

Fall 2008 8th Grade Theatre Arts Syllabus

Objective

This class will introduce students to the basic elements and skills of theatre and allow them to practice them in front of their peers and the public.

Overview

Students will learn and practice the following theatric skills:

Character Work

- ✗ Character creation and development
- ✗ Staying in character
- ✗ Facial, vocal and body expression for character communication

Speaking Skills

- ✗ Public Speaking Confidence
- ✗ Proper vocal pitching and enunciation
- ✗ Impromptu
- ✗ Eye Contact

Types of Theatre

- ✗ Story Telling
- ✗ Theatrical Reading
- ✗ Impromptu
- ✗ Humorous
- ✗ Dramatic

The above mentioned skills will be taught and practiced during class times and showcased on December 13th and the Barnes and Noble Performance (see next page for details). All rehearsals are during class time but students may schedule extra practices with me if they wish.

Barnes and Noble Performance

The course work for this class is geared at preparing students for the final production which will be December 13th at Barnes and Noble of Maple Grove. Students will work in class on all aspects of their production including acting, evaluating costumes and props. Below are the requirements for the performance:

- ✗ Groups of 2-5
- ✗ 8-10 minute presentation
- ✗ Simple costumes and props will be used

✗ Attendance at the final performance

- ✗ Attendance of all class rehearsals marked "mandatory." (noted on schedule below)

Grading

Students will be graded in the following areas:

- ✗ Daily participation --- 10 points/day (340 possible)
- ✗ Syllabus signed on time --- 10 points
- ✗ Book chosen on time --- 10 points
- ✗ Memorized on time --- 10 points
- ✗ Costume/props on time --- 10 points
- ✗ Final Performance --- 65 points (15% of grade)
- ✗ Total points --- 435

Grading for performance will be based on how well students take direction, the effort put into performance and overall performance. I expect the students best but I understand that does not mean every student will be performing at the Guthrie by the end of the course. So do your best and your grade will be fine!

Please note the mandatory November and December rehearsals. Also note November 25th is NOT mandatory. Please show respect to the other actors by being at practices because even one person missing can make practicing for your performance difficult or impossible!

Schedule

- Tuesday, September 2nd - Syllabus given
- Friday, September 5th
- Tuesday, September 9th - Signed Syllabus Due
- Friday, September 12th
- Tuesday, September 16th
- Friday, September 19th
- Tuesday, September 23rd - Books chosen and approved
- Friday, September 26th
- Tuesday, September 30th
- Friday, October 3rd
- Tuesday, October 7th - Books Memorized
- Friday, October 10th
- Tuesday, October 14th

- Tuesday, October 21st
- Friday, October 24rd
- Tuesday, October 28th
- Friday, October 31th - Costumes Due
- Tuesday, November 4th
- Friday, November 7th
- Tuesday, November 11th - MANDATORY REHEARSAL

- Tuesday, November 18th - MANDATORY REHEARSAL
- Friday, November 21th - MANDATORY REHEARSAL
- Tuesday, November 25th

- Tuesday, December 2nd - Dress Rehearsal (MANDATORY)
- Friday, December 5th - Dress Rehearsal (MANDATORY)
- Tuesday, December 9th
- Friday, December 12th
- Saturday, December 13th - Barnes and Noble Performance***
- Tuesday, December 16th

Fall 2008 8th Grade Theatre Arts Syllabus

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- Friday, December 19th
- Tuesday, January 6th
- Friday, January 9th
- Tuesday, January 13th
- Friday, January 16th
- Tuesday, January 20th
- Friday, January 23nd

**Lines indicate missed practice due to no school. If there are schedule differences between this and the Daily Bulletin, use the Daily Bulletin.*

Please encourage your students to talk to me about any problems or concerns they have with class. If necessary feel free to send me an email or give me a call (email is preferred).

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*I have read and understand the above syllabus. By signing this I indicate that I have noted and agree to be at the **MANDATORY** NOVEMBER and DECEMBER in-class rehearsals and DECEMBER 13th Performance.*

Student's Name

Student's Signature

Parent Signature