

WLHS THEATRE ARTS
STEVEN BECKINGHAM
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(503) 673-7815 ext. 4953

OFFICE HOURS: 8.30-9.30
After-school by appointment

THEATRE FOR YOUTH COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE OBJECTIVES: During this course, students will gain insight into the philosophies, purposes, and processes of developing theatre for youth and young audiences. The course will explore teaching drama to youth, devising and adapting stories, acting styles and techniques, and production design and management. The class will culminate in a fully realized production, produced and performed by the students, for visiting elementary and middle school populations.

COURSE TOPICS AND GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- I. **Ensemble Building:** How do we define *ensemble*? Why does teamwork matter?
- II. **Philosophy and Purpose:** What is theatre for youth and young audiences? Is it to educate, entertain, or both?
- III. **Play:** How do children use *play* to interact, learn, and develop?
- IV. **Introducing Children to Theatre:** How might we teach youth about the theatrical experience?
- V. **Characterization, Improv, and Storytelling:** How might we engage a young audience as performers?
- VI. **Critique a Production:** What can we take away from being the audience to a children's production?
- VII. **Cast, Rehearse, Design:** What are the initial ingredients for putting on a show aimed at young audiences?
- VIII. **Produce, Publicize, Perform:** What are the elements of putting on a production for young audiences?

TEXTS: (supplied by instructor) Various story scripts, articles and handouts.

EXPECTATIONS:

Students are expected to attend all class sessions, arrive on time, participate in class activities, and treat all members of the class community with respect, compassion, and kindness. Disrespect and or/judgement towards peers and/or the teacher will not be tolerated.

CELL PHONES NEED TO BE OFF AND PUT AWAY FOR THE ENTIRE DURATION OF CLASS!

GRADING: 100%-90% A 89%-80% B 79%-70% C 69%-60% D

- Participation/Collaboration 20%
- Assignments/Projects 15%
- Reading Reflections 15%
- Friday Journals (Moodle) 20%
- Final
 - Production/Performance 15%
 - Final Reflection (Poem) 15%

RESOURCES:

WLHS Theatre Arts Blog: <http://www.wlhstheatre.org>

Class Information and Documents: <http://www.wlhs.wlww.k12.or.us/Page/3344>

Grades: <http://www2.wlhs.wlww.k12.or.us/SMStuff/>

“Let it Live”

Theatre for Youth/Tech II Co-Curricular Dates

The following dates are mandatory for completion of this class

- **AFTER SCHOOL REHEARSALS – The week of Jan 1 (after holiday), days TBD**
- **DRY TECH (both classes must attend) – Jan 6, 10am-4pm**
- **DRESS REHEARSALS – January 8 & 9, 3.30pm-6pm**
- **STUDENT MATINEES (during school) – Jan 10 & 11, times TBD**
- **PUBLIC EVENING PERFORMANCES on Jan 11, 12, 13 @ 6pm**
- **PUBLIC MATINEE on Jan 13 @ 2pm**

-----Please detach, sign, and return to Mr. B-----

I have read and understand that the co-curricular component of this class is mandatory for course completion.

STUDENT NAME: _____ PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____