

**The Department's Educational Philosophy**

Education in the Arts plays a major role in three general areas of education. Students gain knowledge of events and historical movements that shaped society. The arts help to develop critical and creative thinking skills. The arts can provide the means for communicating thoughts, emotions, and ideas that cannot otherwise be expressed.

**Guiding Principles**

For those students interested in developing skills in voice, instrumental, and drama performance, the Performing Arts Department offers courses and activities of considerable variety. Performance material is selected to meet the varied needs and skill levels of the students, provide cultural enrichment for the students, help students develop aesthetic, make provision for technical growth of the students, provide for school and community service, and create interdisciplinary relationships.

## **INTRODUCTION TO ACTING: COURSE #893**

**Course Frequency:** 5 days per week – one semester

**Credits Offered:** 2.5 Credits

**Prerequisites:** None

### **Background to the Curriculum**

Drama is essential to the performing arts curriculum. ABRHS has had a successful, award-winning drama program for many years, including speech and debate and broadcasting, with courses in each area. The drama courses allow students to develop skills that are needed in all of these courses; many students take the drama courses as a first step in their development of oral performance. The classes, therefore, aid those students who are interested in drama, as well as those students who are interested in both speech and debate and broadcast.

This introductory class is for any student who wants to begin or improve his/her acting and performance skills. This class will have a fast paced workshop format designed to strengthen the voice, acting, observation, movement and listening skills through exercises in improvisation, theater games, scene study and theater exercises. The main focus of the class is to build ensemble and begin to strengthen resources as an actor. Students will rehearse and perform selected scenes and monologues for peers. Acting styles will be studied periodically through the use of video and live performance. Vocabulary of the theater and performance and rehearsal expectations and etiquette will be stressed.

### **Core Topics / Questions / Concepts/ Skills**

By the completion of this course of study, the student should be able to:

- Begin to develop acting skills
  - ~ Create and sustain believable character throughout a scripted or improvised scene
  - ~ Consider costuming in development of character
  - ~ Properly use vocal acting skills
  - ~ Perform productively within an ensemble
  - ~ Perform productively in a monologue
  - ~ Begin to develop script and character analysis skills
  - ~ Begin to develop the body and gesture to delineate character
- Critical Response:
  - ~ Students will describe and analyze their own theatrical work and the work of others using appropriate theatre vocabulary. When appropriate, students will connect their analysis to interpretation and evaluation.

## **Course-end Learning Objectives**

### ***Students will:***

- 1] Begin to develop acting skills
  - Create and sustain believable character throughout a scripted or improvised scene
  - Costuming considerations
  - Proper use of physical acting skills
  - Proper use of vocal acting skills
  - Character analysis
  - Perform productively within an ensemble
- 2] Critical Response
  - Students will describe and analyze their own theatrical work and the work of others using appropriate theatre vocabulary. When appropriate, students will connect their analysis to interpretation and evaluation.

## **Assessment**

Students will be assessed on the following:

- Growth over the length of the course
- Attainment of pre-stated goals
- Journals
- Ensemble scene work
- Performance – all aspects including voice, body, memorization and characterization

## **Materials and Resources**

Materials will be used from varying eras of theater literature, ranging from Greek to present day contemporary. Dramatic literature for scene selections will be substantial in its educational value.