

## Island Pacific Academy Middle School 2009-2010 Course Selection Form

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ 2009-2010 Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

While we will do everything we can to accommodate your child's request for courses, please know that some choices may not be available due to scheduling conflicts. We ask for your flexibility and willingness to have an open mind to classes that may not be your preference.

<u>Example</u>	Box 1 <i>Most Preferred</i>	Box 2 <i>Neutral</i>	Box 3 <i>Least Preferred</i>
A course I really don't want to take	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
My favorite course	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I'm not opposed to taking this course	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**INDICATE YOUR PREFERENCES BY MARKING THE BOXES: BOX 1 FOR YOUR HIGHEST PREFERENCE, BOX 3 YOUR LOWEST.**

<b>Learning Communities – 6th-8th grades</b>	Box 1 <i>Most Preferred</i>	Box 2 <i>Neutral</i>	Box 3 <i>Least Preferred</i>
Fiber Art	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Puppetry from Recycled and Found Objects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Media and Film	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Open Art Studio	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21st Century Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Apprentice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hula	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Robotics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slide Show/ Movie-making	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Martial Arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Middle School Music – 6th-8th grades</b>	<i>Most Preferred</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Least Preferred</i>
Chorus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Piano/Guitar	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Show Choir	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Middle School Art – 7th &amp; 8th grades only</b>	<i>Most Preferred</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Least Preferred</i>
Ceramics I	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics II	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics III	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Painting I	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Painting II	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drawing I	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drawing II	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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INDICATE YOUR PREFERENCES BY MARKING THE BOXES: **Box 1** FOR YOUR HIGHEST PREFERENCE, **Box 3** YOUR LOWEST.

	<b>Box 1</b> <i>Most Preferred</i>	<b>Box 2</b> <i>Neutral</i>	<b>Box 3</b> <i>Least Preferred</i>
<b>Humanities – 7th &amp; 8th grades only</b>			
Hokule`a (Middle School Literary Magazine)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Myths of the World	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Finding Me in Language Arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Voices from the Edge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dramatic Literature	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Science – 7th grade only</b>	<i>Most Preferred</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Least Preferred</i>
7th Grade Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7th Grade Integrated Science and Math			
Island Pacific <b>Astronaut</b> Academy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>World Language – 8th grade only</b>	<i>Most Preferred</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Least Preferred</i>
Spanish	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Japanese	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Island Pacific Academy

Middle School  
Course Catalogue

2009 - 2010



Aloha IPA Middle School Families:

For the 2009 – 2010 school year, the following curricular choices are available to students in IPA's Middle School:

- ☑ **Learning Communities:** Learning Communities are structured in ways that are similar to traditional electives, but without formal grades. Instead, Learning Communities will be assessed through student journaling, reflection, and teacher observation. The goal of Learning Communities is to have students experience the thrill of learning for learning's sake in areas in which they possess a curiosity or innate interest. Learning Communities also provide opportunities for students to develop in areas such as self-discipline, critical thinking, and creativity. Please review the attached course catalogue for more information on each Learning Community.
- ☑ **Japanese :** For 8<sup>th</sup> graders only. Please review the attached course catalogue for more details.
- ☑ **Middle School Art:** Middle School students in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be able to choose from four media of study: Ceramics, Painting, Drawing. All 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will take General Art.
- ☑ **Middle School Music:** Middle School students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be able to choose between Chorus, Show Choir, and Piano/Guitar.
- ☑ **Humanities:** For 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders, students will be able to choose from the following semester courses: Hokule`a (Middle School Literary Magazine), Finding Me in Language Arts, Voices from the Edge, Dramatic Literature, and Myths of the World.
- ☑ **IPA Astronaut Academy:** For 7<sup>th</sup> grade only. Please read the description in the course catalog.

**All other courses will be assigned to students**

In this packet you will find materials that will assist you and your child in selecting Learning Communities (grades 6-8), Arts (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades only), Music (grades 6-8), World Language (8<sup>th</sup> grade only), and Humanities (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades only) choices for the 2009-2010 school year.

