



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS 2020 - 2021

Forensics

Faculty Advisors: Ms. F. Deliyannis, Ms. N. Sarantopoulou, Ms. E. Karava

Day and Times: Saturday 12:00 – 6:00 p.m. as follows:

Debate 12:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Oral Interpretation of Literature & Duet Acting 12:00 – 6:00 p.m. (half-hour sessions by appointment, arranged with Faculty Advisor)

- Other speaking events include Group Discussion, Original Oratory and Impromptu Speaking, all of which take place during the regular school day. Please see Faculty Advisors for further information.

OPEN TO STUDENTS B GYMNASIUM AND ABOVE. A Gymnasium students may choose the Junior Forensics Club for their Wednesday Club Hour.

Students who choose to participate in this Club will learn to speak with confidence in front of an audience in the English language, taking part in a variety of public speaking events. They will also have the opportunity to be selected to represent Pierce at the Panhellenic Forensics Tournament, at which Pierce students have repeatedly won awards and honors over the years, as well as other competitions.

Orchestra

Faculty Advisor: Mr. O. Hadzinakis

Day and Times: Wednesday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

The aim of the Orchestra is to develop students' musical skills as well as to help them to externalize their emotions. At rehearsals, students learn to collaborate, to improvise, to create and to perform musical pieces from an particularly varied repertoire, including some pieces that are written especially for them. Members of the orchestra, either on their own or in collaboration with the School Choir, take part in musical events both on and off campus.

Choir

Faculty Advisor: Ms. Th. Panagopoulou

Day and Times: Wednesday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

The Choir cultivates in students the joy of choral singing and is aimed at developing their vocal skills and, at the same time, the principles of team work and cooperation. Members of the Choir express themselves artistically through songs from the Greek and international repertoire. Throughout the 85 years of its history at our school, the Choir has taken part in concerts and programs on and off campus, often in collaboration with the Orchestra.

Folk Dancing

Faculty Advisor: Ms. Ek. Tsioufi

Day and Times: Friday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Students learn the dances of our land and represent the College at cultural activities and dance festivals.

Greek Drama Club

Faculty Advisor: Ms. M. Salliari

Days and Times: Wednesday and Friday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

The aim of the club is to familiarize students with the entire process of producing a theatrical work (acting, directing, creating scenery, costumes, music, lighting), collaboration in a multi-faceted team and the dedication required of everyone to a common goal. Members of the Greek Drama Club develop their skills, take initiative, gain self-confidence, share in the significant experience of presenting a complete performance in front of an audience and, most importantly, broaden their knowledge of the theater while, at the same time, they become more artistically aware. Contemporary theater from the world repertoire, improvisational theater, story-telling, as well as Aristophanes, have all been applauded on the stage of our Theater, the highlight being winning 2nd Prize for the Attica Region from the Ministry of Education, for the work “Play On” by Rick Abbott (2009).

Greek Rhetorical Club

Faculty Advisors: Mr. P. Vasilopoulos, Mr. P. Polydoropoulos

Day and Times: Saturday 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

When we talk about rhetoric, in the context of rhetorical competition, we are referring to the skillful use of the spoken word, both in prepared speeches and in situations that demand impromptu and improvised production of speech.

Skill in public speaking, which is cultivated through systematic practice and preparation for competitions (oral interpretation, impromptu speaking, group discussion, persuasive speaking, debate) are essential for the development of self-confidence, critical thinking, well-supported argumentation, as well as team work.

Debate tournaments in particular cultivate special skills in research into current as well as timeless issues and the overall formation of participants' personalities, while generally broadening and enhancing their intellect.

Days of Art

Faculty Advisor: Mr. I. Tsatalis

Day and Times: Thursday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

The Club is involved in Theater in two ways:

- a) Continuation and completion of the theatrical production of the work “Simigdalenios.” There will be a performance at the College and – perhaps – at some of the schools that were to participate in the 2020 Festival. In addition, the scenery and costumes of Simigdalenios will be completed.
- b) The essential preparation and planning of the “Days of Art 2022” Festival will take place, choosing a theme and theatrical work to be performed. In addition, preparation of the 2022 performance will begin.

