

# *Willow Pond Farm - Center for the Arts & Sciences*

## Course Descriptions Fall Trimester 2011

**Course Title:** Archaeology

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Jean Minger

**Course Description:** Search for artifacts, do experiments with preservation, and dig a unit to excavate several horizons - all to help solve the mystery question: "Who was at Willow Pond Farm before we were?"

**Ages:** 9+

**Minimum # of Students:** 2

**Maximum # of Students:** 8

**Material Fee:** none

**Meeting Time:** Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. until the weather gets too cold

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**Course Title:** Ballet Intermediate

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Susan Mayer

**Course Description:** Students will learn barre, center and grand allegro combinations. Focus is developing more precise technique and increasing awareness of using musical accents with movement. We work toward a performance at the end of the trimester.

**Special Notes for Course:** Ballet slippers required. Black leotard and pink tights preferred.

**Overall course objective and philosophy:** Students will use standard dance class etiquette and learn intermediate dance terminology. Ballet students will be taught in a classical style based on the Vaganova method (Russian), using the 5 positions of the feet and arms and incorporate these positions in more complex barre and center work exercises.

**Student Ages:** by permission of instructor

**Minimum # of Students:** 4

**Maximum # of Students:** 8

**Meeting Time:** Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. **AND** Wednesdays, 3:30 - 5:30

**Teacher Fee:** \$5.00/student/class (Fee reduction for students taking 2 classes per week - \$8/student/week for 2 classes)

**Teacher/Coordinator Biography:** As a student of dance for over 20 years, Susan has studied ballet extensively and dabbled in tap, jazz and modern. Educational history includes Canopy Dance, Village Studio and The University of Wisconsin, all in Madison WI. In the Twin Cities, Susan has studied at the University of Minnesota, Dance Spectrum, for several years with Andrew Rist of the Classical Ballet Academy as well as at the Academy of Russian Ballet in Eden Prairie with Kirill Bak and Sevtlana Gavrilova and at St. Paul City Ballet.

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**Course Title:** Biology

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Mark Minger

**Course Description:** Designed for 10<sup>th</sup> grade students and equivalent to the same class in schools, Mark uses the Prentice-Hall text to teach biology in a small class size setting. Chapter reading and book work is done at home, discussions and lab work done in class each week. Tests are given in class.

**Ages:** 15+ (10<sup>th</sup> grade)

**Maximum # of Students:** 8

**Material Fee:** \$5

**Meeting Time:** Tuesdays, 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

**Teacher/Coordinator Biography:** Mark is an associate professor of science education at St. Cloud State University, teaching future science teachers the most beneficial and practical methods for teaching science based on current research in the field of education. He taught 9th grade science in the Washington public schools and high school biology in Western Samoa in the Peace Corps.

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**Course Title:** Book Club!

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Jean Minger

**Course Description:** It's back! The well-loved Book Club will meet weekly to discuss the book chosen by the group. A project based on the book read will be done as a group at the end of the trimester.

**Ages:** 8+

**Minimum # of Students:** 2

**Maximum # of Students:** 8

**Material Fee:** none

**Meeting Time:** Thursdays, 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Teacher/Coordinator Biographies:** Jean's experience with group book discussions ranges from her studies done in college to her teaching in the public schools and casual discussions with friends about shared books. She likes to learn along with the students and finds their questions and perspectives refreshing and thought provoking.

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**Course Title:** Chemistry

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Mark Minger

**Course Description:** This course will explore the wonders of high school chemistry. I am planning to utilize a micro-chemistry curriculum, which will minimize the exposure to any harmful chemicals, while still learning about chemical reactions and relationships. We will be studying the content topics required by the state science standards for chemistry.

**Ages:** 16+

**Minimum # of Students:** 1

**Maximum # of Students:** 8

**Material Fee:** TBD, includes cost of text book, lab book and chemical lab fee. See instructor for text book recommendation.

**Meeting Time:** Thursdays, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**Teacher Biography:** Mark has taught Junior High and High School science courses in the public schools and currently teaches at St. Cloud State University, working with pre-service science teachers.

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**Course Title:** Choir

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Jean Minger and Evonne Hockert

**Course Description:** Join us for a joyful time of singing in a group! We'll learn part singing as well as focusing our attention on sight reading, vocal technique, and blending our voices.

