



**BRAY ELEMENTARY**  
218 N. Broad Street  
Cedar Hill, Texas 75104  
Phone: (972)291-4231, Fax: (972)291-6098



**"Learning to Lead"**  
**"Engaging in Excellence"**

**Marchelle Sterling, Principal**  
**LaShea White, Counselor**

### **Bray Elementary 2016-2017 Fine Arts Enrichment Pathways**

**Mission Statement:** The mission of Bray Elementary is to encourage and engage every student to be successful and inspired in their educational journey. We strive to achieve this through our Fine Arts Signature Program, integrating its strengths and benefits through academic experiences in a cross-curricular setting.

This year we are excited to officially launch CHISD's Fine Arts Signature Program at Bray as part of the district's STEAM initiative. We will be offering many new Enrichment Pathways for Bray students to be involved in, which includes the General Music Program, Choir, Orff Ensembles, Orchestra, Visual Art, Theater Arts, and Piano lab. This "Fine Arts Focus" does not just happen in the music and art classrooms, it will be a philosophy we use in our academic classes as well. The Fine Arts are now cemented in national legislature as CORE subjects, and we at Bray will be embracing that! Using the lens of music and art, we will be able to tap into a whole child approach to teaching like never before, bringing to life math, reading language arts and much more.

Below is a description of the Fine Arts Programs and Pathways Bray is offering in 2016-2017:

#### **CLASSES – During the Regular Instructional Day**

**General Music Classes:** General Music at Bray is taught by Mrs. Tiffany Mosley. New this year is the adoption of the innovative Quaver Music Curriculum! Quaver is the most sought after music curriculum in America, and has been adopted by many of the major school districts in Texas, including Dallas, Arlington, and Houston ISDs. Music classes will also continue to incorporate the Orff Method of Music Education, which builds musicianship by releasing creativity through what children do instinctively: play! Music, movement, speech, art, and drama will be integrated individually for every type of learner. They will perform songs by singing as well as on instruments, including percussion, recorder, ukulele, piano, and the central instrument to the program, the Orff Xylophones. Students will have major performances at the annual All School Winter Musical in the fall, individual grade level concerts in the spring, and will perform year round at PTA meetings.

**Orchestra Classes:** Bray is the only Elementary school in the district to offer orchestra. We have a full supply of string instruments for the students to enjoy including the violin, viola, and the cello. Orchestra will be taught by the district's secondary orchestra instructors. Since learning to play a stringed instrument is generally an advanced skill for children, orchestra will be offered to 3rd-5<sup>th</sup> grade students only. Orchestra will have the opportunity to perform at PTA meetings, Bray concerts, district Orchestra concerts, and in our community.

**Art Classes:** The art program at Bray will offer classes to every grade level, as well as integrate into the academic core classes. In addition to the weekly classes, art clubs will also be offered during the enrichment hour. Art clubs will be an extension of general art classroom and will provide more opportunities for the development of art skill and practice. Student artwork will be displayed around the campus and also at performances and concerts.

## **PATHWAYS – 2:15pm-2:55pm**

**Bray Orff Ensemble (Percussion Pathway):** This performance group is now in its third year taught by Mrs. Mosley and is a high quality instrumental ensemble for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The Orff Ensemble extends beyond the General Music classroom and will provide members with more challenging and enriching performance pieces. Students will perform on instruments such as the Orff Xylophones, drums, percussion, hand bells, and recorder. Members will perform in Bray concerts, as well as for district events and school board meetings. Participation in this group will be by **invitation only** due to limited instrumentation, however all students will be given the opportunity to express their interest in signing up during the first few weeks of school. The Orff ensemble will rehearse Tuesday and Thursday.

**Vocal Motion and Honors Choir Pathway:** VM will be beginning its fifth year at Bray, and is highly respected and requested to perform by many in our community. Vocal Motion is a Choir program also taught by Mrs. Mosley and is available to ALL students in 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade. VM performs often throughout Cedar Hill at many community events and nursing homes, and also participates in campus and district concerts, music festivals, and competitions. New to VM will be the addition of the **Bray Honors Choir**, which will be offered to VM members **by audition**. The Bray Honors Choir will sing more advanced literature and will have a more formal choral instruction designed to further develop their vocal technique and abilities. The Honors Choir will also have additional performance opportunities with the Cedar Hill High School Choirs and will be part of the District Elementary Honors Choir at the annual CHISD Fine Arts Night. Vocal Motion will rehearse on Monday and Friday, until mid-October. After Honors Choir Auditions, Vocal Motion will be one day a week on Monday, and Honors Choir will be on Friday.

**Honors Orchestra Pathway:** Honors Orchestra will be offered on Tuesday and Thursday to only those already enrolled in classroom orchestra. Honors orchestra will combine students from each of the other general orchestra classes, where they will expand on their technique, skills, and music repertoire. Honors Orchestra is limited to grades 3-5 and will perform at Bray and District Concerts and community events.

**Theater Arts Pathway:** The Theater Arts / Drama program is in its second year and is taught by Mrs. Mosley. Members of Theater Arts will learn about stage acting, musical theater, as well as screen acting through video productions they will be working on throughout the year. Theater Arts members will perform at PTA meetings, Winter Musicals, and will also perform skits and mini performances to the student body on occasion. Theater Arts is open to 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade students and by invitation only for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students, and offered in the fall semester only.

**Piano Pathway:** Bray will be offering class piano to during the spring semester to 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Students will learn the basics of the piano keyboard, technique, and pedagogy. Lab space is limited due to limited instrumentation. Students will perform at the Bray Fine Arts Finale in May.

So there you have it! There is so much to offer your child here at Bray! We aim to produce creative and self-confident young people and will do so by focusing on the fine arts and academics. We are so excited you have chosen to become part of our Bray family. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call!

*Marchelle Sterling – Principal*  
*LaShea White – Guidance Counselor*  
*Tiffany Mosley – Music Instructor*  
*Wendy Anuwe – Orchestra Instructor*

**972-291-4231 x 5708**  
**x 5712**  
**x 5736**  
**x 4752**