

# ***Introduction to Theater***

2022-2023: Mrs. Spaziano

## **Texts:**

*Everything About Theatre!* by Robert L. Lee

*Stagecraft 1* by William H. Lord

"Gift of the Magi" by Jon Jory

"Beauty and the Beast" by Timothy Mason

## **Unit 1 - Acting Basics/Improvisation**

### **Essential Questions:**

How do I create and portray a character for performance?

How are performance elements used to create believable characters?

What are some ways you can use your voice (speaking) to create a character?

What are some ways you can nonverbally create a character?

What are the parts of the stage?

### **Learning Targets – I can:**

Create an improvised performance.

React to an improvised situation based on the given circumstances that motivate their character.

Brainstorm different improvised situations and determine how to portray them through voice changes, inflection.

Identify the parts of a stage.

Use performance elements to create a believable character.

Use voice to create a variety of characters.

Use body (non-verbal) to create a variety of characters

### **Tasks:**

Acting students develop and perform as a character in a scene based upon given circumstances.

## **Unit 2 - Theatrical Design**

### **Essential Questions:**

What is a designer's role in the theatre?

What problems is a designer expected to encounter/solve?

Why is theatre considered to be a collaborative act?

What tools does a designer need to fulfill their responsibilities?

What skill set does a designer need to be a theatre professional?

What is the terminology of design?

How can technical elements be utilized to enhance a performance?

### **Learning Targets – I can:**

Identify the role(s) and skills needed to be a professional theatre designer.  
Identify and use theatre terminology correctly.  
Implement design techniques and create a set that would be suitable for a live theatrical performance.

**Tasks:**

Students develop and design a set based on a script read in class.  
Students will develop a costume plot based on characters in a script read in class.  
Students will create and implement a theatrical make-up design based on an original character.

## **Unit 3 - Introduction to Playwriting**

**Essential Questions:**

What is the format of a play?  
What are the parts of a script?  
What does it mean to raise the stakes?

**Learning Targets – I can:**

Identify the parts of a play.  
Use playwriting terminology correctly.  
Create a 10 page play based off of a work available in the public domain.

**Tasks:**

Students will write a 10 page play based on a work available in the public domain.