



*Fine Arts*  
**HANDBOOK**

**2023-2024**



# 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**

We will dress in a manner that demonstrates modesty and respect for ourselves and others. Our attire should be appropriate for the setting and reflect our commitment to honoring God.

### **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

At Goodpasture Christian School, we deeply value the commitment and dedication of our students to their fine arts pursuits, as they reflect the gifts and talents bestowed upon us by God. Our attendance policy for fine arts events and rehearsals is designed to foster excellence, teamwork, and a spirit of service. By participating fully and consistently, students uphold our Christian values while nurturing their artistic growth.

1. **Attendance Expectations:** All students participating in fine arts events, performances, and rehearsals are expected to attend consistently and punctually. Your presence contributes to the collaborative effort of creating impactful and inspiring artistic expressions.
2. **Notification of Absence:** If you are unable to attend a scheduled event or rehearsal due to unforeseen circumstances, illness, or family emergencies, please notify your director as soon as possible. Timely communication allows for adjustments and ensures the best possible outcome for the team.
3. **No Call No Show:** A "no call no show" occurs when a student does not attend an event or rehearsal without prior notice or explanation. This is considered a serious breach of the attendance policy, as it disrupts the ensemble's preparation and impacts the overall experience for everyone involved. Instances of "no call no show" may result in consequences such as loss of performance opportunities, reevaluation of roles or positions, and a potential impact on eligibility for future events. We believe that these consequences underscore the importance of communication and accountability.
4. **Consistency and Progress:** Regular attendance is essential for your growth as an artist and the cohesion of the ensemble. Consistent participation allows you to fully engage in the artistic process, develop your skills, and contribute to the collective progress of the group.
5. **Grace and Understanding:** We understand that circumstances may arise that prevent perfect attendance. However, we encourage open communication and a proactive approach to managing your schedule to minimize disruptions.

## **Social Media**

Social media provides a powerful platform for sharing our artistic talents, connecting with the community, and upholding the values of Goodpasture Christian School. To ensure that our online presence reflects the standards of excellence, integrity, and Christian values we uphold, the following social media policy applies to all students, faculty, and staff associated with the Fine Arts Department:

1. **Alignment with Christian Values:** All social media content associated with the Fine Arts Department should align with the Christian principles and values upheld by Goodpasture Christian School. Posts, comments, and interactions should reflect kindness, respect, and positive representation of our school community.
2. **Honoring the Creative Process:** When sharing behind-the-scenes content, images, or videos related to rehearsals, performances, or art projects, ensure that the creative process is represented in a respectful and uplifting manner.
3. **Privacy and Consent:** Respect the privacy of others. Obtain proper consent before posting images or videos of fellow students, faculty, or staff. Be cautious not to share personal information that could compromise safety or security.
4. **Responsible Content Sharing:** Before posting, consider the potential impact of your content on the school's reputation and the feelings of others. Refrain from sharing inappropriate, offensive, or controversial content, including profanity, discriminatory language, or inappropriate humor.
5. **Artistic Property and Attribution:** Respect intellectual property rights by giving credit to original creators when sharing or reposting their work. Avoid sharing copyrighted materials without proper authorization.
6. **Positive Engagement:** Interact with others in a respectful and positive manner. Engage in constructive conversations that contribute to a sense of community and understanding. Avoid confrontational or divisive discussions.
7. **Avoid Negative Feedback:** If you have concerns or criticisms related to the Fine Arts Department or school, address them through appropriate channels, such as in-person discussions with teachers, directors, or administrators, rather than airing grievances on social media.

8. **Professionalism in Personal Posts:** Understand that your personal social media accounts also reflect on the school community. While you have the right to express your personal views, be mindful that your online behavior can impact the perception of the Fine Arts Department and Goodpasture Christian School.
9. **Reflecting Unity and Teamwork:** Celebrate achievements collectively rather than focusing solely on individual accomplishments. Emphasize the teamwork and collaboration that contribute to the success of the Fine Arts Department.
10. **Monitoring and Accountability:** The Fine Arts Department reserves the right to monitor and address content shared on social media platforms that is related to the school or the fine arts program. Violations of this policy may result in corrective actions.
11. **Reporting Concerns:** If you come across content that violates this policy or raises concerns, promptly report it to a faculty member, director, or administrator.

## **Conduct**

In the Fine Arts Department at Goodpasture Christian School, we hold ourselves to the highest standards of conduct, guided by our commitment to Christian values, excellence in artistic expression, and the nurturing of a respectful and collaborative environment. Our rules of conduct are designed to ensure that each member of our community, including students, faculty, and staff, contributes positively to the collective growth and success of the department. We emphasize principles of integrity, respect, teamwork, and responsible communication.

