

Clubs/Activities at UMS for 2019-2020

Art Club – Mrs. Ehnert

The MUMS Art Club is open to all students who love Art! Students will be able to work independently, as well as work on large scale group projects like murals throughout UMS, and musical scenery come winter! Each meeting will allow students the opportunity to work with a variety of different art media. It is a safe and relaxed environment where exploration of individual ideas and creativity is encouraged. Applications will be announced soon! Website: <https://sites.google.com/mtsd.us/ehmert/art-club?authuser=0>

CLAW Newspaper – Ms. Tiu

As members of The Claw newspaper staff, students practice the craft of journalism in its many forms, with the goal of producing at least three publications throughout the year. The Claw seeks to publish polished works in the following genres: school news, the arts, sports, opinions/editorials, as well as works of graphic & visual art. Meetings are held every other Wednesday. The first meeting will be held on Wednesday, 9/11.

Debate Team – Mr. Scarpa

Eighth-grade students only are invited to audition for the UMS Debate Team. Students learn to assess controversial issues and then argue a position, a process which includes researching, writing, and preparing oral arguments. Additionally, they write formal legislative bills. This club requires focus and dedication, but also is a lot of fun. Information packets detailing the club and the audition requirements will be available in October - listen for announcements. The Debate Team meets on Tuesdays from November through March. Attendance is mandatory.

Digital Photography Club - Ms. Ehnert

Digital Photography Club will our eyes and memory makers at UMS! This club allows students to use their creativity to explore photographic visual imagery with the digital technology of today while capturing the awesome things happening at UMS! You'll be sent on assignment and we'll monthly to showcase your work! Learn how to take awesome memory making high quality pictures with their cell phones that rival top digital cameras of today! Applications will be announced soon on Mrs. Ehnert's website!

FIRST Lego League Robotics Team – Ms. Yip

FIRST Lego League (FLL) is an international competition where teams program a robot (using the LEGO® MINDSTORMS®) to score points on a thematic playing surface, create innovative solutions to a problem, all while being guided by the FLL Core Values. These three elements - the Robot Game, Project, and FLL Core Values - make up the yearly Challenge that focuses on a different real-world problem related to the sciences. The UMS FLL team will participate in one or more tournaments. Please check the website at: <http://montyumsrobotics.weebly.com> The FLL team will meet on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, and some weeks on additional days from September through November. See website for specific details. The interest meeting will be Thursday, 9/12/19. You must be in attendance to apply for the team.

Interact Club – Mr. Regner

The Interact Club is a service based organization which meets year round. Students plan and coordinate all school service projects. Interact is open to all and there are no requirements to join. The club is the school branch of the Montgomery Rotary Club. Interact Club meets on **Thursday** approximately 3 times per month throughout the school year. Meetings will be announced in school.

Intramural Basketball – Mr. Regner

This is a chance to learn some new basketball skills, play as a team, meet new people and have some fun! New teams are made each session and no experience is necessary. Intramural Basketball will meet on **Wednesdays** in the Spring.

Intramural Flag Football – Mr. Ramsay

Flag Football is a fall club. Games are played outside rain or shine, unless the weather is extreme or dangerous for play. Team sizes range from 5 to 10 students, depending on the number of teams. Teams are formed the first few weeks of play. A student must have a signed permission slip to play. Each student should make a commitment to play whenever his or her team is playing. Flag Football meets on **Wednesdays** for 10 weeks in the fall.

Intramural Ultimate Frisbee – Mr. Regner

Ultimate Frisbee is a no coach, no referee sport that was created by high school students from Columbia High School in Maplewood, NJ. Come play and learn the sport of Ultimate Frisbee, soon to be an Olympic sport. Emphasis is on fair play, not winning. Students who like athletics but don't like the more organized/aggressive sports are encouraged to join. This club is open to all, come as often or as little as you like. Ultimate Frisbee begins in the fall. Ultimate Frisbee club will meet on **Tuesdays** during the Fall.

Intramural Volleyball – Mrs. Giunta

Volleyball is an intramural sport that is open to all, no experience is necessary. The club covers the basics of the game including serving, bumping and setting. The majority of the time is dedicated to playing the game and having fun. Regular participation is required by the advisor. Students will be playing games against fellow students at UMS. Volleyball meets on Tuesdays in the fall.

Jazz Band – Mr. Mazurkiewicz

Jazz Band is an audition-only group that meets from October through June on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. This award-winning and high-energy band performs at festivals and concerts in our community throughout the year. Membership is open to all UMS students who play drum set, bass, guitar, piano, trumpet, trombone, and saxophone. Audition videos are typically due in late September. The audition materials and calendar will be posted on Mr. M's staff webpage during the first week of school.

