

WELCOME TO THE MUSTANG

Activities Newsletter

Read all about it



OUR GOAL IS 100%

involvement vs uninvolved

Nearly every middle school in the U.S. recognizes the importance of offering a diverse range of extracurricular activities, including music, academic clubs, and sports. Beyond serving as a means of personal enrichment and skill development, these activities play a pivotal role in instilling essential values in students.

At Merrill, we take great pride in fostering a dynamic environment by offering an impressive array of over 30 clubs and activities throughout the academic year. Currently, there are 21 active clubs, demonstrating a robust commitment to providing diverse opportunities for student participation. A remarkable 70 percent of our student body is already engaged in one or more activities, illustrating our dedication to creating a well-rounded educational experience. While we acknowledge the ambitious aspiration of reaching 100 percent involvement may be unrealistic, it certainly doesn't deter us from tirelessly striving towards that goal. Our unwavering commitment to student engagement reflects our belief that participating in clubs and activities is a fundamental aspect of personal development and contributes significantly to the vibrant and inclusive culture here at Merrill.

Trivia Night

SOLD OUT



The excitement is building as we announce that the inaugural Mustang Trivia Night is officially sold out! This highly anticipated event is set to take place at Decades on Grand on February 23rd, promising an evening filled with laughter and friendly competition. Table reservations, priced at \$200 per table, have been in high demand, ensuring a vibrant and engaging atmosphere for all attendees. We are thrilled to share that the event will be hosted by a local comedian and the charismatic host of KXNO's Morning Rush, making it a night to remember. Get ready for an unforgettable experience at the Mustang Trivia Night!



Dungeons and Dragons

The Dungeons and Dragons (D&D) club at Merrill Middle School has been a cherished tradition for tabletop role-playing enthusiasts since the 70s. Led by passionate students, the club has fostered a sense of camaraderie and creativity among its members. Over the past few years, the club has grown in popularity, becoming a staple of extracurricular activities at Merrill. This year, the club is under the sponsorship of Merrill teacher Shealagh Lyons, who brings her support and guidance to the dedicated students involved. Under Shealagh Lyons' sponsorship, the Dungeons and Dragons club continues to thrive as a student-led initiative.

The anticipation among club members is palpable, especially on Wednesdays when the club meets. The excitement for the imaginative and collaborative storytelling that D&D offers is evident, creating an environment where students eagerly look forward to coming to school just to participate in the club. The combination of a rich history dating back to the 70s, student leadership, and the support of a dedicated teacher ensures that the Dungeons and Dragons club at Merrill Middle School remains a cherished and eagerly anticipated part of the students' weekly routine.

CLUB SHOWCASE



Coming Up

TRACK

Track in middle school is for 7th and 8th grade.. sign up now.

TRACK BEGINS MARCH 4TH. CHECK OUT MUSTANG ALLEY TO SEE IF YOUR NAME IS ON THE LIST



Current Physical

YOU MUST HAVE A CURRENT PHYSICAL ON FILE WITH THE MERRILL NURSE IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE

EMAIL YOUR PHYSICAL TO [KELLI.LUFT@DMSCHOOLS.ORG](mailto:kelli.luft@dmschools.org)



HISTORY SPOTLIGHT

In 2007, the Mustangs achieved an extraordinary feat, going undefeated on the "A" team led by Dwight Sistrunck, who showcased remarkable prowess by scoring an impressive 100 points throughout the season. Following closely were standout players Sam Norman with 72 points and Cameron Woods with 60. Fast forward to today, these once-young athletes are now around 30 years old, and one can only imagine that they still reminisce and share stories of the good old days on the basketball court. Their achievements during that remarkable season have undoubtedly left a lasting legacy and a treasure trove of memories for them to fondly recall.

Boys Basketball

THE MUSTANG BOYS BASKETBALL SEASON KICKED OFF WITH TREMENDOUS ENERGY ON JANUARY 2ND AS THIRTY-SEVEN ENTHUSIASTIC 8TH-GRADE BOYS DESCENDED UPON THE GYM. THE ATMOSPHERE WAS CHARGED WITH EXCITEMENT AS THESE YOUNG ATHLETES SHOWCASED THEIR SKILLS, COMPETING FOR COVETED SPOTS ON ONE OF THE FOUR TEAMS. THE TRYOUTS WERE A TESTAMENT TO THE DEDICATION AND TALENT WITHIN OUR BASKETBALL PROGRAM, SETTING THE STAGE FOR AN EXCITING AND COMPETITIVE SEASON AHEAD.