*While we will do everything we can to accommodate your child's request for courses, please know that some choices may not be available due to scheduling conflicts. We ask for your flexibility and willingness to have an open mind to classes that may not be your preference.*

## Learning Community Selections

Please review the Learning Community descriptions below. On your Course Request Sheet, indicate your preferences by placing them in the boxes, Box 1 being the highest preference, Box 3 the lowest.

All Learning Communities are *open to all students in grades 6 – 8.*

All Learning Communities are *one semester in length, so please select two.*

### **The Apprentice**

Are you creative? Do you have good ideas? Will others listen to our ideas? Learn business principles in a fun, teamwork structure fashioned after the hit TV show, The Apprentice. Teams will compete in real-world business tasks. This class integrates business, math, people skills, collaboration skills, and leadership. Break big projects down, analyze assignments, take risks, make decisions, learn how to be heard by others. You will learn the importance of acting honorably, taking hard knocks, overcoming setbacks, and fighting groupthink. Wanna be “an apprentice”? Sign up!

### **Fiber Art**

Take your imagination to a whole new level! Make a work of art, something functional, or even a gift. This Learning Community will give students the opportunity to create individualized projects using a variety of materials, new and used, natural and man-made. Leather, wire, metal, fabrics, plastics, photographs, and much more. Students will plan, design, and create their own projects with the guiding hand of the teacher. This class will be “tailored” to fit the needs and skills of each student. **(\$30.00 lab fee in lieu of textbooks)**

### **Puppetry from Recycled and Found Objects**

Thinking of throwing away that milk carton? Don't do it! It's a puppet waiting to be made, and this is your opportunity to make it. Participants will bring to life recycled and found objects to create delightfully unusual puppets. The class will examine some of the different puppetry styles from around the world, and using everyday materials, students may choose to construct their own puppets inspired by these traditions. This learning community is powered by creativity and imagination, so be sure to bring yours. **(\$15.00 lab fee in lieu of textbooks)**

### **Media and Film**

Media and Film Learning Community is a class that allows students to explore the art of filmmaking and film as story. We study the components of a film (script, acting, direction, lighting, camera work, effects, budget etc.) by watching film (shorts, TV spots and feature length film). After analyzing film for its messages and dissecting the techniques of filmmaking, students have opportunities to create their own commercials, movies, and independent projects. **(\$30.00 lab fee in lieu of textbooks)**

### **Open Art Studio**

This Learning Community will focus on art production using the various elements and principles of art. Students will be self-directed as they design and complete their projects across various art media. Possible art projects could include personal drawing using pen, pencil, charcoal, or color pencil; painting using watercolor or acrylic; and ceramic wheel or hand built projects. Students will be expected to demonstrate self-motivation in the creation of meaningful works of art. **(\$15.00 lab fee in lieu of textbooks)**

### **21<sup>st</sup> Century Leadership**

“Be the change that you want to see in the world!” ~Mahatma Gandhi

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to develop themselves as leaders locally and globally. Students will examine current issues and events, determine where they see an opportunity to bring about change and collaboratively work to orchestrate that change. Students will discover the many intricacies that go into identifying needs, where to help, when to help and how to be most effective as leaders. This learning community is driven primarily by student interest and is limited only by student imagination. **(No lab fee or textbook required)**

### **Hula**

The purpose of this class is to keep the "Aloha Spirit" (Love of Human Nature) alive. Students will learn the ancient and modern versions of the hula, lei making, implement making, use of hula implements, some language and history, through chant, music and song. This class is designed for the beginner. Students should expect physical movement, footwork, handwork, and singing. **(\$30.00 lab fee in lieu of textbooks)**

### **Slide Show/ Movie-making**

In this Learning Community, students will be using basic video creating/editing software with Window Movie Making. Some of the features they will be learning include transitions, titles/credits, effects, audio track, and timeline narration. Class projects will also include making a slide show for a birthday, wedding, or any occasion. We will be using digital cameras to take photos, making them into JPEG pictures, and making small video projects.

