

Sage Ridge School

2011-12 Upper School Club Descriptions

Art

Sponsor: Mr. Brown

Art Club is an organization whose purpose is twofold. Firstly, the club is one of the main groups to create and paint the sets and props for the schools plays. This is an ongoing process which culminates each semester in the performance of the play. Secondly, Art Club has been part of creating public works of art for the school grounds. This group contributed last year to the Pillars Mural on the wall at the lower Elementary playground area. If time is available, this club will also consider art projects which would enhance public spaces on the school grounds in the future such as temporary types of art installations.

buildOn

Sponsor: Dr. DiBitonto

This year the SRS buildOn chapter, a high school chapter of a renowned non-profit organization and NGO, seeks to fund the construction of a school in one of several potential third world countries, most likely Malawi which is located in southwest Africa. Activities will be centered around fundraisers that may include coin drives, bake sales, car washes, benefits, garage sales, and donor calls. The club will also aim to spread awareness about the need for more global education through the Sage Ridge and Reno communities. Club participants will also earn the opportunity to travel to the international destination of the school and help build it after the end of the year goal is met. This club is meant for students who are interested in philanthropy, spreading global education, and experiencing other cultures while simultaneously earning the SRS mandated community service hours.

Community Service

Sponsor: Ms. Becker

The community service club is an opportunity for Sage Ridge School students to give back to the Reno/Tahoe community. We will focus on volunteering and fundraising for several local organizations such as, JDRF (Junior Diabetes Research Foundation), Reno Cancer Foundation and the Northern Nevada Children's Cancer foundation. This club will allow our Upper School students to satisfy their community service requirements while promoting the Sage Ridge School pillars.

Eco Council

Sponsor: Mr. VanCleve and Mr. Gault

The Eco Council will raise awareness through several projects that involve both club member and non-member participation, including; Earth Day Celebration, education and action on environmental concerns, the recycling program, as well as monitoring and reducing Sage Ridge School's carbon footprint. The Eco Council will seek to reduce energy consumption and paper waste within Sage Ridge School through "greening" the schools' janitorial chemicals, establishing green energy sources, and recycling paper. The ultimate goal of the club is to raise awareness about the environment and to incorporate Sage Ridge School into a global, environmentally conscious community.

Engineering

Sponsor: Dr. Wedemeyer

In the Engineering Club, we'll have fun building cool stuff and making amazing things happen, like lifting cars off the ground and stopping a monster truck with squealing tires using only a rope wrapped around a slippery pole. Engineering is all about making effective use of ordinary things and we'll study the ways engineers do that. We'll pull apart everyday appliances to see how they work and the principles that make them work. If there's interest, we'll also consider the engineering of imaginary objects, such as starships, shrink rays, and transporter beams (beam me up, Scotty!). We'll explore the specializations that an engineer can pursue, such as electrical, computer, mechanical, automotive, medical, and civil engineering. For more advanced students, I'll teach the mathematics needed for an undergraduate engineering education at MIT.

Garden

Sponsor: Mr. VanCleve

Honor Council

Mr. Cook

The SRS Honor Council is an elected body of nine students sponsored by one faculty advisor. The term of each representative is for one academic year with the exception of the 11th grade representatives who serve a subsequent term as a co-chair. Each grade level is represented by two students with the exception of the ninth grade which has one representative. The two senior co-chairs are not elected but are tenured into the position from their service during the year prior. The Honor Council is primarily an educational body responsible for the development and conduct of discussions relating to social, moral and ethical issues. The Honor Council will routinely be called upon by the Upper School Coordinator to develop curriculum and lead discussions with students regarding a wide variety of topics sensitive to the SRS community. The Honor Council's secondary role is in the investigation of, and adjudication recommendations for, suspected honor code violations. Council procedures and recommendations are based on SRS policies and precedence.

Junior Classical League

Sponsor: Ms. Dickson

The Junior Classical League is open to all students who are currently taking Latin. This is a social club for those who are enthusiastic about Roman culture/ history/ language and are interested in sharing their enthusiasm with other like-minded Latin lovers. Students will prepare for the JCL Conventions during club time which will include preparing for certamen competitions, creating banner and art work pieces based on the theme for the year, translating favorite authors, and inventing cheers to show club spirit.

Kids for Wish Kids

Sponsor: Ms. Welsh

The Kids for Wish Kids Club is a program designed by the Make-A-Wish Foundation that allows students to be directly involved with the granting of a wish of a child diagnosed with a life-threatening condition. At Sage Ridge, we would fundraise about \$5000 to grant the wish of one child who lives in Northern Nevada. Granting a wish gives the wish kid and his or her family more than just a happy memory – a wish can restore the hope necessary for the child to

fight the disease, saving lives. In addition to granting the wish, students in this club will have fun brainstorming and organizing fundraisers, as well as implementing fundraisers the whole student body will enjoy. This club represents an excellent opportunity to help children battle life-threatening conditions and is a rewarding way to earn volunteer hours required by the school.

Marksmanship

Sponsor: Mr. Cook

During the second year of the Marksmanship club, components will be incorporated within the club curriculum such as hunter safety, conservation, firearm safety, archery, and other educational aspects and applications of marksmanship that the students want to pursue. Most likely, air rifles/pistols will be utilized in teaching students how to shoot, but more importantly, how to handle firearms safely and responsibly. Additionally, club participants will have the opportunity to go on outings (likely to take place on weekends and/or afternoons) to places like Sage Hill Gun Club, and Safe Shot indoor range, to widen the breadth of what is pursued. Ultimately, this club is meant for students who have an interest in shooting sports and a desire to broaden their knowledge of various fields such as those stated above. Club space is limited to twenty students per year.