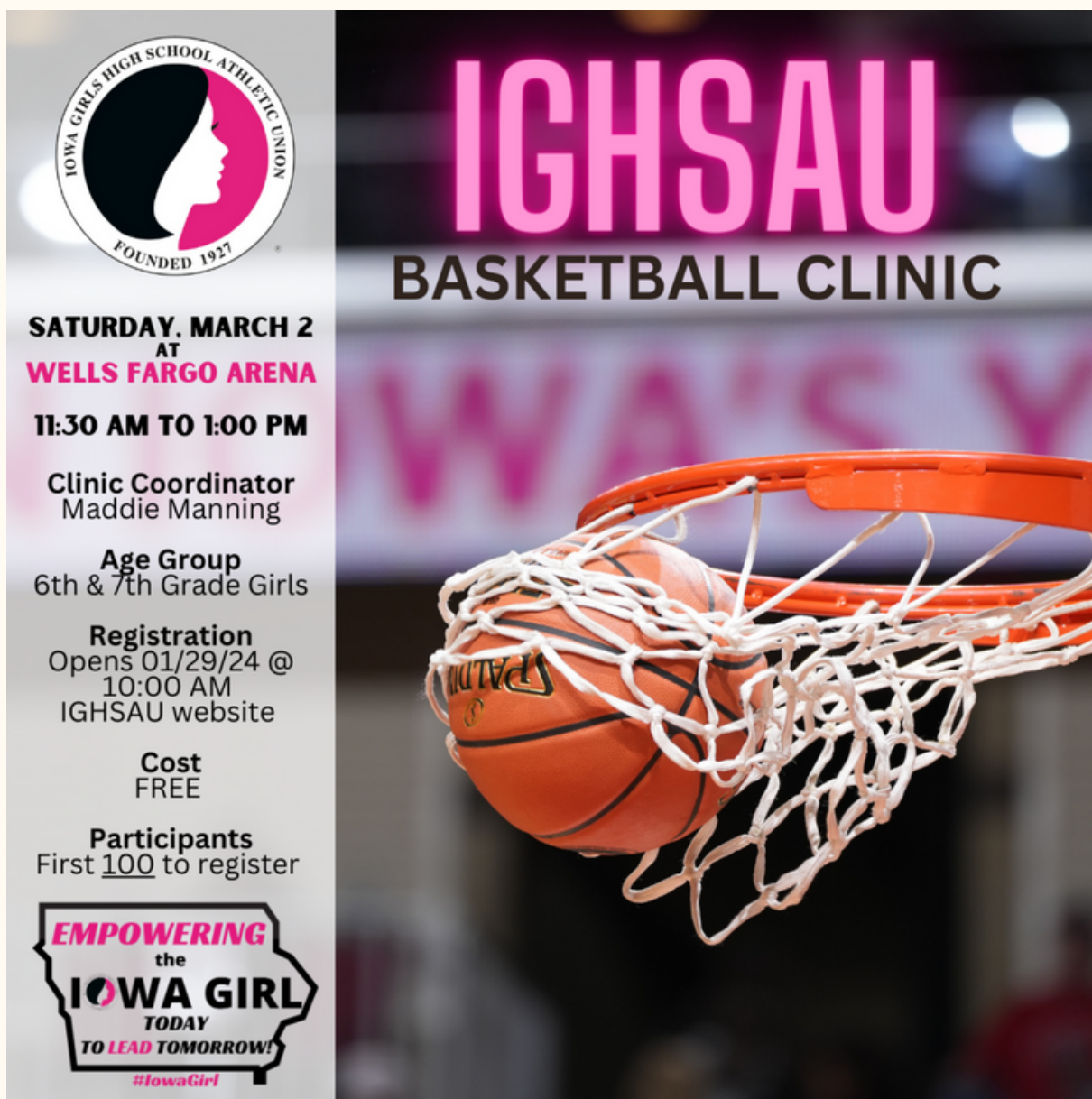
"Capture Moments, Unleash Creativity"
Introducing the New Photography Club!
Join Us Thursdays After School till 4:15 in
Room 215

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL
PATRICK.BRENNAN@DMSCHOOLS.ORG



We're thrilled to announce the return of the Crocheting Club!
If you have a passion for yarn, needles, and the art of creating cozy masterpieces, then this club is perfect for you. Join us for a relaxing and creative time as we embark on a new season of crafting, sharing tips, and, most importantly, having fun! All skill levels are welcome, from beginners to seasoned crocheters. Bring your enthusiasm, and let's stitch together a wonderful experience! See you there!

6th and 7th Grade Girls Basketball

The poster features a vertical layout. On the left, there is a white sidebar with text and logos. At the top of the sidebar is the IGHSAU logo, a circular emblem with a black and white profile of a woman's head and the text 'IOWA GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC UNION' and 'FOUNDED 1927'. Below the logo, the text reads 'SATURDAY, MARCH 2 AT WELLS FARGO ARENA' in black and pink, followed by '11:30 AM TO 1:00 PM' in black. Further down, it lists 'Clinic Coordinator Maddie Manning', 'Age Group 6th & 7th Grade Girls', 'Registration Opens 01/29/24 @ 10:00 AM IGHSAU website', 'Cost FREE', and 'Participants First 100 to register'. At the bottom of the sidebar is the 'EMPOWERING the IOWA GIRL TODAY TO LEAD TOMORROW!' logo with the hashtag #IowaGirl. The right side of the poster is a dark image with a basketball hoop and net in the foreground, and a basketball in the net. The background is blurred, showing a 'WELLS FARGO' sign. The text 'IGHSAU BASKETBALL CLINIC' is overlaid in large, bold, pink and black letters at the top of the right side.

The IGHSAU will be hosting a basketball clinic on Saturday morning, March 2nd, from 11:30 - 1:00 at Wells Fargo Arena prior to that day's State Championship games.

This clinic will be for 6th and 7th grade girls. The clinic will be capped at the first 100 individuals to register.

Registration opens next Monday, Jan. 29th and 10:00 am. Link will be at the top of the IGHSAU website.

This is a free camp for those who register.

All campers will receive a free t-shirt, basketball, complimentary admission to Saturday's games, as well as 2 additional complimentary tickets to Saturday's games for family members.

Contact Taylor Anderson (taylor@ighsau.org) with questions or for more information.

FEEL LIKE DONATING?

Supporting Merrill Middle School and its various clubs and sports teams has never been easier. By utilizing the provided QR code, you can directly access Merrill's activities donation center through RevTrak, the same platform used for school fees. This streamlined process allows you to contribute to your favorite club or sport effortlessly. It's important to recognize that many of Merrill's dedicated club sponsors volunteer their time without compensation, making donations crucial to ensuring they have the necessary resources to run their activities effectively. Additionally, despite no longer charging fees for sports participation at Merrill, the school relies on donations to fund essential needs such as new uniforms and equipment. Your generosity is instrumental in maintaining the vibrancy of Merrill's extracurricular programs, and the school community expresses gratitude for your ongoing support.

