

# Co-curricular Activities

**ACADEMIC CHALLENGE:** Open to high school students, grades 9-12.

Academic Challenge has varsity and junior varsity teams. They train after school and compete with schools throughout Summit and Cuyahoga counties. A county-wide tournament is held in January.

**AMBASSADORS CLUB:** Open to all students grades 7-12.

Student ambassadors from all grade levels have an important role at the Elms. They assist the Admissions Office in a variety of capacities, including hostess duties for several school events, tour guides at Open Houses, and representatives at community events.

**ART CLUB:** Open to all students grades 9-12.

Members of the Art Club meet after school to create individual and group art projects.

**BRIDGE BUILDING:** Open to all students grades 9-12.

Students with a strong interest in Math and Science participate in an annual Bridge Building Competition and gain exposure to various engineering disciplines.

**COALITION:** Includes a representative from each class and club, and all class presidents.

Coalition is the student body government. They meet regularly to air student concerns and work toward solutions. Developing leadership is an important mission of the Elms and Coalition. Students participate in formal leadership training during the school year. Coalition sponsors the Freshie Mixer and fundraisers throughout the year.

**DOMINICAN PREACHING TEAM:** Open to students in grades 11 & 12.

Students participate in a national Dominican Preaching Conference each summer with students from each of the Dominican High Schools. The team then returns to the Elms and develops and implements a plan to further our Dominican Identity throughout the school year.

**DRAMA CLUB:** Open to all 7th and 8th grade students.

The Drama Club meets monthly to explore various aspects of theatrical production, including direction, stage make-up and costumes. Students practice their improvisational skills and work with original and adapted plays.

**ELMS ENGINEERING (E2):** A select group of High School students.

A program in collaboration with the University of Akron, Women in Engineering Program. A select group of high school students will be assigned female engineer mentors in the fall and will communicate with them monthly via email. Students will be asked to develop a science fair project or engineering project throughout the first semester and will then take their projects to competitions in the second semester. Each student will have a science coach in addition to their mentor that will guide them through their project. Students will be exposed to the professional world of engineering and will be given opportunities for engineering field trips.

**ENCORES SHOW CHOIR:** Open to high school students, grades 9-12.

The show choir rehearses every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday morning, 7:30-8:10. Activities include the Christmas Concert and other holiday engagements, OMEA competition, February Fantasy, Spring Concert, Variety Show and national competitions.

**CONTINUED ON REVERSE**



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**FOREIGN LANGUAGE CLUBS:** Open to all students of French, Spanish, and Latin, grades 7-12, and those interested in the cultures of other lands.

The club's purpose is to further student understanding of the culture and heritage of each of these language groups. Students participate in service projects, singing, dancing, theatre outings, cooking and contests.

**FORENSICS (AKA SPEECH AND DEBATE):** Open to high school students, grades 9-12.

Students develop a lifelong interest in communication skills, critical thinking and writing, literary interpretation, and public speaking. Students compete in Ohio High School Speech League and National Forensic League tournaments throughout the year. This rigorous competition produces numerous state qualifiers, district champions, state finalists and national qualifiers. The Elms team is proud to claim a National Semi-Finalist in 2001, and a National Champion in 2000.

**GLORY GIRLS:** Open to all 7th and 8th grade students.

Seventh and eighth grade girls are responsible for raising and lowering the American flag on the Elms campus.

**LITURGICAL MINISTRY TEAM:** Open to all students grades 7-12.

Student members meet with the liturgical director to plan Masses, Friday Word and Communion services, and other prayer and paraliturgical services for the Elms community. Students participate in various ministries during Mass and throughout the year.

**MATH COUNTS:** Open to all 7th and 8th grade students.

Math Counts is a mathematics enrichment program that includes competition in the Math Counts Invitational at The University of Akron.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL:** Open to all 7th and 8th grade students.

Middle School Student Council elects officers annually. Officers meet monthly to discuss student concerns, plan Middle School events, including dances, and Middle School pep rallies.

**MUSIC CLUB:** Open to all students grades 7-12.

The Music Club is the "spirit club of the Music Department." It meets every Thursday to organize social activities and fundraisers to promote the Elms' ensemble performances to the school and area communities.

**MUSIC MINISTRY:** Open to all students grades 7-12.

Music Ministry students provide music for our all-school liturgies.

**NEWSPAPER:** Open to students grades 7-12.

The school newspaper, *The Elm Leaf*, is published 4-6 times each year. Earning  $\frac{1}{4}$  academic credit, the student reporters, editors, photographers, and artists carry out each step of newspaper production, from decisions about story ideas and photo assignments through page design and in-house desktop publication. *The Elm Leaf* has won many awards, including a first-place rating for a small school from the Northeast Ohio Scholastic Press Association in 2003 and a first-place rating from the American Scholastic Press Association in 2002.

**POWER OF THE PEN:** Open to all 7th and 8th grade students.

Power of the Pen provides a creative outlet for young writers. Students share their original works and explore various writing styles and techniques. Competitions occur at local, district and regional levels, with a statewide competition at year's end.

**SCIENCE CLUB:** Open to all 7th and 8th grade students.

The Science Club utilizes the natural environment of the campus for additional science projects and labs.

**SKI CLUB:** Open to all students grades 7-12.

The Ski Club skis at Boston Mills every Tuesday, January through March.

**SOCIAL ACTION:** Open to all students grades 7-12.

Social action and responsibility is vital to the growth of women in leadership. All students are encouraged to participate in some aspect of the Social Action Club. Student interests and activities include AIDS awareness and support of the Community AIDS Network of Akron, food and clothing drives, recycling, respect for human life from the unborn to ending the death penalty, working at area soup kitchens and food pantries, hunger awareness, SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions), and other activities as issues of social justice arise.

**SPIRIT CLUB:** Open to all students grades 7-12.

Spirit Club sponsors two fundraisers, pep assemblies, a Halloween Party, a Christmas Hallway Decoration Contest, Easter Egg Hunt, and Spirit Week. Club members provide support for the athletic teams and recognize student and staff birthdays. The goal of the Spirit Club is to increase school spirit and participation and attendance at all extracurricular activities.

**THEATRE AT THE ELMS:**

Theatre is a fine tradition at the Elms. Two productions grace our stage each year. The 2009-2010 season includes a one-act play festival in the fall and *The Wizard of Oz*. Auditions are open to all students in grades 9-12. Dedication, discipline, and many rehearsals result in quality high school theatre. Our talented students enjoy opportunities in all aspects of theatre, from performance and stage management to lighting, scenery and costume design. Middle school students participate in their own theatre enrichment experience.

**YEARBOOK (EGRESS):** Open to all students grades 7-12.

Students are involved with the yearbook throughout the school year. Students work in teams under the direction of the layout, copy and photography editors. They also have the opportunity to learn the business end of sales and advertising. The yearbook is ready for print the last week of school, and is distributed to students in the fall of the following school year.