



Why Study Jazz at New Trier?

- Our jazz ensembles program is recognized as one of the finest in the country
- All four of our jazz ensembles are curricular, which means there are no early morning or after school rehearsals, and you receive credit for the course
- Our students perform with incredible guest artists
- Our students take part in hosting one of the largest high school jazz festivals in the country
- Our top jazz ensemble travels to perform in exciting locations (New York City in 2013, New Orleans in 2015) and plays in some of Chicago's most renowned jazz clubs
- Our students learn America's greatest contribution to the world of music - jazz!
- Our students learn a variety of musical styles within the jazz genre
- Our students learn to improvise!
- Participation in the jazz program comes with a built-in social group
- Including jazz ensemble in your schedule creates much-needed contrast in your day

Many of our students choose to take summer school in order to fit in all the amazing electives New Trier offers. Read the article *Summer School Succeeds* from the May 7, 2015 edition of New Trier's sophomore student newspaper, "The Journal" to discover why so many New Trier students take advantage of this opportunity.



Grammy Award winning bassist Christian McBride



Legendary drummer and Count Basie Orchestra leader Dennis Mackrel performing with Jazz 1



Jazz Ensemble 1 performing at The Jazz Showcase in Chicago



Renowned trombonist Conrad Herwig performs with Lab Jazz Ensemble

Summer School Succeeds

by Marie O'Connor

For the majority of sophomores, the school year is a race to that last day, June 9th, when the last school bell of the year will ring and summer will begin. But for a small section of New Trier's best and brightest, that Tuesday is only the beginning of a long weekend, with the next Monday like any other of the school year, waking up early and coming home late with piles of homework. Although summer school is considered a living hell or punishment to most students, to many sophomores, summer school is an opportunity, not a death sentence.

According to most kids who take summer school, the benefits outweigh the negatives. One of the chief arguments supporting summer classes is that it opens up room in students' schedules during the year, letting people take more of the many classes offered at New Trier. According to Sophomore Peter Schuldt, "Summer school is nice because it allows you to free up your schedule for the school year. It also is a great way to make friends and bond because you are with your classmates for so long each day."

Many students who have taken summer school sign up for science, because it not only fulfills graduation requirements, but also frees up a double period during the school year. Sophomore Nina Chatrath, another summer school student who took biology over the summer, was also a fan of the class. "I really liked that summer school made my summer more productive and it was really nice to be with the same kids every day because everyone more-or-less knew each other, so it made the class go by much faster." Both Peter and Nina, along with many other students

who took a science over the summer, took the class to free up room in their sophomore schedule to fit in extra classes for specials such as band or art.

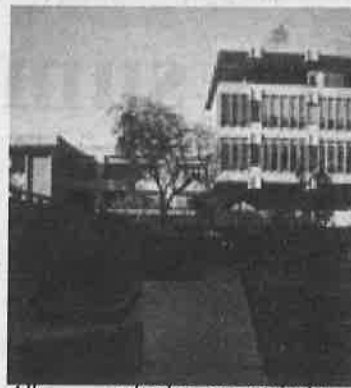
Also, as many students who passed through summer school recalled, the "structure" that the class provided help make their summer more productive. "The thing about summer school is that it gave me structure," says sophomore Mikela Ritchie. "Half the time we had to do something solely academic, and the other half we actually got to do really fun things."

So while going to school all year round doesn't sound like the most enticing offer, especially when summer school classes are described as teaching a week's work of information in one day, most kids thought that taking the class in the summer actually made it more fun. The structure gives the summer a purpose, while at the same time the engaging experiments or discussions made the class less of a chore. "Science in the summer is nice because it allows for a wider range of experiments, especially ones that can be conducted outside," Peter Schuldt added. Other students who took biology, physics, or geoscience agreed that taking science in the summer gives both teachers and students the opportunities to experience pretty cool classroom experiments that would not be possible in one forty minute period during the regular school year.

Another benefit of the summer class that seems to be a widespread conclusion from most students is that summer school classes are easier than normal classes. This could be argued, or validated that there isn't enough time to go into as much depth as normal classes would, or that you are only responsible for the information from one subject rather than

the standard five core classes taken during the school year. Whatever the reason, summer school students agree that science in the summer is easier than during the school year. "The teachers were pretty lenient, they understand that kids need their summers," Mikela admits, "once you get into the swing of things it's easier than you think."

What my question has always been, can I still have a normal-summer if I take a summer school class? The responses to this question were less unanimous than the others, but every summer school student I asked came to about the same conclusion, summer school is definitely a lot of work, but summer can still be summer even if there's a little homework. Sophomore Orin Gilchrist shared the general opinion of summer school as most kids, "Summer school was good because it allowed me to get biology out of the way and it was also great because I made a ton of friends that I'm still friends with today." So yes, all the practical benefits of the class are worth it, but also the fact that the class really lets you bond with classmates, and create lasting relationships that will surpass the summer.



All summer school courses are in the Northfield Campus, courtesy of Google