

Dobbs Ferry High School

Extra-Curricular Clubs (2012-13)

Class Advisory

Being part of a grade level advisory helps to unite the school and allows students to meet new people while planning school-wide events. Please contact the following grade-level advisers for more information:

- Freshman Class (Ms. Sardinia: sardiniam@dfsd.org)
- Sophomore Class (Mr. Hanley: hanleym@dfsd.org)
- Junior Class (Mr. Adamo: adamof@dfsd.org)
- Senior Class (Ms. Drake: drakem@dfsd.org)

Creative Writing Club

The Creative Writing Club is a group of student writers who meet weekly to develop their writing skills through exercises and peer editing. Students explore all different aspects of writing and get exposure to multiple genres and styles. Writers of all skill levels and interests are welcomed to join. The club will be meeting on Monday afternoons between 3:30 and 5:00 in room 202. Please contact Mr. Fischbeck (fischbecka@dfsd.org) for more information.

Dance Team

The Dance Team is student-centered where students choreograph various dances performs at a variety of basketball games as well as the talent show. The team meets twice per week. Please contact Ms. Drake (drakem@dfsd.org) for more information.

The Debate Club

The Debate Club provides an opportunity for students to question and analyze popular cultural and world issues. In doing so, students develop public speaking and presentation skills as they work collaboratively with their peers. The Debate Club also teaches students to formulate and organize their own opinions and arguments as they support their statements with research and statistical data. Please contact Mr. Adamo (adamof@dfsd.org) for more information.

Destination Imagination

The goal of Destination Imagination (DI) is to foster creativity and problem solving among participants. Students prepare to compete regionally, state-wide, and globally for creative problem solving challenges. Please contact Ms. Henry (henryj@dfsd.org) for more information.

Eagle Echo (School Newspaper)

The Dobbs Ferry High School newspaper is taking a new direction as the 2012 –2013 school year begins! This year we are going to produce the newspaper in an all-digital fashion. The Digital Eagle and its contents will be accessible over the internet, via Twitter, and on Facebook. Students of all grades and all interest areas are invited to contribute to the paper. The first meeting will take place during both activity periods on Tuesday September 25th in room 119. The future meeting schedule will be discussed at that first meeting. Please contact Mr. Cohn (cohnc@dfsd.org) or Ms. Rancier (rancierk@dfsd.org) for more information.

Friends of Rachel (FOR)

The Friends of Rachel Club (FOR Club) aims to promote a positive and accepting school culture at Dobbs Ferry HS. It is based on the 5 principles of Rachel's Challenge.

1. Eliminate Prejudice
2. Dare to Dream
3. Choose your Influences
4. Kind Words
5. Start a Chain Reaction

Past activities have included Positive Freshman Friday, Blue Shirt Day, Mix-it-Up Lunch with the ELL students, Staff Appreciation week and letter writing, and several anti-bullying activities. Please contact Ms. Propersi (propersim@dfsd.org) or Ms. Haggerty (haggertym@dfsd.org) for more information.

Green Club

This club is a student directed endeavor that strives to raise awareness about environmental considerations. Students will participate in recycling efforts in addition to education campaigns in order to further the conservation agenda. Please contact Ms. Henry (henryj@dfsd.org) for more information.

GSA (Gay/Straight Alliance)

The GSA focuses on issues such as tolerance, understanding, and anti-bullying. Students help to organize school-wide events and help to build community within our school. Please contact Mr. Conley (conleyc@dfsd.org) for more information.

Habitat club

The Habitat club is designed to foster a sense of charity and community among members. The primary outlet for attaining goals will be through the organization Habitat for Humanity which works to build affordable housing for low income families. Additional fund raising activities will be orchestrated to raise monies for other organizations which students are passionate about. The group also puts together Thanksgiving baskets for families in need in Dobbs Ferry and as well as a "Secret Santa" for needy children in New York. Please contact Ms. Henry (henryj@dfsd.org) for more information.

High School Musical

Ever see a Broadway musical on stage or on film and wish you could be a part of it? This spring, the High School Vocal Music/Theater program will produce a spring musical, title to be announced. High school students in grades 9-12 may participate in the spring musical as an actor/singer/dancer and/or behind the scenes in theater tech and stage crew. Students wishing to perform on stage will be able to audition in January and if cast, rehearse from February to April for the full-scale spring musical. Please contact Ms. DeFalco (defalcog@dfsd.org) for more information.

Improv Club (formally the Drama Club)

The Improv Club is open to any student in Grades 9-12 who would like to learn improvisational theater skills and hone their acting skills. Improv is acting without a script and a great way to practice "thinking on your feet," a valuable skill in any field of work. Students will also learn how to speak clearly, project their voice, and feel comfortable getting up in front of others. The group will meet on Wednesdays from 3:05-4:05 in room 113. Please contact Ms. Flaks for more information.

International Club

The International Club is for students who have an interest in the many cultures and ethnic groups that exist in the Dobbs Ferry school community. The International Club promotes understanding and appreciation for the many distinct cultural and ethnic groups in our school community and develops an understanding of the similarities and differences that exist between them in a positive, educationally-based way. The International Club typically meets biweekly during student lunch periods or Activity Period. Please contact Ms. Halberg (halbergm@dfsd.org) for more information.

Jazz Ensemble

This ensemble is a new so its exact character and style are yet to be determined, but all instrumentalists and vocalists who are interested should not hesitate to inquire! This musical ensemble/band will perform a variety of pop and jazz pieces. The group will meet on Tuesday afternoons after school in the band room. Please contact Mr. Cohen (cohenl@dfsd.org) for more information.