**Ages:** 5+

**Maximum # of Students:** none

**Meeting Time:** Tuesdays, 2:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

**Materials Fee:** \$5

**Teacher/Coordinator Biography:**

Jean Dettweiler Minger has participated in choral ensembles for 25 years. She has had 10+ years of formal piano lessons and 5+ years of formal voice instruction. Jean presently is a member of the St. Catherine's Choral Society in St. Paul. She is certified to teach Musikgarten, a curriculum designed to teach music and movement in developmentally appropriate ways to families with children from birth to nine years old. She is a member of MMTA, Minnesota Music Teachers' Association.

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**Course Title:** Driver's Education, Classroom

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Mark Minger

**Course Description:** We will meet weekly to complete the required curriculum to meet the Minnesota state requirements for drivers training. The curriculum is approved for full time home schoolers, and I believe each family will need to register to purchase the curriculum.

**Ages:** 15+

**Maximum # of Students:** 8

**Meeting Time:** Wednesdays, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Materials Fee:** Each family is responsible for ordering the state approved curriculum. Contact the instructor prior to ordering your curriculum.

**Teacher/Coordinator Biography:** I have been driving a long time...

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**Course Title:** International Cuisine

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Esther Dutt

**Course Description:** Learn the techniques used to create fabulous cuisine from around the world. Each week we will make one or two items from a menu that we will put together at the end of the trimester to share with the co-op members.

**Ages:** 9+

**Minimum # of Students:** 3

**Maximum # of Students:** 8

**Material Fee:** TBD, will include ingredients from home or purchased and split

**Meeting Time:** Thursdays, 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**Teacher/Coordinator Biography:** Esther joins us this year as a new teacher. Her family is most recently from Oman. At present she works with her brother at the ARC

retreat center near Cambridge, where they prepare the menus for the retreat attendees. She specializes in Indian and Chinese cuisine.

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**Course Title:** Life Science Lab

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Jean Dettweiler Minger

**Course Description:** Students will continue work with the Prentice-Hall curriculum for Life Science. Students will read the current chapter at home and will participate in the lab which further demonstrates the objectives of the chapter. This class will focus on laboratory skills and content.

**Ages:** 12+

**Material Fee:** TBD at end of year - will include lab book/supply fee etc. Dissection kits are optional. We have some available to use.

**Materials Required:** Lab coat or long sleeved shirt, goggles (if you don't want to use our supply), Prentice-Hall Life Science text, notebook or laptop for note taking, water bottle.

**Meeting Time:** Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00

**Teacher/Coordinator Biography:** Jean Dettweiler Minger is the mother of Marin and Scotia, and is the partner of Mark Minger. She taught science and language arts in the public schools for 10 years and always looks forward to teaching with a small class size. Jean has a BA in Biology from Grinnell College and has completed her graduate coursework in Science Education at the University of Minnesota. She finds great beauty in connections with nature, music and children.

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**Course Title:** Morning Co-op

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Jean Dettweiler Minger with parents

**Course Description:** Start the morning off with farm chores like feeding the animals, collecting eggs, and working in the garden. Then head inside for circle time including music and movement, calendar, beginning Spanish, and beginning sign-language. We'll make a healthy snack together, listen to a book and work on a project based on the theme for the month. Field trips will be planned with parent input.

**Ages:** 4 - 8

**Maximum # of Students:** 8

**Meeting Time:** Tuesdays, 9:30 - 11:30

**Materials Fee:** TBD, not to exceed \$10 but probably more like \$5

**Teacher/Coordinator Biography:** Jean co-taught this class when her children were little. She taught elementary and middle school education for 10 years before her life changed (wonderfully) with babies. Jean has been trained in Musikgarten, a music and movement program for babies through 9 year olds. Her undergraduate degree is in Biology from Grinnell College, a liberal arts school located in the middle of the Iowa cornfields. Graduate work was done at University of Minnesota in Science Education.

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**Course Title:** Musical Rehearsal for "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown"

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Jean Dettweiler Minger

**Course Description:** This is time set aside for cast members to learn the music from the musical that we will be performing next June. Try-outs will be held on August 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. (Call Jean to arrange a time.) There are only 6 main parts with a small, non-speaking part and parts for chorus members who appear in several group songs.