AIMS AND BENEFITS:

Improvement of the use and delivery of speech: collaboration, the experience of beauty as a product of artistic and experiential exercise, body language, the service of the arts that collaborate in a theatrical production (scenery design, costume design, translation, music, painting, etc.).

Junior Achievement

Faculty Advisors (Lyceum and C Gymnasium): Mr. Minas (C Gymnasium), Mr.

Sfyris (Lyceum – IB)

Days and Times: Thursday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. (C Gymnasium), Wednesday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. (Lyceum - IB)

The mission of the Junior Achievement Club is to promote the entrepreneurial spirit and business culture among the students of PIERCE – The American College of Greece. The club operates within the framework of Junior Achievement Greece, with the approval of the Ministry of Education.

The Club provides for the establishment and operation of a student virtual business, according to the operating model of a corporation. In the Club, students prepare and

submit their own business plan aimed at implementing all levels of operation of a modern business (product design, production, promotion, sales).

Students' active participation in a virtual business contributes to the development of important social, administrative, entrepreneurial, organizational, communication and interpersonal skills. This participation is a basic element in every student's CV and a valuable influence on their further academic and professional pursuits. Students have the opportunity to develop and cultivate their interests and talents, to relate theory to practice, to deal with the actual functions and problems of a modern business. There will be participation in Greek and European competitions.

Competitive Educational Robotics Club

Faculty Advisors: Mr. F. Katsochristos, Mr. S. Katsoulis (B Gymnasium – C Lyceum, IB)

Day and Times: Monday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

In the Robotics Club, students learn to construct and program a robot, utilizing the equipment of our school's Computer Lab. Educational robotics is an activity which, with the vision of technological innovation, helps students to discover talents and skills, to work collaboratively and to become familiar with technology, automation and robotics. The ultimate aim of the club is to prepare students to take part in the Panhellenic Robotics Competition (<http://wrohellas.gr/>) which takes place every year with the participation of schools from all around Greece. Winners in this competition by level (Elementary, Gymnasium, Lyceum, Open) represent our country at the Robotics Olympiad (<http://www.wroboto.org/>). In the Club, students are divided into teams of 2 or 3 members. Each team is called upon to construct a robot using as materials LEGO Mindstorms NXT. Then, in the LEGO programming environment, they program their construction so that it completes required tasks – tests. The required equipment is provided by the College.

Robotics Club for A Gymnasium

Faculty Advisor: Mr. F. Katsochristos

Day and Times: Wednesday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

In the Robotics Club, students learn to construct and program a robot, utilizing the equipment of our school's Computer Lab. Educational robotics is an activity which, with the vision of technological innovation, helps students to discover talents and skills, to work collaboratively and to become familiar with technology, automation and robotics. The ultimate aim of the club is to prepare students with all the necessary information so that as of next year, if they wish to, they will be able to join the After School Competitive Educational Robotics Club.

Diamond Challenge Club

Faculty Advisor: Mr. M. Theodosopoulos

Day and Times: Thursday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

This is an entrepreneurship competition for Lyceum students all around the world and is conducted under the auspices of the University of Delaware Horn Entrepreneurship. It provides students with a unique opportunity to delve more deeply into the business culture by putting their ideas to practice. Our school will host the Final of the Greek competition (Diamond Challenge Pitch Host) for public and private schools all around the country. Students will form teams of 2-4 members and submit their ideas in the field of Social Innovation. The teams that qualify from each country will take part in the Final (Diamond Challenge Summit), at the University of Delaware, in April 2021. For further information, see: <https://diamondchallenge.org/>

Drama in Action

Faculty Advisor: Mr. I Tsatalis

Day and Times: Monday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Members of the Club will study ancient drama in a modern way and attempt to present their work at the Syracuse Festival, in cooperation with Mr. Theodore Angelopoulos of the Michael Kakogiannis Foundation. Finally, the Club will collaborate with the Online Magazine published by the College starting this year and will concern graduate artists, promoting the values that our School serves.