### **Martial Arts**

The Martial Arts Learning Community will introduce the students to the basics and fundamentals of Karate. It will include learning the various techniques of punching, kicking, blocking, and exercises. Katas, forms, which are prescribed patterns of movement, and Kumite, sparring, is a way of practicing karate techniques with a partner, will also be taught. Discipline, respect, and perseverance are the important essentials that will be integrated in this class. **(Required equipment must be purchased: karate gi- uniform and sparring gear. Information on purchase of this equipment will be given in August.)**

### **Robotics**

Join us in the laboratory to learn about the basics of robotics. This course will bring together the sciences of electronics, mechanics, and software. When our students complete this course,

they will have a greater understanding of robotics and the future of this fascinating field of science.

**\*PLEASE NOTE: All lab fees and/or textbooks that accompany Learning Communities will be collected in August. More information will follow. Please do NOT send any money with your Course Request Sheet.**

### **Middle School Art Selections** *(Open to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade ONLY)*

#### **Ceramics I**

This course is designed to provide beginning students experience with wheel-throwing and hand-building techniques. Students will start with turning traditional cylinder forms into functional cups, bowls, and vases. Hand-building projects will vary from making box forms with lids to tea pots and figurative animals. **(\$15.00 lab fee)**

#### **Ceramics II**

This course will continue the refinement of traditional hand building and wheel-throwing techniques. Modeling tools will be used more extensively in decoration. Sculpting of larger more highly refined subjects will be required. Students will be encouraged to stretch the limits of clay as a modeling material and explore possibilities outside of the traditional functional work. **(\$15.00 lab fee)**

**(Prerequisite: Completion of Ceramics I with a “Progressing” or higher)**

#### **Painting I**

This course is designed to introduce and develop technical and compositional principles of painting using acrylic and watercolor. Students will complete a variety of assignments in both media including still life, portraits, landscapes, and non-objective/abstract painting experiments.

#### **Painting II**

This course continues the study of watercolor and acrylic painting started at the end of Painting I. Control of media, washes and mixed media are covered. While students continue to develop their own style, they will also be introduced to the works of artists from Classics, Impressionist, Post-impressionist, Expressionist, Abstract, Contemporary, and others.

**(Prerequisite: Completion of Painting I with a “Progressing” or higher)**

#### **Drawing I**

This course is designed to introduce and develop students’ ability to draw using pencil, charcoal, ink, and oil pastels. Students will complete a variety of assignments that will utilize composition, line value, shading, and use of positive and negative space.

## **Drawing II**

This course continues the study of drawing started at the end of Drawing I. Refinement in line, shape, value, texture, and volume will be executed in a variety of media including pencil, charcoal, pastel, ink and watercolor to produce finished drawings on a variety of surfaces. Students are encouraged to develop their own style, and required to produce compositions as “fine” art works.

**(Prerequisite: Completion of Painting I with a “Progressing” or higher)**

## **Middle School Music Selections** *(Open to 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade)*

### **Chorus**

The Middle School Chorus is designed to advance each student’s general music and vocal training. Students will sing music from the Renaissance period to Contemporary in this ensemble, and they will be encouraged to participate in the larger performing arts community (e.g. The Middle School Spring Musical, Honor Choir). This course creates a venue for singers (and prospective singers) to explore and control their vocal mechanisms safely (especially for the boys’ changing voice), while experiencing the joy of joining voices harmoniously.

### **Piano/Guitar**

This new course will combine class lessons for each instrument. The lessons will be structured for beginning students; although more advanced students will continue their studies in technique, control, and musicianship. Electronic keyboards are provided in the classroom; however, guitar students are expected to provide their own instrument, as the school has few available. Students will learn to accompany themselves while singing, begin (or continue) their fundamentals of music training in a safe, low-pressure, fun environment.

### **Show Choir**

This new course is offered to students wishing to learn contemporary stage voice techniques, basic movement, staging, and microphone techniques. The students will perform vignettes as small ensembles and soloists, and vocal jazz will be introduced. The singers will also learn to control their vocal mechanisms safely, while experiencing the rigors (and fun) of being in show business.