**Ages:** 9+

**Maximum # of Students:** 12

**Meeting Time:** Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00

**Materials Fee:** Price of script and score, usually around \$10 - 20; possible costume costs

**Teacher/Coordinator Biography:** Jean has directed the music for several shows done at Willow Pond Farm including "The Musical Revue - Sing and Celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Century", "Huckleberry Finn" and "Anne of Green Gables". She has participated in choral ensembles for over 25 years. She has had 10+ years of formal piano lessons and 5+ years of formal voice instruction. Jean presently is a member of the St. Catherine's Choral Society in St. Paul. She is certified to teach Musikgarten, a curriculum designed to teach music and movement in developmentally appropriate ways to families with children from birth to nine years old. She is a member of MMTA, Minnesota Music Teachers' Association.

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**Title:** Mythology - The World of Gilgamesh

**Teacher:** Evonne Hockert

**Course Description:** The oldest known written story is the epic of Gilgamesh, a Sumerian king who lived around 2500 BC in the region of Mesopotamia. Hear the legendary tale of the famous king and explore the epic story and the culture from which it arose through art, such as working with clay and sketching.

**Ages:** 10-13

**Minimum # of Students:** 3

**Maximum # of Students:** 10

**Material Fee:** To be determined (not to exceed \$10)

**Materials Students Need to Provide:** none

**Meeting Time:** Tuesdays, 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Teacher/Coordinator Biography:** Evonne has taught the Epic of Gilgamesh and the ancient mythologies of India, Egypt, Greece, and Rome at Willow Pond Farm over the past 5 years. She enjoys exploring and sharing ancient history through storytelling and art.

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**Course Title:** Physical Education

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Mark Minger

**Course Description:** Team sports such as ultimate frisbee, softball, and basketball as well as frisbee golf, running and ping pong will be taught and played either outside or in the theatre / gym at Willow Pond. Focus is on fun! Adults may join in to make the teams larger!

**Ages:** 9+

**Maximum # of Students:** 8

**Meeting Time:** Tuesdays, 1:00p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**Materials Fee:** none

**Teacher/Coordinator Biography:** Mark's favorite sport to play is basketball, but he is game for any type of athletic fun. He has taught physical education classes at Willow Pond for the past 10 years, on and off depending on his work schedule.

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**Course Title:** Science I, Year 2

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Jean Dettweiler Minger

**Course Description:** Science I is a hands-on, exploratory adventure for 6, 7, and 8 year olds. We will investigate Life Science, Physical Science and Earth Science through the FOSS curriculum. Year two of the course focuses on three modules: New Plants, Solids & Liquids, and Air and Weather. Students will also make and use a nature/phenology journal for Environmental Education. We'll introduce Journey North and use Project Wild games and activities.

**Ages:** 6 – 8+

**Maximum # of students:** 8

**Meeting Time:** Tuesdays, 12:30 - 2:15 p.m.

**Material Fee:** \$5

**Teacher/Coordinator Biography:** (See biographies elsewhere.)

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**Course Title:** Science II, Year 1

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Jean Dettweiler Minger and Patty Theobald

**Course Description:** Science II is a hands-on, exploratory adventure for 8, 9 and 10+ year olds. We will investigate Life Science, Physical Science and Earth Science through the FOSS curriculum. Year one of the course focuses on three modules: Human Body, Magnetism & Electricity, and Water. We will use nature/phenology journals to document what we observe outdoors. Journey North, an Internet-based interactive investigation of migration and the changes in season, will also be used. Games and activities from Project Wild may be incorporated.

**Ages:** 8 - 10+

**Maximum # of students:** 10

**Meeting Time:** Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

**Material Fee:** \$5

**Teacher/Coordinator Biography:** (See biographies elsewhere.)

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**Course Title:** Science III, Year 2 - continued

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Jean Dettweiler Minger

**Course Description:** Science III offers students hands-on, investigative experiences in Life Science, Physical Science, Earth Science and Scientific Reasoning & Technology through use of the FOSS modules. The second year has units in Environments, Mixtures and Solutions, Landforms, and Variables. This Fall we will finish our Landforms unit and then move on to Levers & Pulleys. Another focus of the course is Environmental Education. We will use nature/phenology journals to document what we observe outdoors. Journey North, an Internet-based interactive investigation of migration and the changes in season, will also be used. Games and activities from Project Wild may be incorporated.