Literary Magazine: Orpheus

This group meets regularly to collect, organize, and select original pieces of artwork, writing, and photography. They also work on the layout and publishing of this annual magazine. Please contact Ms. Lindner (lindnerm@dfsd.org) for more information.

Math League

Members of the New York Math League compete with other participating high schools for the highest scores on six contests. The top 5 scores from each contest are submitted. Each contest consists of 6 questions. There is a time limit of 30 minutes for each contest. On each contest, the last two questions are generally more difficult than the first four. All high school students are welcome to join. Contests take place once a month on Tuesdays from October to March in room 305 from 3:10 - 3:40 pm. Please contact Ms. Sirakos (sirakosp@dfsd.org) for more information.

Model UN

The Model UN club is open to all students. The purpose of the club is to discuss and debate issues of international importance. A secondary goal of the club is to prepare students to participate in conferences where they will represent DFHS against other schools from the area. The conferences are an excellent opportunity for students to work on important skills such as debate, resolution, cooperation, and bill writing. Please contact Mr. Meagh (mmeagh@dfsd.org) for more information.

MSG (Madison Square Garden)

The MSG Club is a communications group that is sponsored by Madison Square Garden. Students in this club feature school-wide events by focusing on programming, editing, and film production. Please contact Mr. Patrillo (patrillos@dfsd.org) for more information.

National Honor Society (NHS)

The National Honor Society is not a co-curricular club in the usual sense. Students in NHS are nominated as second semester juniors based on their cumulative GPA. Nominated juniors must then undergo a rigorous nomination process that will look at the student's character, scholarship, service, and leadership --- the four tenants of the National Honor Society. Accepted students will serve as members of the NHS during their senior year. Please contact Mr. Cottingham (cottinghamj@dfsd.org) for more information.

Peer Leadership

The mission of this club is to create connections between upper and underclassmen both academically and socially. Peer leaders will offer academic support during both activity periods and after school to underclassmen. Additionally bridges will be built between the HS and the MS by extending this privilege to students in 8th grade. Lastly, Peer Leaders will give a presentation at the end of the year to the incoming freshmen to help them transition to high school. Please contact Ms. Henry (henryj@dfsd.org) for more information.

Select Chorus

The Select Chorus is for any student Grades 9-12 who would like to sing in a choir. Select Chorus will sing a variety of pop and standard repertoire and will perform at the Winter and Spring Music Concerts, as well as other performances outside of school. Rehearsals will be on Wednesday's from 5:00- 6:30 to accommodate sports and other activities. Some choreography and costumes may be added. A schedule of rehearsal dates will be given out at the first meeting on October 3rd. Previous singing experience is preferred, but not necessary. Please contact Ms. DeFalco (defalcog@dfsd.org) for more information.

Sign Language Club

Members will learn basic conversational ASL (American Sign Language), about the deaf culture and various job opportunities for translators for the hearing-impaired. They will also view clips from movies about the deaf (such as *Johnny Belinda*, *Man of a Thousand Faces*, *Mr. Holland's Opus*) and possibly visit a school for deaf/hearing-impaired children. Meetings generally take place every other Friday after school and once a month during Activity Period in room 305. Please contact Ms. Sirakos (sirakosp@dfsd.org) for more information.

Student Government: Activities Branch

The charge of the Activities Branch is to promote school spirit, grade unity, and community within our school. This group organizes and runs MAC field day, spirit week, color wars, the pep rally, and decorates the hallways and school for holidays. The Activities Branch also supports and promotes other clubs and students raise money for a charity of their choice each year. The group meets during activity periods, at lunch, and after school throughout the entire year. This might be the largest club in the school with approximately 80 members each year. Please contact Ms. Addona (addonam@dfsd.org) for more information.

Student Government: Legislative Branch

Members of the Legislative Branch are elected by their peers and serve for one year. The group meets on a weekly basis and discusses issues within the high school that impact student life. The club then prioritizes these issues and writes bills that are submitted to the school administration for review. The club is an excellent venue for students to work on important skills such as debate and bill writing. Please contact Mr. Meagh (meaghm@dfsd.org) for more information.

Wilderness (Hiking) Club

Students in this club learn the basics of hiking, wilderness survival, safety, and first aid. The experienced club leaders will teach practical survival techniques, how to read a hiking map, what to bring on a hike, and more! They will also share a list of great places to hike. As a club member, students will also adopt an endangered species through the World Wildlife Fund. Please contact Ms. Irvine (irvinem@dfsd.org) for more information.

World Language Honor Society

The World Language Honor Society is an induction of 11th grade students of Italian, Spanish and French. The induction ceremony takes place in May of junior year and students must have achieved 85% or better (mastery level) on either the NYS Regents exam or final assessment in grade ten. Students also need two semesters of an A- average or higher. Please contact Ms. Addona (addonam@dfsd.org) for more information.

Yearbook Club (Periauger)

The goal of the Yearbook Club is for students of all grades to work together to create a yearbook commemorating the graduating class. Club members can contribute to the development of the yearbook in a variety of manners, depending on their strengths and interests, including but not limited to formatting, organization, photography, writing, and illustration. Above all, the club is a fantastic opportunity for students to preserve their memories and collaborate in the creation of a keepsake to be cherished for years after graduation. Please contact Ms. Confalone (confalonen@dfsd.org) for more information.