

Academy Will Help Students Learn, Showcase Performing Arts Skills

By KRISTEN FIORE
Daily Sun Senior Writer

This summer, The Villages Charter School and the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center will partner to teach students the ins and outs of dancing, singing, acting, playing instruments and working behind the scenes of a performance.

The 2018 Performing Arts Academy will be held June 4-15, with performances June 14-15 at The Sharon to showcase what students learned.

Spots still are available and the academy is open to students between the ages of 10 and 18 from any school. Students can take classes in choral arts, drama, dance, band, and sound and light.

Classes will be held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday at various locations.

The academy will wrap up with a band and choral performance at 6 p.m. June 14 and a dance, color guard and drama performance at 6 p.m. June 15 at The Sharon.

Two tickets are included with each registration, and tickets to the performances cost \$5 each for the general public.

The Performing Arts Academy was highly requested by students this year, according to Tara Milow, enrollment coordinator at The Villages Charter School.

"This is a good opportunity for students who may have never done something like this and are interested in taking a performing arts elective in high school," Milow said. "This

Sharon staff and outside sources.

Jason Goedken, operations manager at The Sharon, said taking the sound and light classes and then working at the two end performances at The Sharon will help enrich the students' experiences and give them new perspectives.

"We always like to perpetuate the arts," Goedken said. "We can help enhance the program to some extent with our level of knowledge of what we do over here, and it will be a good experience for the kids to showcase what they learned."

Though the academy will be mostly made up of students from The Villages Charter Schools, Goedken said any student can participate, whether they are Villagers'

grandchildren or live in the surrounding area.

Those interested in the Performing Arts Academy can pick up registration forms in the front office of The Villages Charter Schools or email Milow at tara.milow@tvcs.org. Registration is open until May 25.

Goedken said he hopes over time the program will grow, expand to other students and maybe even bring some of them back for jobs in The Villages someday.

"We're excited to do this this year," Goedken said. "It's a program with a ton of value that we want to continue to offer for kids. It will expose kids to what we do here, how we do it and how professional touring venues operate so they can get hands-on experience."



Daily Sun file

A new ballroom dancing event begins this evening at Eisenhower Recreation Center. Ballroom Dance Plus will feature live and recorded music and will take place the second Wednesday of each month.

New Monthly Ballroom Event Kicks Off Today

Ballroom Dance Plus will take place the second Wednesday of each month, starting this evening.

By MADDIE CUTLER
Daily Sun Staff Writer

For more information, contact Succi at 401-323-4072 or drlindasucci@aol.com.

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Time to lace up your dancing shoes.

A new monthly ballroom dance event kicks off today starting at 6 p.m. at Eisenhower Recreation Center, 3560 Buena Vista Blvd. The themed ballroom dances will take place the second Wednesday of each month.

This month's theme is "May Flowers," according to the event's founder, Linda Succi, of the Village of Calumet Grove. Each dance will have a new theme.

Live and recorded music will provide a beat for dancers to move to on the dance floor. Singer Mark Steven Schmidt will sing ballroom, Latin and swing music for everyone to enjoy while they dance the night away.

Dance hosts will also be available for anyone who attends solo.

Tickets are \$6 per person and \$7 at the door. Register for tickets at danceclubs4villagers.wildapricot.org.

CLASSES AVAILABLE

Band: Students will learn the fundamentals of marching band, concert band, jazz band and chamber music.

Dance: Students will learn a variety of dance styles including ballet, jazz, lyrical, contemporary, hip-hop and acrobatics.

Drama: Students will learn acting skills, pantomime and improvisation. They will also have the opportunity to explore musical theater.

Sound and Light: Students will learn how to use sound and light equipment and how to run a show behind the scenes.

PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY SHOWS

When: 6 p.m. June 14-15

Where: The Sharon, 1051 Main St., The Villages

Cost: \$5 per show

is an opportunity for them to get their feet wet and explore." The classes will be taught by charter school teachers,

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