Adhering to these rules is crucial for maintaining a harmonious and productive atmosphere. Any violation of these rules may result in appropriate consequences, which are intended not only as corrective measures but also as opportunities for growth and reflection. Consequences for breaches of conduct are administered in a fair and consistent manner, taking into account the severity of the infraction and the intent behind it.

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.

Ultimately, our aim is to foster an environment where each individual can flourish artistically, spiritually, and personally. By upholding these rules of conduct and understanding their associated consequences, we collectively create a space that exemplifies the Christian values we hold dear, and one that nurtures the development of compassionate, skilled, and faith-driven individuals who will contribute positively to our community and beyond. **Please note that behavior during the school day may also affect a student's ability to participate in the Fine Arts Department.**

## **Language**

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 adhering to this language and profanity policy, we foster an environment that aligns with our commitment to Christian values, ensuring that our words reflect the love and grace that we strive to exemplify in all aspects of our lives. Through our words and interactions, we create a space where artistic expression is enhanced by the purity of our communication, contributing to the growth and enrichment of our community.

### **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.**

## **DRESS CODE**

At Goodpasture Christian School, we believe that our actions, including the way we dress, reflect our commitment to honoring God, fostering a positive environment, and promoting professionalism within our community. The following dress code guidelines are designed to ensure a respectful and focused atmosphere during fine arts activities:

### **Band**

#### **→ Rehearsal Attire**

- ◆ Plain White T-Shirts/Tank Tops that are within the school dress code
- ◆ Black, Navy Blue, Gray/Silver Shorts
- ◆ Tennis Shoes that allow the ankle to move freely

#### **→ Sporting Event Attire**

##### ◆ Summer Uniform:

- Black Goodpasture Polo
- Khaki Shorts (Within Dress Code)
- Black Socks
- Black Marching Shoes

##### ◆ Marching Uniform:

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

#### **→ Concert Attire**

##### ◆ Christmas Concert Attire

- Tops
  - Black Long-Sleeve Tops
- Bottoms
  - Black pants or skirt (no more than 4 inches above the knee)
  - Those wearing skirts must also wear black tights
- Shoes
  -
- Accessories
  - Festive and Appropriate Ties/Jewelry
  - Those wearing skirts must also wear black tights

##### ◆ Spring Concert/Concert Performance Assessment

- **Men**
  - **Black Long Sleeve Dress Shirt**
  - **Black Tie**
  - **Black Suit/Tux Jacket**
  - **Black Dress Pants (No Jean/Cargo)**
  - **Black Belt**
  - **Black Socks**
  - **Black Dress Shoes (No Vans, Boots, etc.)**
- **Women**
  - **Black Dress (Must Be Within Dress Code)**
  - **Black Tights**
  - **Black Shoes**
  - **Accessories are limited to earrings only (NO Necklaces, Rings)**

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

→ **Other Out-Of-School Events:**

→ **At Goodpasture Christian School, we recognize that our students represent our values and principles not only within the school campus but also in various external settings. Our dress code reflects our commitment to honoring God, promoting modesty, and maintaining a respectful appearance in all circumstances. When attending events outside of school, please adhere to the following guidelines:**

- ◆ **Modesty and Respect:** Choose attire that is modest and respectful of yourself and others. Avoid clothing that is overly revealing, excessively casual, or inappropriate for the occasion.
- ◆ **Appropriate Fit and Length:** Select clothing that fits well and is of an appropriate length. Dresses, skirts, and shorts should be of modest length, and pants should not be excessively tight.
- ◆ **Necklines and Sleeves:** Opt for necklines and sleeves that provide adequate coverage. Avoid low necklines, strapless or spaghetti-strap tops, and sleeveless tops with overly wide armholes.
- ◆ **Avoid Distractions:** Clothing with large logos, offensive language, graphics, or excessive embellishments should be avoided. The focus should be on your character and the purpose of the event.
- ◆ **Footwear:** Wear appropriate footwear that suits the event and ensures your safety and comfort.

- ◆ **Cleanliness and Grooming:** Maintain personal hygiene and ensure that your clothing is clean and well-presented. Grooming should be neat and appropriate for the occasion.
- ◆ **Consider the Occasion:** Choose attire that aligns with the nature of the event. Dress more formally for special occasions, religious events, or formal gatherings, and dress appropriately for casual outings.

## Chorus

### → Sporting Event Attire:

- ◆ GCS Chorus Polo, Dark blue jeans without rips or holes, Shirts tucked in, and Tennis shoes.