Math

Sponsor: Dr. Wedemeyer

Mathematics is the one of the coolest subjects you can study – you're limited only by your imagination! We'll study the mathematics of art and science, such as the 17 ways to design a quilt, turning a sphere inside out without breaking it, Fermat's Last Theorem, how your cell-phone uses circles to find out where you are, the secret code of CDs and DVDs, the warping of space, and the beautiful art of sundials. We'll discuss the different fields that a mathematician can choose to study, and I'll try to convey the kinds of questions they're interested in. In the spring, you can test your math-mettle by competing in the national math competition. I'm also happy to give extra tutoring in any field of math that students want to know about.

The Midwife

Sponsor: Mr. Sloyan

The Midwife is a way to learn about magazine publishing while at Sage Ridge, but it's also so much more past that. The Midwife, our literary arts magazine, is dedicated to the promotion of the arts – both visual and written, and perhaps someday the performance arts as well if we can get enough numbers to manage both a magazine and a website. The Midwife has been around for years at Sage Ridge, and is one of those publications that has become central to the school. While we put out only one magazine per year The Midwife is always high quality, made with care and dedication.

Model U.N.

Sponsor: Ms. Weber

Model UN is an internationally supported student organization providing students the opportunity to understand the role of the United Nations in world affairs. Students research about various countries for Model UN conferences. Then students act as delegates of those countries at a Model UN conference. Students learn the basics of parliamentary procedure,

international relations and global human dynamics. Students will travel to Model UN conferences during the year to meet and participate with students from all walks of life. Model UN conferences will be once a semester. Space is limited due to the travel requirements for conferences. Please speak to Ms. Weber before signing up.

The Ridge

Sponsor: Ms. Fields and Mr. Cook

The Ridge is an online newspaper published by Upper School students at Sage Ridge School at least eight times annually. *The Ridge* is an accessible public forum that provides information and entertainment, as well as various viewpoints and debatable issues in the form of editorials and columns. It is also an opportunity to enhance journalistic writing skills which are not taught in Sage Ridge classes, learn to work in a timely manner for deadlines, and gain leadership and responsibility as an ethical journalist.

Rock Band

Sponsor: Mr. Jorgensen

This club exists for one reason and one reason only. To ROCK!. For those about to rock, we salute you. If you play an instrument and/or like to scream/yell/sing, join us. We'll take the stage regularly at Coffee House and First Friday.

The Sage

Sponsor: Ms. Fields and Mr. Cook

The Sage is a newsletter which comes out every other week. Its purpose is to report on upcoming events that may interest students. These can be student government planned events, sports meets, club events, etc. Anything which may be of interest to students at Sage ridge is fair game for The Sage. The writers of The Sage are high school students who created the newsletter and are devoted to its purpose. We hope you will read and enjoy The Sage as well as support its writers and its purpose.

Science

Sponsor: Ms. Bissonette

Science Club is a student-run organization encouraging students to formulate questions about the natural world and explore them using the scientific method. The club utilizes the talents of Sage Ridge Upper School students to generate experimental data to increase understanding of Biology, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Chemistry, and Engineering. Science Club provides an excellent outlet for discovery and technical experience for upper school students.

Sign Language

Sponsor: Dr. Wedemeyer

Have you ever wanted to talk to your friends in study hall? Now you can! Learning American Sign Language (ASL) will open new worlds of communication to you and your friends, and allow you to build bridges between the hearing and Deaf communities. We'll learn the history of sign language and try to appreciate the experience of Deaf people as a minority in a hearing world. We'll also ponder the ethics of well-meaning treatments by hearing people, such as cochlear implants and suppressing ASL in favor of lip-reading and speaking.

Speech and Debate

Sponsor: Mr. Leader

Speech & Debate is a co-curricular activity that focuses on public speaking, research, and critical thinking skills. There are 14 different individual events in which students can participate, including dramatic and humorous interpretations of scripts, poetry and prose, original oratory, and extemporaneous speeches on current events. The 4 different Debate events include Policy Debate (2 person team), Lincoln/Douglas (individual), Public Forum (2 person team) and Congressional Debate (individual). Students are expected to participate in at least one local tournament per semester, as competition is an integral part of this club. Students are encouraged to participate in as many tournaments as possible, including out-of-state Invitational Tournaments such as USC, Berkeley, UNLV, Nevada State Championships, and if qualified, the NFL National Tournament.

Student Council

Sponsor: Dr. Bialkowski

Student Council gives students a direct role in charting the course of the Sage Ridge Community. It is comprised of student representatives: each grade level elects two councilors and the student body elects the Student Council's executive officers (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, & Secretary). Student representatives plan out major events such as dances, movie nights, and Prom; it also organizes spirit weeks and festivals. All funds used by the Student Council come from money raised by the sale of snacks at the Student store in the Crossbow Loft.

Theatre

Sponsor: Mr. Crain

Theatre Club provides leadership and support for SRS Productions. Theatre Club is responsible for singing (figuratively and sometimes literally, singing) the praises of Sage Ridge School's Performing Arts events, productions and festivals. Theatre Club helps raise money for program needs. Theatre Club also interacts with the greater Sage Ridge Community (performing at the Gala, etc...). Theatre Club also researches, reads, and reviews scripts, plays and musicals for future consideration of SRS Productions.

Yearbook

Sponsor: Dr. McGann

The Yearbook Club is a club that essentially creates the Yearbook that the school receives at the end of the year. We use an online template to create the yearbook. Members must be willing to actively participate during the club periods during the week, but also put in outside time in order to complete their pages. Generally, it is a time consuming club, especially since we have deadlines. Yearbook club members are also responsible for taking pictures for clubs, sports, Outdoor Education, spirit weeks, dances, and daily school activities. It is a fun club, but please take it seriously, because it is published at the end of the year.