MathCounts – Ms. Donovan

MathCounts is a national math enrichment, coaching and competition program that promotes middle school mathematics achievement in every U.S. state and territory. MathCounts is one of the most

successful education partnerships involving volunteers, educators, industry sponsors and students. MathCounts is open to 7th and 8th graders who enjoy math, like solving math problems, and meeting other students with this common interest. If you decide you want to try out for the competition team, you should go to the Montgomery MathCounts website to sign up:

<http://montgomerymathcounts.weebly.com/> Tryout dates are listed on the website.

MathCounts meets on Wednesdays, October through March. Specific dates are listed on the website. Regional and State Team members will be required to attend additional meetings.

Melodies - After School Treble Choir – Ms. Makvana

Melodies is a select treble choir that meets primarily after school every Tuesday from 3:05-4:15. Melodies performs advanced treble choir music in two concerts throughout the year. The group is open to ALL treble voices throughout the school. A brief audition will take place in late September.

Science Olympiad – Ms. Butler and Ms. Molinaro

The Science Olympiad is a national organization that promotes science learning and competition. The UMS team is selected based on set criteria in September and includes 7th, 8th and 9th graders. Students should attend an informational meeting, complete an application and submit it to one of the coaches in early September. Students will also be required to take a test(s) to show their science aptitude. Science Olympiad meets after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays and occasional Saturdays throughout the school year, beginning in late September. Regional and State competitions occur in January and March respectively.

Select Orchestra – Miss Yavorsky

Select Orchestra is an audition-only after school ensemble open to 7th and 8th grade orchestra members who are looking for more challenging advanced repertoire. Select Orchestra will run from October through May, with auditions taking place during flex in September. Attendance is mandatory, but time can be split between Select Orchestra and other Wednesday-only clubs, sports, and activities. Check the board in the orchestra room for more details!

Stage Crew –

If you want to be a part of the play production but do not want to be center stage, then stage crew might be for you. Stage crew always has a lot of activities backstage during the show. Sets need to be moved into place during scene changes and props need to be ready for actors who are entering the stage. Critical components of the stage need to be operated such as the main curtain and house lights. Stage crew is in charge of keeping a safe and orderly stage before, during and after the show. Stage crew is a fun club to be a part of and you get to see your hard work through the final production. Stage crew begins in January.

Student Council – Ms. Donovan and Ms. Horowitz

The Student Council at UMS sponsors many school wide events. Student Council runs fundraisers throughout the school year. Student Council sponsors the dances and plans Spirit/Red Ribbon Week. Other activities include being guides at Back to School Night, preparing gifts for Teacher Appreciation Week, sponsoring the 8th grade end of year t-shirts and various other activities depending on the Student Council's needs. In order to join, you must fill out an application and submit it to Ms.

Horowitz/Ms. Donovan in the first few weeks of school. Most applicants are accepted unless there are too many applicants. Students new during the school year can speak to Ms. Horowitz/Ms. Donovan regarding membership opportunities. Student Council meets on Thursdays approximately 2-3 times a month, depending on the current project, throughout the school year.

Techsters the Tech Club – Mrs. Markmann

During Techsters Computer Club we will explore new technologies and learn new programming skills. Meet fellow 7th and 8th graders who are also interested in technology. Meet guest speakers who come to our club meetings to share their expertise in technology. Members will explore artificial intelligence and how to gain new tech skills. Club begins January 2019. Meeting day to be determined.

UMS Spring Musical – Mr. Accardi

Each year the UMS music department invites any and all students to participate in a full-length, Broadway style musical. There are opportunities for being on stage, working backstage, building and painting scenery, making costumes, and working with the sound and lighting technology. No previous experience is necessary. Auditions for actors are usually held in early December. All students that plan to audition will be taught a song, scene, and dance prior to their audition. Rehearsals will begin in December for the actors. Set construction, art and technology work begins in January. All rehearsals are after school and require regular attendance. The performances are scheduled in March. Please visit the UMS Drama Website: <https://sites.google.com/mtsd.us/umsdrama/home>

Yearbook Club – Mrs. Kallens

The Yearbook Club designs and produces the annual Upper Middle School yearbook. Activities include planning, design, artwork, photography, writing, editing and proofreading. The Yearbook Club is open to all students in 7th and 8th grade who enjoy writing, photography, and art. The Yearbook Club meets throughout the school year. Meeting dates to be determined.

Yoga Club – Ms. Lachenauer

The UMS Yoga Club will meet twice a month and is open to all students. Students may come to just one session or participate in all 20 where they will participate in yoga, yoga games, meditation, and mindfulness exercises to help us stay in the present moment and be the best versions of ourselves. No experience is necessary and we have yoga mats for you! Just bring yourself-just as you are!