

Dear Upper School Students and Families,

Summer greetings from Park Arts! We hope this letter finds you well and enjoying summer's slower pace. We are looking forward to supporting your creative work and inquiry when we return to campus this fall!

As we look ahead to the 2026-2027 school year, we would like to call your attention to important information about the Upper School Performing Arts programs.

Per the Arts Department's mission to encourage authentic artistic development and support the rich inner lives of our students, Park's Upper School Music Program includes opportunities for students to sing and play their instruments in a variety of ways, and we encourage those who are not already part of an ensemble to consider adding a non-auditioned G Block ensemble to their course of study. **Parksingers**, **Park Strings**, and **Wind Ensemble** all meet weekly during G block and offer students a wonderful opportunity to exercise creativity, take a break from academic work, and build community through music.

For those who plan to participate in any of Park's music ensembles, both auditioned and non-auditioned, please see the end of this letter for important information about the second semester music trip we have planned.

Directors of each of the music groups will be reaching out directly to students and families at the start of the school year with ensemble-specific information about the year's concerts and rehearsals, so please be on the lookout for those communications when we return in September.

Additionally, we write now with information about our preseason Performing Arts rehearsals. Students participating in the Fall Production "Mean Girls" and members of the Park Jazz Collective (PJC) will find preseason rehearsal information at the end of this letter.

As ever, if you have any arts-related questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or any of the Arts Faculty.

For now, we wish you a wonderful, restful, and safe remainder of the summer. Here is to a creative and engaging 2026-27 academic year!

Best wishes,
Deborah Hull, Director of Arts
410.339.4138 | dhull@parkschool.net

PARK MUSIC and THEATER PRESEASON INFORMATION

US Fall Production “Mean Girls” Preseason Rehearsal Information:

Workout Recommendation: “Mean Girls” is a high-energy show, and all students will be in long dance sequences. We highly recommend building up your cardiovascular endurance! Runs, swims, dancing, and other sports are all great options; the goal is to keep your heart rate high and breathing heavy. *Aim to exercise 2-4 times per week, for at least 30 minutes per session. Physical fitness will make a big difference!*

Preseason Rehearsals: These will be dance workshops where we will learn movement vocabulary and choreographic building blocks before starting to put things together for the opening number! *All cast members are called to preseason rehearsals.* *If you are out of town or have previous formal commitments like work, you are excused (please email Charlie in advance with a heads up).*

Fall Production Preseason Scheduled Rehearsals:

- Tuesday, 8/25/26 3:30-5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, 8/27/26 3:30-5:30 p.m.
- Monday 8/31/26: 3:30-5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, 9/1/26 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Park Jazz Collective Preseason Rehearsal (PJC):

- Tuesday, August 26: PJC Preseason – 3-5 p.m.

September 23, 2026 – Gala Performance Ensemble Information

Please mark your calendars for a special event to celebrate the revitalization of The Harvey M. Meyerhoff Theater at Park

Wednesday, September 23, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

PJC and Parksingers will be performing at the celebration.

All others are warmly invited to attend!

2027 PARK MUSIC ADJUDICATED TRIP:

“Music in the Parks” Adjudicated Festival at Hersheypark

Participating Groups:

Parkappella, Park Jazz Collective, Park Strings, Wind Ensemble

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2026 (All Day)

Departure from Park: 7 a.m.

Return to Park: 10 p.m.

Cost: \$130* billed via FACTS

**Please note that students who receive Tuition Assistance will be billed in proportion to their award. If the trip represents financial hardship for your family and you do not receive Tuition Assistance, please reach out to Mennette D. San-Lee, Director of Enrollment Management and Tuition Assistance at msanlee@parkschool.net.*