AIMS AND BENEFITS:

- a) Improvement of the use and delivery of speech: collaboration, the experience of beauty as a product of artistic and experiential exercise, body language, the service of the arts that collaborate in a theatrical production (scenery design, costume design, translation, music, painting, etc.).
- b) New approach to ancient drama which will replace its museum approach with modern approaches to directing.

Innovation Contests

Faculty Advisor: Mr. D. Makris (Lyceum – IB)

Day and Times: Tuesday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

The After School Innovation Contests Club offers Lyceum students the opportunity to take part in innovation and entrepreneurship competitions both in Greece and abroad. Such competitions are the following:

Blue Ocean Entrepreneurship Competition <https://www.blueoceanstrategy.com/>
NFTE's World Series of Innovation <https://innovation.nfte.com/> The Paradigm
Challenge <https://www.projectparadigm.org/>

The Innovation Contests Club provides support and guidance in the submission of applications. To support the conceptualization process and the development of ideas, academic material dealing with Innovation Management as well as educational material related to Design Thinking will be utilized. After the first introductory meetings, the progress of each project (individual or group) will be monitored on a weekly basis. In the Innovation Contests Club, the English language will be used.

Photography: Writing with light

Faculty Advisor: Ms. I. Vasdeki (Gymnasium – Lyceum – IB)

Day and Times: Tuesday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

The photographic image is everywhere around us on a daily basis. We are living in the age of images and we constantly see hundreds of different images in front of us. Most of us, even just once a day, will take a photograph with our mobile phone. However, photography conceals a wonderful world which is unknown to many today.

Clicking a button on our mobile phones or on our cameras involves a magical element. At any moment, we can all “capture” a moment that we like, that touches us, moves us... It is worthwhile learning to capture what we want to in an even better way, more artistically, more personally, more authentically and to get away from the trivial.

English Drama Club (EDC)

Faculty Advisors: Ms. V. Alexopoulou & Ms. C. Babouris-Smith (Gymnasium – Lyceum – IB)

Day and Times: Tuesday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

The aim of the English Drama Club is to convey to students the power and joy that the Theater offers. Through performances of classical and modern works or works that students themselves write, adapt or suggest, students learn the basic elements of a complete theatrical production while, at the same time, they improve their skills in the English language and strengthen their self-confidence. Through theater, students acquire self-discipline, use their creativity and imagination, and learn the importance of team work for the achievement of a common goal. Finally, participation in a group effort strengthens the sense of “belonging” to the school community.

The EDC is distinguished for its social profile. Thus, by tradition, proceeds from its performances are donated to charities.

The immediate plans of the EDC include participation in international school theater competitions and festivals. For this reason, members of the club are selected at auditions held at the beginning of the school year.

STEAM@FabLab

Faculty Advisor: Ms. L. Stathopoulou (C Gymnasium – Lyceum – IB)

Day and Times: Thursday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

This Club is focused on the link between digital fabrication and Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM). Through collaborative projects and a process based on design thinking, students will have the opportunity to experiment with CAD/CAM (Computer Aided Design/ Computer Aided Manufacturing) technologies and to combine them with creative electronics, construction tinkering, etc. in order to find solutions for real “problems.” They will use state-of-the-art machinery (such FDM and SLA 3d printers, laser cutter, CNC Mill, etc.) and, motivated by their own curiosity, they will enter into a journey of creativity and construction!

The aim of the club is to familiarize students with design thinking, an anthropocentric, interdisciplinary approach to problem-solving, using new rapid prototyping technologies to develop and implement their ideas. They will learn the basic principles of digital design and will get to know the different materials and digital construction machines in the Fab Lab (Fabrication Laboratory).

Hebrew Language and History Studies

(The program is available to students who have completed the basic 6-year Hebrew language and history curriculum)

Advisors: Rabbi E. Shabo, Ms. S. Salom, Ms. R. Sasson

Days and Times: Monday & Wednesday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. (B Gymnasium & A Lyceum), Tuesday & Thursday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. (A Gymnasium & C Gymnasium)

The Hebrew language and history program, as part of the After School Program at Pierce, was developed in cooperation with the Lauder Foundation and the Athens Jewish Community. Its main aim is to familiarize participating students with the values of the local Jewish Community, with Jewish tradition and Jewish culture. It aims to continue the study of Hebrew language and history and is for graduates of the Lauder School of the Athens Jewish Community.

