***Mr. Seidel’s***

**Drama 8/9 Guidelines**

“All the world’s a stage, and the people in it, merely players.”

--William Shakespeare

**Materials Needed**

* Pen or Pencil
* Notebook
* Folder

**What You’ll Learn in this Class**

* + We cover a lot in a short amount of time. Think of this as a drama survey course – I’ll teach you the basics about all the facets of theatre so that by the end of the marking period, you’ll have a clear idea of what areas are of particular interest to you. Hopefully, you’ll be inspired to take Drama, join the drama club, or get involved in school/community theatre!
  + Specifically, we will cover acting, playwriting, directing, theatre history, the business side of theatre, technical aspects including props, sound, lights, set design, make-up, costumes, and theatre appreciation and evaluation.

**Format of Class**

* While primarily a hands-on, on-your-feet class, expect daily assignments, projects, papers, and both solo and group performances. Usually, I give you enough class time to complete assignments, but you will have homework occasionally.

**Grades**

* Each **marking period**, you start fresh with a 100%. It’s up to you to maintain that grade.

Marking periods are broken down as follows:

A+….... 97 – 100 %

A…….. 90 – 96 %

B+…… 87 – 89 %

B…….. 80 – 86 %

C+…….77 – 79 %

C……… 70 – 76 %

D+…….. 67 – 69 %

D…….... 65 – 66 %

F……… < 65 %

Tests 25%

Quizzes 20%

Classwork and Participation 25%

Authentic Assessments 25%

Homework 10%

* Each **semester,** every marking period is worth roughly 28% and the final exam is worth roughly 16%.
* **Extra Credit:** Extra credit will be offered occasionally and always to the entire class. One form of extra credit is the “Thumbs Up” coupon. One coupon is worth 1 extra credit point and can be attached to any assignment.

**Classroom Rules**

* Our classroom rules are simple. Just remember to be: **Prompt, Polite,** and **Prepared**

**Classroom Consequences**

* **If you cannot follow these rules, the consequences are:**

1. Verbal Warning

2. One minute after class

3. Call home

4. Detention

5. Referral to assistant principal

If behavior is severe enough, steps 1-4 may be skipped.

**Classroom Policies**

* **Assignments Policy:**

**Make-up Work:** If you are absent, you will be allowed two days for every day that you missed up to one full week to turn in any missing assignments. NO additional time will be given for any assignments, projects, papers, or tests posted BEFORE an absence unless new material covered in class is missed.

**Assignment Center:** IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to find out what you have missed the day you return from an absence. You should go to the Assignments Center and look up the corresponding day in the binder. The binder will list everything covered and what materials were used. All handouts will be kept in the hanging folders next to the binder. You should first consult the binder, consult a classmate, and *then* consult the teacher if you have any questions about material missed.

**Late Work**: You are given one “late coupon” a marking period which can be used to turn in one assignment for full credit. Only smaller assignments worth 20 points or less may be turned in late with a coupon. If you do not use your late coupon, it may be turned in at the end of the marking period for 5 extra credit points.

* **Attendance Policy:**

As cited in the Parent-Student Handbook, you are allowed up to nine unexcused absences and tardies per semester. You are considered tardy if you show up after class has begun within the first five minutes without a valid pass. After the first five minutes, it is considered an unexcused absence.

* **Bathroom Policy:**

A pass to the bathroom will be granted only during the last ten minutes of class or in cases of emergency. The teacher reserves the right to refuse a pass if the student has been abusing the privilege.

* **Food and Drink Policy:**

Food or drink is allowed in the classroom as long as common sense is used (no full-course meals please). If trash is not disposed of on a daily basis, then rights to eat and drink will be taken away from the entire class.

* **Seating Chart Policy:**

You may pick your own seat; HOWEVER, the teacher reserves the right to assign you a seat if you are not following the rules of the classroom.

**Classroom Procedures**

* **Starting Class:**

When you arrive to class, you should begin working on the warm-up activity posted on the board or overhead. You will receive only a limited amount of time to complete the activity and will lose points if you are not utilizing the time given to work.

* **Ending Class:**

Pick up any trash around you and dispose of it. Do not line up at the door! Wait until you are dismissed by the teacher to leave.

