

## Performing Arts/Drama - Years 1-3

### **Course Description**

Using the NC Standard Course of Study and the MYP objectives as our guidelines, Performing Arts/Drama- in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades will focus on theatre history, theatre's influence on various cultures and famous people who have had major influences over the years. The students will gain an understanding of theatre and the purpose of studying drama with relationship to decision-making, conflict resolution and problem solving techniques of yesterday and today.

Students will read a variety of plays, work extensively in character development, study playwrights and write their own plays. Students will have hands-on involvement with technical theatre, directing, auditioning for a major role and performing for large groups of people, both within the school and the community.

### **Aims**

The aims of the teaching and study of humanities to encourage and enable the student to develop:

- the skills necessary for the effective study of humanities
- an enquiring mind
- an awareness with humanities connections with other subjects
- a respect for developing an intercultural awareness
- an understanding of the interactions and interdependence of individuals, societies, and their environment
- a sense of internationalism and a desire to become a responsible global citizen
- develop critical thinking and analytical skills by examining happenings of the past
- an understanding of the causes and consequences of change

### **Objectives**

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

#### **a. Knowledge and Understanding**

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical basis of the performing arts
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of a variety of styles, developments and ideas which have shaped the performing arts across time and cultures
- Apply appropriate terminology to show aesthetic and critical awareness

#### **b. Application**

- plan and organize effectively to define and set goals, solve problems, negotiate and make decisions
- experiment and explore through both spontaneous and structured activities
- use drama confidently as a form of expression and communication while demonstrating a range of technical skills
- demonstrate an ability to find original and inventive solutions
- apply skill specific to the performing arts studied to elaborate an idea, a theme or a composition to a point of realization
- present work through formal or informal performances

#### **c. Evaluation and Reflection**

- Reflect upon and evaluate their work in order to set goals for future development

- Use group discussion and feedback to support and promote creative development
- Assess and appraise their work and that of others

**d. Artistic Awareness and Personal Engagement**

- Show sensitivity to their own and different cultures
- Accept and incorporate views and feedback from others to further develop their artistic potential
- Show self motivation in setting and meeting deadlines to take risks
- Support and encourage their peers towards a positive working environment

**Areas of Interaction**

- Human Ingenuity (HI) - Students are provided the opportunity to explore and appreciate the discoveries of mankind through an in-depth review of how theatre and performing arts have impacted our lives today. Students will reflect on both past and future consequences of man's desire to create and be creative.
- Approaches to Learning (ATL) - Students work to improve upon their communication, organization, collaboration, and reflection through a variety of activities. Students learn to structure their thinking within the processes of creating art. Given various situations the students will acquire the skills needed to identify basic conflict-resolutions, problem solving techniques and acceptance of the consequences of their choices
- Health and Social Education (HSE) - Students will gain perspective of body and mind, which in turn will enable the individual to make informed, responsible choices. Students will gain understanding of man's past and present actions and how they have impacted the health of a society as a whole. Students will gain self-esteem by performing for others members of the community
- Environments (E) – The artistic student will gain an understanding of the relationships between individuals, global communities, materials, products and nature. With this understanding, students will be better equipped to make informed decisions.
- Community and Service (CS) – The students will be provided with activities and opportunities to develop a responsible and caring attitude within their local setting and the wider world. Theatre Arts and its correlation with other subject areas gives the students opportunities for understanding, enriching and making contact with communities in and beyond the classroom. As a result, they will foster an interest for providing service in their community through the performance.

**Student Resources**

Activities are teacher designed lesson plans, purchased scripts, games and activities provided by various resources; Creative Drama in the Classroom, Indoor, Outdoor Games.

**Methodology**

Theatre Arts is a form of human expression through activities that contribute to a school curriculum, offering a unique way of learning where seeing, feeling, hearing thinking and

creating are combined in a powerful form of visual aural and tactile affective communication. The students work cooperatively and individually through opportunities which provide insights, opinions, solutions and resolutions; and to reflect on, appreciate and evaluate, critique their art form.

