

## CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT PROJECT – DUE ON TUESDAY FEBRUARY 4<sup>TH</sup>

For this project you will do online research about your character in the musical. You may use Google Scholar, .org, and .edu sites or other data bases that you are familiar with. Please cite at least two reliable sources that you used in proper MLA or APA format. Your sources do not have to be about your specific character but can be about *The Sound of Music* or the history of the time period (late 1930's-early 40's) more generally. Stage crew, you must pick an on-stage character from the musical to research.

After you have done some research on your character, start to think more creatively about your character(s) and write **at least 3 paragraphs** to describe your character. Use the following questions and ideas to guide your writing:

- If your character does not have a given name...make one up.
- Think about your character's personality traits...what other characters in the show would your chosen character interact with on a regular basis, which would they avoid, and why?
- What are your character's hobbies?

**Please TYPE your final paragraphs/works cited in a document, attach it to an email, and send it to Ms. Bambino.**

[g.bambino@sjschoolva.org](mailto:g.bambino@sjschoolva.org)

**The subject line of your email should read:** YourName+Class - Character Development Paragraphs

Please use proper formatting and headings for your paragraphs/works cited!

# Creating A Character Dossier in 8 steps

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## What is a Character Dossier?

A document that contains detailed information about the role you are playing. It's fun, easy to make, and gives you the opportunity to be creative.

### Where do I get the info?

Use your script to pull information, but also talk to your director.

### Why should I make one?

It will allow you to fully understand your character and bring them to life.

## 1. Basic Info

Name  
Birthday  
Favorite Color  
Location of Birth  
Hair Color  
Eye Color  
Height/ Weight

## 2. Family

Mother's Name  
Father's Name  
Siblings' Names  
Pets  
Family Legacy  
Wealthy or Poor  
Family Relationships

## 3. Physical Look

Hairstyle  
Nails Painted  
Makeup  
Scars  
Tattoos  
Piercings

## 4. History

Schools  
Been to Prison  
Good/Bad Student  
Favorite Hobby  
Family Move Often  
Tough Decisions  
Choices that Led to Now

## 5. Psychology

Deepest Secret  
Core Values  
Innermost Desire  
Best/Worst Memory  
Fears  
Mental Illness  
Personal Struggles

## 6. Speech

Pitch of Voice  
Clear Enunciation  
Slurred Words  
Volume Level  
Speech Impediment  
Accent/Dialect

## 7. Behavior

Bad/Good Habits  
Reserved or Outgoing  
Leader or Follower  
Calm or Volatile  
Honest or Sneaky

## 8. Intelligence

Talents  
Specialties  
Degree Level  
Common Sense  
Special Interests  
Multilingual

## **SET DESIGN PROJECT – DUE ON TUESDAY FEBRUARY 11TH**

For this project you will design not one...not two...but **THREE set ideas** to potentially be used for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade musical!

The three set-types are:

1. **The Nonnberg Abbey** (Benedictine monastery where Maria and the nuns are trained)
2. **An interior scene, inside of the Von Trapp house** (Think: What would the walls look like?... are there windows? ...pictures on the walls? ...maybe some curtains?)
3. **An outdoor scene** (Think: natural landscape; sky, mountains, hills, grass, trees, etc.)

Please draft out your ideas on white printer paper in pencil first. Each set design should be on its own sheet of paper (I will provide you with 3 sheets of paper). Please put your full name, class, and number on the back of each sheet so each piece can be easily identified.

When your drafts are complete, start to add color to your designs with colored pencils until each set design is finished. Please show pride in your work and keep things neat and tidy. Please turn all three pieces in together when you are finished. Remember this will count as a part of your music grade. **The final due date is Tuesday February 11<sup>th</sup>.**

After all of the projects are turned in, we will vote on our favorite options and narrow it down until there are three winning sets. The three winning designs will then be painted onto the flats that will be the set backdrops throughout the show!