* **Collecting Papers:**

Homework assignments are always due by the time the teacher enters the classroom. Any papers turned in after class has begun will not be accepted. Papers should be placed in the “homework tray” located at the front of the classroom.

* **Paper Headings:**

Your first and last name, the date, and the hour should ALWAYS be included on assignments. Typically, you will place these items in the upper right hand corner of your assignments. **Two points will be deducted any time any of these items are missing.**

**Use of Classroom Facilities**

* **Bookshelf**: You may peruse the books on the shelves before and after class, as well as during designated class time. If you wish to borrow a book, please sign your name, the title of the book, and the date you are checking it out on the clipboard above the bookshelf. When you return the book, be sure to write down the check-in date. Remember to treat the books you borrow with respect.
* **Furniture:** You may SIT on the furniture before class has begun and at DESIGNATED times during class. If you abuse the privilege, you will lose the privilege.

**Contact Information**

* If you ever need to get a hold of me, the following information will be helpful:

Michael Seidel

AUD/Room 210

Email: [**seidelmi@orange.k12.nj.us**](mailto:seidelmi@orange.k12.nj.us)

[**mseidel@orange.k12.nj.us**](mailto:mseidel@orange.k12.nj.us)

* Classroom Website – By accessing the classroom website, you can e-mail me, get copies of assignments, view our class calendar, and find resources for researching classroom topics in more depth.

The class website can be reached at [**https://www.orange.k12.nj.us/Domain/1112**](https://www.orange.k12.nj.us/Domain/1112)

An even easier way to find the site is to go the OPA Webpage, <https://www.orange.k12.nj.us/Domain/374> look under “Faculty” -- Alphabetical Listing” then just find my name and click on it.

Drama Syllabus

Grades 8-9 (Semester and Full Year)

**SEPTEMBER**

*Intro to Drama*

* Syllabus/Classroom Management Overview
* Staging
* Basic Theater Terminology
* Theater Etiquette and Performance
* Types of Drama/Theater

*Developing Your Voice & Body*

* Relaxation Breathing
* Quality / Pitch / Flexibility
* Articulation and Pronunciation
* Volume, Rate, and Projection
* Body language
* Stage Positions / Direction

*Characterization*

* Creating the Character
* 5 Questions
* Stanislavski / Hagen Method
* Identifying Character
* Stock / Stereotypical Character
* AutoDramas
* Writing for Character

**OCTOBER**

*Improvisation*

* Storytelling
* Group Building Projects
* Pantomiming
* Animal Movement Study
* Silent Scene Introduction
* Stage Partner Etiquette
* *Pantomime*
* History / Impact on Current Theatrical trends
* Chaplin Study
* Marcel Marceau
* Gesture Workshops
* Silent Scene Creation
* Musical Pantomime

**NOVEMBER**

*Monologue* & *Script Introduction*

* Subtext Overview
* Script Analysis and Breakdown
* Blocking Cues
* Memorization / Interpretation
* Sense Memory
* Emotional Response
* Monologue Performances

*Scene Study*

* Understanding Partnering
* Stage Blocking
* Directing the Scene
* Personal Space in the Theater Space
* How to build relationship

**DECEMBER**

*Building the Showcase*

* Student Direction Terminology
* Basic Technical Terminology
* Directing / Presenting the Scene
* Personal Space in the Theater Space

*Creating the One Act*

* Creative Writing
* Imagery and Thought Analysis
* Components of the Story

*Play Production*

* Rehearsing, Set Design, Costumes

*Final Review & Midterms*

* Terminology and Understanding

**JANUARY**

*The Production Team*

* Theater Hierarchy
* Technical Theater / Backstage
* The Art of Design
  + Set, Costume, Light, Sound, Make-up
* Directing the Production

*The Production Process*

* Pre-Post Production
* Auditioning
* Resume Writing
* Networking in the business
* Actor’s Unions and Career Paths

**FEBRUARY-MARCH**

*Theater History*

* Origins of Theatre
  + Greek and Roman Theatre
  + Greek God Study
* The Greek Chorus / First Actor
* Masks
* Tragedy/Comedy
* Tableau & Commedia Dell’arte
* Medieval and Oriental theatre
  + Kabuki Study
* Renaissance
  + The Globe/Rose
  + Rise of the Playwright