**Ages:** 10–13+

**Maximum # of students:** 8

**Materials Fee:** \$5

**Meeting Time:** Wednesdays, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Teacher/Coordinator Biography:** (See biographies elsewhere.)

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**Course Title:** Science Issues in Society

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Mark Minger

**Course Description:** Students will study the impact of science on society and the impact of society on science. Possible science issues may include water pollution, recycling, green energy sources, genetically modified organisms, global climate shift, and evolution. Students will have a choice of topics to research and study. Students will collect readings and develop skills to defend both sides of an argument. We will discuss the need for citizens to be scientifically literate in order to make sound decisions.

**Ages:** 15+

**Minimum # of Students:** 2

**Maximum # of Students:** 8

**Material Fee:** none

**Meeting Time:** Thursdays, 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Teacher/Coordinator Biography:** (See biographies elsewhere.)

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**Course Title:** Stage Combat

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Esther Dutt

**Course Description:** Learn the secret to making a combat on stage look, and sound, real. No harm will come to the students in the class. Stunt doubles not required.

**Ages:** 10+

**Minimum # of Students:** 2

**Maximum # of Students:** 8

**Material Fee:** none

**Meeting Time:** Thursdays, 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**Teacher/Coordinator Biography:** Esther enjoys stage work and has participated in many aspects of stage production. Her stint at our Summer Camp teaching stage make-up was a hit. Esther and her family most recently from Oman. She currently works at The ARC retreat center near Cambridge, MN, and is beginning classes at Anoka-Ramsey Community College.

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**Course Title:** Stone Age to Postmodernism: Art History / Art Lab

**Parent Advisor/Student:** Jean Dettweiler Minger

**Course Description:** From the Stone Age to Postmodernism, our study of art history includes research of the art movements through the years. Creative projects are designed by students using an art medium similar to that of the chief artists of that period.

**Ages:** 9+

**Minimum # of Students:** 2

**Maximum # of Students:** 8

**Meeting Time:** Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. (once weather is too cold for Archaeology class outside)

**Material Fee:** determined by end of trimester, based on materials used

**Teacher/Coordinator Biography:** Jean loves to dabble with art materials but won't allow herself the time to do so. She is willing to help create a safe atmosphere for students to explore their own creativity and unique style and will work cooperatively with the students to plan the course schedule. She has taught art to elementary students in her public school teaching days, but does not proclaim to be a professional by any means.

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**Course Title:** Story of the World

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Patty Theobald

**Course Description:** The Story of the World is a history curriculum developed by Susan Wise Bauer. It is presented chronologically, from the Earliest Nomads to the Last Roman Emperor. During class, students will read and discuss each chapter, maintain a journal-binder and timeline, and do hands-on projects each week to further experience these ancient times. This class can be enjoyed weekly during our time as it is, or there are possible extra readings and work that can be done at home to enhance the experience. Information on out-of-class work will be sent to anyone enrolling in the class.

**Ages:** 8+

**Maximum # of Students:** 10

**Material Fee:** TBD

**Meeting Time:** Thursdays, 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**Teacher/Coordinator Biography:** Patty has taught classes at Willow Pond Farm for nine years ranging from ancient history to physical education and scrapbooking, among others. Her background is in physical therapy and she is a lifelong learner as evidenced by her informal teaching of many of the adults at Willow Pond Farm.

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**Course Title:** We Are Not Alone! (Geography)

**Teacher/Coordinator:** Jean Dettweiler Minger

**Course Description:** Our study of South America will recommence Fall Trimester. Work with latitude and longitude will continue as well as the study of cultures, land forms, and environments. Use of National Geographic's "Mapping the Americas" curriculum and individual research projects are planned.

**Ages:** 9+

**Minimum # of Students:** 2

**Maximum # of Students:** 8

**Materials Needed:** atlas, colored pencils

**Meeting Time:** Thursdays, 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Teacher/Coordinator Biography:** Jean loves the idea of education through travel. However, travel to some places in the world isn't so feasible. So, the next best thing is to study the world with her students and learn about the uniqueness of cultures and the to find the common threads that hold us all as one human race.

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