## **World Language Selections** *(Japanese Open to 8<sup>th</sup> grade ONLY)*

### **Spanish**

This course rounds out the end of middle school Spanish language instruction. With a continued focus on vocabulary acquisition, correct grammar, exposure to Hispanic culture, and reading, writing, listening, and speaking the Spanish language, students in this course will work toward preparation for Spanish II in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

### **Japanese**

This course is for students with no prior knowledge of the Japanese language. Students will learn through a functional approach that emphasizes communication skills in everyday life, such as family, peer relations, and social customs in the country and culture of the target language. A variety of exercises and activities designed with an emphasis on using the language will help students become proficient in listening, speaking, reading and writing at an entry level. Students will learn the 46 *hiragana* characters and 46 *katakana* characters. Approximately 40 *kanji* characters will be introduced. Only twenty slots are available for this course. Should there be an interest greater than the twenty seats, a lottery method will be used to determine enrollment in this class.

### **Humanities Selections** (*Open to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade ONLY*)

#### **Hokule`a (Middle School Literary Magazine)**

*Hokule`a* in the Hawaiian language refers to the “North Star,” the star that navigators use as a guide. This humanities course directs students to write, edit and publish writing for an audience in the IPA Middle School on-line literary magazine of the same title. The digital magazine offers a means for students to express their creativity, their opinions, and develop their voices in a literary forum – a guiding voice for their peers. Interested students will need to have a love for reading of all genres and writing in all genres. *Hokule`a* is structured to mirror the “real world” of a magazine team and therefore is designed to be student organized, planned and published; students must be motivated, open minded and willing to work as part of an editorial team.

#### **Finding Me in Language Arts**

Reading and writing are as much a personal journey as they are academic. This course is founded in the idea that to become better readers and writers, students must develop a discipline for both. It is a workshop-based course that will examine the common elements of literature through reading literature, examining the techniques of writing by writing, and developing a better understanding of self by making connections with all genres of texts. Students will have a lot of choice in reading and writing genres and will also take part in several common novels throughout the semester to build their literary analysis skills.

#### **Voices from the Edge**

Our world is not always fair, and this course will examine it through the eyes of people who have been pushed to the outside and not treated equally. We will study and discuss the literature of groups of people who have been marginalized because of their race or religion, gender or class, lifestyle or belief system. The course will explore a variety of topics, from historical events to the search for individual and cultural identity.

#### **Dramatic Literature**

This course will examine plays from a variety of writers, genres, and time periods in an attempt to discover what makes them work. How are stories told in this unique form, and how do they get from the page to the stage? To answer this question, students will embark on

a series of in-class experiments with reading, writing, directing, and performing. All that is required is an open mind and the willingness to try.

### **Myths of the World**

Explore the Hero's Journey through the world of myths. Learn the historical archetypes that modern stories and movies are based on. In this class, reading, writing, discussion, research projects will engage you in an amazing journey.

## **Science Selections** (*Open to 7<sup>th</sup> grade ONLY*)

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science**

Students will investigate the influence of physics on our daily lives as we explore power grids, roller coasters, and flight. Students will have the opportunity to gain skills and content through inquiry, hands-on investigations, and research. Students will demonstrate their knowledge through a variety of projects.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Integrated Science and Math – Island Pacific Astronaut Academy**

*This is a new pilot course. Students in this course will be working with a NASA satellite.*

In this exciting new class, students will be trained as astronauts. The focus of our training will be math, physics and astronomy. In order to become astronauts we need to study data analysis, algebra readiness, probability, number theory, forces and motion, and planetary and stellar science. Whether you want to be a doctor or a journalist, a scientist or a senator, science and math applies to YOU. The exploration of the universe has only just begun and new findings could change our lives. We use physics and math everyday in everything we do whether we take a car to school, use a computer, or play sports.

Over the year we will answer the following questions:

- What is the relationship between energy, space and time?
- What do we know about the universe?
- How do math, physics, and astronomy influence your life?