



Guidelines and Expectations

Course Description:

Students will learn the principles of set construction and design, lighting, sound, costumes, make-up, publicity, and stage management using the latest technology particular to theater arts. After completing introductory projects in each area, students specialize in one area for the upcoming Advanced Drama production. Students will learn how to produce a clear, unified aesthetic that combines personal style and practicality for stage. As a technical theatre team, students will be entrusted with the real responsibility of planning a cohesive design, working within a budget and against time constraints to realize their vision onstage. Students will also develop a professional style portfolio of their work, and conduct research profiling possible technical theater careers. During performances, students will serve as “run crew”, operating the lighting and sound systems, taking charge backstage with scene changes and prop organization, as well as cuing actors. This class will require after school time the week before the show at dress rehearsals, and attendance at all performances to run the show.

Course Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Artistically analyze and interpret theatrical literature
- Distinguish different genres and styles of design
- Organize time, money and resources according to production demands
- Utilize the latest technology for lighting, sound, and set design
- Learn safe and effective practices of working with tools
- Collaborate with teams to create a cohesive overall design
- Delegate authority and responsibilities
- Lead workshops in area of specialty
- Maintain a show budget
- Keep to production deadlines
- Learn to effectively communicate ideas with fellow designers and actors

Evaluation

Students will be graded in five areas:

- 1.) **Responsibility-** **15 %**
Safety with tools and equipment, organizing and protecting of resources, preparation for class, sticking to budget, cleaning up properly after class, attendance at necessary rehearsals
- 2.) **Ability to work in groups-** **10%**
Utilizing strong communication skills, Ability to collaborate, take or give direction, and to compromise
- 3.) **Design Portfolios-** **20 %**
Specially designed project in specialty are (e.g. make-up plots, costume sketches, color rendering of set), week by week logs, budgets, deadlines, sketches, lists
- 4.) **Productivity-** **20%**
Efficiency and time management, effort, self and group evaluations, keeping to deadlines
- 5.) **Dress Rehearsals/ Final Performances-** **35 %**
quality of final product, performance of backstage job, following proper set –up and clean up procedures

Behavior

Theatres can be dangerous places if proper precautions are not used. In Stagecraft, students will be working with powerful and expensive equipment, as well as with fellow technicians and actors from Advanced Drama. In order to keep everyone safe and happy, the following rules will be strictly enforced:

- 1.) Be Responsible
- 2.) Be Respectful
- 3.) Be Safe
- 4.) Be Productive

Dress Rehearsals/ Performances

As stated in the course description, the Stagecraft students will work as crew for the Advanced Drama performances. All Dress Rehearsals and Performances are mandatory for Stagecraft students. Please mark these important dates on the calendar. Putting on a play is tough work, and the technicians will be depended on to run the shows by other stagecraft students, and the Advanced Drama Actors. Missing these crucial dates would impact grading significantly.

Dress Rehearsal Dates	Performance Dates
Wednesday, January 6 th (2:30- 6:00 p.m.)	Friday, January 8 th (5:30- 9:30 p.m.)
Thursday, January 7 th (3:00- 6:30 p.m.)	Saturday, January 9 th (11:30- 3:30 p.m.)
	Saturday, January 9 th (5:30 p.m. -9:30 p.m.)
	Sunday, January 10 th (11:30- 3:30 p.m.)

General Rehearsals/ Saturday Work days

Depending on the job, there may be some required after school time. Lighting designers, for instance, must attend rehearsals to study the movement of the actors. Some jobs require more of a time commitment. Students interested in such jobs should review the schedule with parents very carefully before applying for such a position.

We will have one to two Saturday Work Days to help construct/ paint the set the dates will be announced shortly. Parents with skills and/or tools are most appreciated during these days. All students will be required to spend a sum total of two hours helping on at least one of the Saturday work days.

Scheduled Saturday Work Days

Saturday, November 7 th	(10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.)
Saturday, December 11 th	(10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.)

Materials/ Materials Donation

Most materials will be provided for in class. Students are required to bring paper and pencils every day. There may be additional needs as the students get selected into various stage crews in October. For example, the set design crew will need to bring grubby clothing for painting. A detailed list will be sent home at that time. A one-time donation of \$35.00 is requested per student to help supply the lumber, tools, lighting equipment and other production needs. Checks may be made out to Iron Horse Middle School. Please enclose checks and cash in a clearly labeled envelope.

Parent Communication

As the winter play gets into production, there are lots of updates about rehearsal schedules, ticket and DVD information, production needs and volunteer opportunities to send home. The easiest and quickest way to communicate with parents has been via email. Hard copies of important information will also be provided, but email has been the most direct and fastest method of communicating with drama parents. Please include your email information at the bottom of this page to be included in this communication.

Thank you for carefully reviewing the outline and policies of Stagecraft Drama. Please return the bottom portion of this page and payment by Thursday, August 28th. I look forward to working together toward a great production experience!

Sincerely,

Heather Raines
Drama Teacher
Hrains@srvusd.net

Stagecraft Parent Reply

I have read and understand the classroom guidelines and expectations.

(Student's signature)

(Parent's signature)

Student name (Please print) _____

Parent Name (s) _____

Parent email _____

Iron Horse Middle School Stagecraft Donation Receipt

(Please fill out to request a receipt, and I'll sign and return to you upon receiving lab fee)

Student name _____

Date _____ Parent/ Guardian name _____

\$ _____

_____ Dollars

Teacher Signature _____