It promotes students’ knowledge in two main pillars of education: Jewish history – traditions – culture and the Hebrew language. More specifically, students are taught the history of the Jewish people in Athens and in Greece, the different periods of

world Jewish history, Jewish holidays and the Hebrew language, which is the common language used by Jewish people around the world. They learn about interesting ancient texts, the history of Jewish communities in Greece and abroad, and they learn the history and culture of Israel.

The program combines formal and informal educational methods and includes, among other things, educational trips to various Jewish communities in Greece and abroad. The weekly classes aim to improve and develop students' language skills, their ability to form and express opinions on ethical questions in the Jewish religion, to develop their critical thinking and cooperation with their peers. Finally, students in this program take an active part in events organized in cooperation with the Athens Jewish Community.

Makers Space Makers

Faculty Advisor: Ms. Lucy Hudson – Christidis (Lyceum – IB)

Day and Times: Thursday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Lyceum and IB students that choose to join this Club will work creatively, develop problem-solving, comprehension skills, and their ability to use materials and tools to design objects and implement their ideas. Students will have the opportunity to experiment, to design and to find solutions to problems using the materials and tools available in the MakerSpace, working individually or in groups. The nature of the Club is such that it will allow students to construct their own objects or those proposed by the school and which might be one or more projects. Students will become familiar with the new space, its facilities and tools, they will design and experiment, with the guidance of their teachers.

Growth Mindset (B & C Gymnasium)

Club Advisor: Mr. Panos Andrikopoulos

Day and Time: Wednesday 3:30-5:00 p.m.

The Growth Mindset afternoon club, as part of the 8-month Global “Entrepreneurship for Kids” educational program, aims to introduce children to the basics of entrepreneurship.

Through riddles, games, imagination and mystery, children develop a way of thinking necessary for their future careers. Activities are structured to lead to the realization of an idea in such a way as to refer to the corresponding way that startups operate. The goal is for children to build their own business product and gain the motivation for developing the Growth Mindset, where intelligence equates to a process of continuous effort and improvement through their contact with the key pillars of entrepreneurship and soft skills required by the modern business world.

The Growth Mindset philosophy is not just an effective educational approach but, primarily, a way of life that urges us to work hard for our goals, because this is the only way to knowledge.

The Club will operate with 10 B & C Gymnasium students. In the event that there is larger participation, the students who will attend the program will be selected by “first come, first serve”.

For further information, visit: <https://www.growthmindset.gr/>

Racecar (MIT – Mathisi Initiative)

Club Advisor: Mr. F. Katsochristos

Day and Time: Tuesday 3:30-5:00 p.m.

In its effort to promote research and innovation, Pierce – The American College of Greece always strives to secure internationally recognized educational programs that give its students the opportunity to develop their special abilities and to cultivate their creativity.

In this context, Pierce – The American College of Greece is the first school in Europe to implement the pilot secondary education program RACECAR, designed by Beaver Works Summer Institute at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), with the support of the non-profit organization “Mathisi Initiative.”

This pilot program aims to reinforce students’ knowledge and abilities in the field of programming, robotics and technology, combining theory with practice.

Eight C Gymnasium and 8 A Lyceum students will take part in the program and will receive the required guidelines on the following subjects:

1. Programming (Python)
2. Artificial Vision (OpenCV)
3. Robotics (Robot Operation System – ROS) and Control Theory

The students will be divided in four 4-member teams. Along with the theoretical approach of each subject, each team will assemble its own automobile and, with the help of appropriate software and the corresponding algorithms, will incorporate into it the necessary sensors and codes to create, in the end, a self-driving car!

At the end of the school year, the four teams will have the opportunity to take part in the Grand Prix, at which each team will compete with its own code and its own algorithms. At the competition, the winner will be the self-driving car that succeeds in traveling along a specific route the fastest.