Intro to Drama

Syllabus

Valley Park High School

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Course Overview

This course helps students develop acting skills and learn the fundamentals of theatre. In exploring dimensions of theatrical self-expression, this course will employ lecture, discussion and classroom activities to raise issues that stretch self-awareness through dramatic interaction involving imagination and creativity. Each participant works and his or her own level with no comparison to other members. Group cooperation, relations to others and self-awareness will be enhanced by speaking and performing before an audience.

Course Objectives

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental skills in the multiple elements of theatre as a collaborative art. Students will have exposure to the following:

\*acting and characterization

\*pantomime and improvisation

\*theatre history and influences

\*playwriting/script elements

\*roles and careers in theatre

\*movement and vocal production

\*theatre terminology

\*technical theatre and design

\*audience etiquette

Materials Needed

1. Pocket folder
2. Spiral notebook
3. Pens

Expectations

1. Actively participate.
2. Do not interrupt me or anyone else when speaking
3. Use class time appropriately! Do not waste yours or my time!
4. Be kind – we are learning together – do not judge!

Instructional Units

1. Definitions of Theatre Terms
   1. Stage language
   2. Conventions
   3. Theatre discipline
2. Drama Skills
   1. Voice and diction
   2. Physical movement
   3. Concentration/focus
   4. Emotion
   5. Subtext
   6. Motivation
3. Interpreting Drama
   1. Improve
   2. Pantomime
   3. Acting
      1. Roles
      2. Characterization
      3. Movement
      4. Delivery
   4. Etiquette
   5. Monologues/duets
4. Producing the drama
   1. Play
   2. Casting
   3. Analysis
   4. Blocking
   5. Sets/props
   6. Lighting
   7. Costuming
   8. Makeup
5. Appreciating
   1. Structure of drama
      1. Plot
      2. Character
      3. Dialogue
      4. Action
      5. Exposition
      6. History of drama
      7. Varieties
      8. Evaluation of drama
6. Evaluation
   1. **Class participation is 40%!**
   2. Play analyses, miscellaneous (papers, written exercises, help with fall musical) –20%
   3. Performances - 40%