### → Christmas Concert Approved Attire:

#### ◆ Tops:

- Black top with sleeves
- Festive Christmas top or sweater

#### ◆ Bottoms:

- Black pants or skirt (no more than 4 inches above the knee)

#### ◆ Accessories:

- Accessories that are clean, festive, and fun
- Hats are permitted as long as they do not cover the eyes (no billed hats)
- Those wearing skirts must also wear black tights
- Shoes: black dress shoes, black flats, or black character shoes

### → Spring Concert/Choral Performance Assessment Attire:

#### ◆ Men

- Suit purchased from Street Tux
- Black dress shoes and Black socks
- Black dress shirt, Black tie, Black belt
- If the suit no longer fits, contact Mr. Shockley at least two months before the first spring performance so that adjustments can be made.

#### ◆ Women

- Chantilly outfit
- Black character shoes
- Black tights
- Accessories limited to a pearl necklace and pearl stud earrings
- Remove all other jewelry, including bracelets, necklaces, smartwatches, and additional piercings
- Nails must be free of polish or a skin-tone matching color

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

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- ◆ **Avoid Distractions:** Clothing with large logos, offensive language, graphics, or excessive embellishments should be avoided. The focus should be on your character and the purpose of the event.
- ◆ **Footwear:** Wear appropriate footwear that suits the event and ensures your safety and comfort.
- ◆ **Cleanliness and Grooming:** Maintain personal hygiene and ensure that your clothing is clean and well-presented. Grooming should be neat and appropriate for the occasion.
- ◆ **Consider the Occasion:** Choose attire that aligns with the nature of the event. Dress more formally for special occasions, religious events, or formal gatherings, and dress appropriately for casual outings.

## Theatre

→ Rehearsal Attire

◆ Clothing

- All clothing should be modest and respectful. Avoid clothing that is overly revealing, tight-fitting, or excessively casual. Our attire should reflect the seriousness and dignity of the creative process.

- Wear clothing that allows for ease of movement and comfort during rehearsals. This may include leggings, loose-fitting pants, or athletic wear. Ensure that your attire doesn't restrict your ability to perform or participate fully.
- Approved Rehearsal-Wear:
  - **Tops:** Goodpasture T-Shirt, Solid Black or White T-Shirt, Solid Black or White Tank Top
  - **Bottoms:** Black Leggings, Black Shorts (at least 5" inseam), Black Tennis Skirt (at least 5" inseam), Black Sweatpants, Black Rehearsal Skirt (with one of the previous bottoms underneath)
- Students are permitted to wear their GCS school uniform to rehearsals that do not involve movement.
- Tank tops should not show excessive skin or undergarments at the neckline or underarm.
- Spandex shorts are not permitted. Shorts must be loose around the leg.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ 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.

## → 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:

- **Modesty and Elegance:** Choose attire that is elegant, tasteful, and aligned with Christian values. Dresses and suits should be of appropriate length and fit, without excessive cleavage, low necklines, or high slits above the mid-thigh.
  - **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.
  - **Grooming:** Prioritize grooming and hygiene. Hair should be neatly styled, and makeup should be tasteful and in line with the elegance of the event.
  - **Award Attire for Men:** Suits are recommended. A tie or bowtie should be worn, and shoes should be formal.
  - **Red Carpet Attire for Women:** Choose a dress that is elegant and fits well. 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.

### Other Out-Of-School Events:

- At Goodpasture Christian School, we recognize that our students represent our values and principles not only within the school campus but also in various external settings. Our dress code reflects our commitment to honoring God, promoting modesty, and maintaining a respectful appearance in all circumstances. When attending events outside of school, please adhere to the following guidelines:
- ◆ **Modesty and Respect:** Choose attire that is modest and respectful of yourself and others. Avoid clothing that is overly revealing, excessively casual, or inappropriate for the occasion.
  - ◆ **Appropriate Fit and Length:** Select clothing that fits well and is of an appropriate length. Dresses, skirts, and shorts should be of modest length, and pants should not be excessively tight.

- ◆ **Necklines and Sleeves:** Opt for necklines and sleeves that provide adequate coverage. Avoid low necklines, strapless or spaghetti-strap tops, and sleeveless tops with overly wide armholes.
- ◆ **Avoid Distractions:** Clothing with large logos, offensive language, graphics, or excessive embellishments should be avoided. The focus should be on your character and the purpose of the event.
- ◆ **Footwear:** Wear appropriate footwear that suits the event and ensures your safety and comfort.
- ◆ **Cleanliness and Grooming:** Maintain personal hygiene and ensure that your clothing is clean and well-presented. Grooming should be neat and appropriate for the occasion.
- ◆ **Consider the Occasion:** Choose attire that aligns with the nature of the event. Dress more formally for special occasions, religious events, or formal gatherings, and dress appropriately for casual outings.

By adhering to these dress code guidelines, we create an environment that supports focused and respectful rehearsals, allowing us to work together as a community to bring our creative visions to life while honoring our commitment to Christian values.



# 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 Christian 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: \_\_\_\_\_