### Topics

Study the history of Theatre arts of South America and Europe

Examine the impact of Theatre arts from the past and present on a global basis

Demonstrate an understanding of ancient civilizations and their contributions to Theatre Arts

Understand the influence of theatre on various cultures and their religious beliefs

Students will demonstrate an understanding and an appreciation for the Theatre Arts and its purposes and effects on today's society

Study the great playwrights and historical forms of theatre and the changes made over the past several hundred years

### Assessment

Students will be assessed utilizing the IB criteria on oral, visual, and written work.

Students will be given points based on in-class participation, tests, homework assignments or projects and periodic performances.

Criterion	Maximum	Assessment Methods
A - Knowledge and Understanding	8	Tests, quizzes, entries in the developmental workbook
B - Application	10	Classroom observation, performances, and developmental workbook
C – Reflection and Evaluation	8	Oral presentations, developmental workbook, individual written and oral reflections
D – Artistic Awareness and Personal Engagement	8	Teacher observation, individual reflections, assigned projects

# Curriculum Map

Year 1 - Sixth Grade Beginning Theatre History and Appreciation Play Reading Character Development Communication via Production	Year 2 - Seventh Grade Intermediate Theatre History and Appreciation Play Writing Character Development Communication via Production	Year 3 - Eighth Grade Advanced Theatre History and Appreciation Directing Character Development Performing and Producing a Play
<p>Beginning Theatre History</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Properties of a stage</li> <li>- Varying formats of theatre, theatre appreciation and history</li> <li>- researching varying performance spaces and their effectiveness</li> </ul> <p>Play Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- read, act out plays on Greek Mythology</li> <li>- Interpret Greek Fables (Aesop) incorporating the moral of today's issues and situations</li> </ul> <p>Character Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participate in several theatre activities, games, dramas, improvisations to experience the varying degrees of change of a character or characters</li> <li>- Character study</li> </ul> <p>Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use physical, (mind, body, and voice) techniques to communicate</li> <li>- Incorporate theatrical instruments to aide in communication such as improvisations, pantomime, monologue, dialogue, masks, costumes, puppets</li> </ul>	<p>Intermediate Theatre History and Appreciation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Study the various cultures and their influences on past and modern theatre</li> <li>- Communicate how different art forms have been affected by society</li> <li>- Compare and integrate art forms by analyzing traditional theatre</li> <li>- Understand directional and technical terms of the stage</li> </ul> <p>Play Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Write dramatic material inspired by personal and historical events</li> <li>- Write dramatic material inspired by interdisciplinary prompts, ideas, pictures and other stimuli</li> <li>- Write and critique original scenes and other material</li> </ul> <p>Character Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identify and practice techniques for physical and vocal conditioning of a character</li> <li>- Employ physical and vocal skills to create believable characters</li> <li>- Utilize acting skill to study human behavior and conflict resolution</li> </ul> <p>Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- experience the process of auditioning for a play</li> <li>- communicate emotions and thoughts evoked by the students' performances of musical production</li> </ul>	<p>Advanced Theatre History and Appreciation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Analyze and discuss how theatre and related media have reflected and transformed various cultures throughout history</li> <li>- Demonstrate a basic knowledge of American theatre history which may include the study of African, Asian, Native and Latin American and other cultures</li> <li>- Study past playwrights and performers who have had major influences on Theatre</li> </ul> <p>Directing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Understand and practice the directing process</li> <li>- Implement the responsibilities of the director</li> <li>- understand and communicate characters' internal monologue through vocalization and physical movement</li> </ul> <p>Character Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Practice and demonstrate techniques for physical and vocal conditioning</li> <li>- Utilize physical and vocal skills to create believable characters</li> <li>- Synthesize research, observation, given circumstances and acting skills to create characters in formal and informal presentations</li> </ul> <p>Performing and Producing a Play</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Understand and practice the role of designer and technical elements in the theatre process</li> <li>- Take on various roles needed in the producing of a musical performance</li> </ul>