As learners become involved in theatre, they extend their abilities to communicate. Theatre content becomes a stimulus for cognitive development through problem solving and creative thinking. As students perceive, comprehend, imagine, and evaluate, they develop interpretive, analytical, and critical thinking skills. Integrating theatre knowledge and skills also helps learners’ development and enhances their critical thinking abilities.

(Center for Educator Development in Fine Arts, CEDFA.org, 2014)

COURSE OFFERINGS:

Theatre Arts I
This introductory theatre course will focus on creative expression through theatrical performance and design. Students will become skilled at employing: acting techniques, movement & body control, proper vocalization methods, and the development of characters from different periods and styles of drama. Students will explore historical and cultural studies in theatre and have opportunities to see live professional theater.

Theatre Arts II
This intermediate theatre course is an extension and further exploration of the concepts and training covered in Theatre I. Students of Theatre Arts II will refine skills in theatrical creative expression. Levels of expectations and approaches will vary depending on the assignment.

Theatre Productions
The prerequisite for this course is Theatre Arts I and/or teacher approval. This class will build upon the foundations of Theatre I and II, but will explore play production more in depth through application and public performance. This class will produce two plays a year, one in the fall and one in the spring. The spring play will be entered in the UIL One-Act Play competition and students must remain UIL eligible (passing all classes) to participate in the competition.

Coursework will include:

- Theatre etiquette
- Vocal and physical warm-ups
- Theater vocabulary
- Artistic discipline
- Improvisation
- Pantomime and movement
- Characterization
- Monologues
- Acting Scenes
- In-depth play analysis of a classic play
- Theater history
- Play production reviews of live theatrical performances
- Production design and technical theater
Grades:
Major Grades (performance or design projects, tests, play reviews) = 45%
Minor Grades (daily class work, quizzes) = 25%
Participation (weekly participation grades) = 30%

*Supplies:*
- 1 inch black 3 ring binder with plastic cover (will be kept in classroom)
- 5 divider tabs for binder
- loose-leaf notebook paper
- pen, pencil, highlighter

- *THEATRE PRODUCTIONS CLASS ONLY, bring______________________.

Makeup Work:
Students will be given 3 school days to turn in makeup work. It is the student’s responsibility to collect his or her makeup work. Upon returning to school, students should collect make up work from the teacher before or after school or before or after class. Please note: if the student is absent on a presentation or test day, the student is expected to present or test the first day back.

Class Rules:
1. Demonstrate control of your body.
2. Respect others and their property.
3. Arrive on time prepared to create and perform.
4. Maintain focus and be sure to participate.
5. Audience etiquette: watch, listen and learn.

Consequences for not following class rules & procedures:
Consequences will range, depending on the severity and frequency of the infraction. Possible consequences: 1) verbal warning & daily participation points deduction, 2) parent contact & daily participation points deduction, 3) conduct cut & daily participation points deduction, 4) office referral, conduct cut & daily participation points deduction

A Few Words about Participation and Positive Attitude:
I am so happy to have you as a student and look forward to an exciting year! Theatre Arts is a truly fun and rewarding journey. In this class, students must be willing to participate in all warm ups, exercises, activities, skits, scene work and projects. The coursework is centered on participation and collaboration with peers. To create an environment where individuals feel comfortable performing in front of peers, we must support and respect each other. Much like a sports team, in each class we will strive to give every practice our best effort and to offer encouragement to others. Being supportive of classmates and displaying proper audience etiquette is equally as important as the project work. Just like athletes, artists must have self-discipline and in this class, students will learn to manage time, rehearse according to a schedule and to meet deadlines. A positive attitude, teamwork and a willingness to try are the key ingredients to a successful experience in Theatre Arts class.
I, (print student name) ________________________________ have read the Theatre Arts Syllabus and understand the class requirements.

Student Signature ____________________________ Class Period________________

Parent Signature ______________________________ Date_______________________

Print Parent Name______________________________

Parent Email (print clearly)_____________________________

Parent Phone
(h)___________________ (w)_______________________ Cell____________________

In the event that we take the Theatre students on a field lesson to see a live professional theatrical production in downtown Houston, we will need some parent chaperones. Going to see live theatre can be an exciting, rewarding and educational experience for all! Parents are invited to chaperone, but must become “VIPS” approved on the HISD website.

Check if applicable:

________ Yes, I am interested in chaperoning a theatre arts field lesson and I’m already “VIPS” approved through HISD.

________ Yes, I am interested in chaperoning a theatre arts field lesson. I am not “VIPS” approved through HISD at this time, but am interested in becoming “VIPS” approved.