working together with fellow students, parents, guardians, faculty, and staff to create an environment that fosters artistic growth, teamwork, and a reflection of the Christian principles we hold dear.

Student Signature: _____

Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____