Theatre Arts-Semester Course: Middle School

**Course Description:**The Theatre Arts course will help students develop an understanding and awareness of the theatre as a whole. Class will be project based, with an emphasis on acting (small and large group scenes). Projects will include, but not be limited to: History of the theatre (Greek to modern day), intro to stagecraft, play production techniques, acting in scenes & groups, acting techniques, improvisation, scene analysis, and other theatrical techniques that can be applied to everyday situations.

**Course Objectives**

Students will have study & then have knowledge and understanding of the following:

1. Acting
   1. Audition Techniques
   2. Improvisation
   3. Pantomime & movement
   4. Voice & diction
   5. Acting Techniques
   6. Acting for the stage/scenes
2. 2 person scenes
3. Structure of theatre and a play
4. Varieties of theatre/History of the theatre (very brief)

**Theatre Goals**

1. Develop communication skills.
2. Increase confidence in public presentations.
3. Develop skills of social interaction.
4. Explore limits and boundaries of human behavior in safe/supervised environment.
5. Explore and learn a range of possible behaviors within life experiences and to build upon these experiences to promote personal and social learning within the context of drama.
6. Reflect/analyze human behaviors; personality types and life situations within the context of drama.
7. Promote creativity by utilizing thinking, feeling and the body in solutions to problems in communication.
8. Engage students in current happenings in theater.
9. Provide an historical perspective to drama including Greek theater and Shakespeare.
10. Develop theatre skills.
11. Develop basic understanding of the technical aspects of the theatre.
12. Develop teamwork to accomplish common goals.
13. To apply critical thinking and writing skills in topics related to theatre.

**Grading Criteria:**

Grading will be done based on testing of theatre knowledge, monologues, acting skills, directing a scene, play analysis, and other theatre related topics/projects.

* A: 90 – 100
* B: 89 – 80
* C: 79 – 70
* D: 69 – 60
* F: 59 – 0
* I: Incomplete

**Behavioral Expectations:**

The highest standards of behavior are expected of every student and should be consistent with the following:

* Be prepared and ready to work. Bring **ALL** appropriate materials to class—every day. Remain on task throughout the period. Show respect to **EVERYONE**. Listen when others are speaking—do not interrupt. Be safety minded and use equipment properly. Sit in chairs only—not on desks, tables, etc. **NO FOOD OR DRINKS IN CLASSROOM.**