**MARCH-APRIL**

*World of the Playwright*

* STRUCTURE – Dramatic structure
* Hero’s Journey
* Developing complex character
* Aristotle’s Six Elements of Play
* The Art of Dramatics (see scripting book)

*Student Playwrighting Workshops*

* “24 Hour Plays”
* Hero’s Journey
* Spring Showcase Rehearsal and Performance

**MAY-JUNE**

*Shakespeare*

* Renaissance Theater History / Biography
* Iambic Pentameter/Prose/Poetry
* Imagery/Oxymoron/Literary Impact
* Plays/Sonnets/Poems
* Impact on Modern Society

*Staging Shakespeare*

* Romeo & Juliet (play of choice) Intensive workshops
* Scene Breakdowns
* Representational/Presentational
* Subtext Analysis
* Performance Scenes

**JUNE**

*Final Performances / Exams*

* Spring Showcase Finals
* Peer Critiques
* Theater Criticism
* Final Exams

**Stagecraft**

Syllabus

**Academic Expectations**

**Objectives:**

Technical Theatre is a hands-on introduction to the understanding, designing, crafting and execution of theatrical productions. Our objective is to learn the basics of theatre terminology and to obtain the hands-on skills to properly execute the basic theatre production. You will come from this course a better problem solver, carpenter, electrician and leader.

**Course Description:**

Tech Theatre I will introduce the first year technician to the areas of stagecraft and theatrical production. *You will build, paint, climb ladders, lift things and handle power tools in this class.* The theatre elements to which you will be introduced will include, but are not limited to:

Stage elements Stage properties Crews/Assignments

Theatre appreciation Costumes Makeup

Lights/Sound Fly System Set Construction

Stage Management Scene Painting Tools/Equipment

**Behavioral Expectations:**

In my classroom I enforce all school policies. In addition to the school policies, I have three rules in my classroom that all students are expected to follow: Students are expected to show respect for themselves, respect for their peers and the teacher, and respect for the classroom environment.

Students are also expected to be on time for class. Students need to come to class prepared everyday. This means have all the materials necessary for the day’s lesson and be ready to use equipment.

**Technical Theatre Syllabus**

**Semester 1 Calendar**

*Subject to Change*

I. Stages and Rigging (Stage rigging, stage curtains, line schedule, orchestra shell, and knots)

II. Safety (Fire safety, safety devices, rigging safety, and individual safety)

III. Tools (Tool safety and identification of hand tools and power tools)

IV. Design (Set, Costume, Sound, Lighting, Prop)

V. Platforms, Parallels, Steps, & Ramps (Construction)

VI. Paint (Types of paint, paint application techniques, and paint textures)

VII. Production Staff & Crews (Opportunities to get involved with a variety of crews)

VIII. Properties and Props (determining, collecting, maintaining, and returning props)

IX. Sound (purpose, sound system equipment, pick-up, control)

X. Lighting (lamp bases, lamp filaments, lamp bulbs, lighting instruments, operation, etc.)

XI. Costuming (period costumes, costume designs, and fabrics)

XII. Stage Makeup (straight stage make-up)

While this list might be intimidating, what you choose to take with you is on your shoulders alone. The world of Theatre incorporates all contents from Science to the Performing Arts. Anyone can find their voice in the Theatre. Those who don’t simply aren’t looking. There are a million ways to earn a living in this craft, but only the truly passionate find lifelong success.

Stagecraft Tool Contract

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Your student is enrolled in the Theatre Stagecraft course and we are currently beginning our

unit on stage scenery. As such, soon we will begin to use the tools at the Fine Arts Center to create

scenic elements. Prior to using the tools I would like to start by training each student on the tools

that they will be using. Below is a list of tools available that each student would ideally be trained to

use. Mr. Cupo will conduct this training with the aid of student helpers to help facilitate and ensure

each child’s safety. Tool training will begin \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The training will include a briefing as well as a demonstration on the safety precautions of

each tool. Once students have learned these safety procedures they will be asked to use the tool.

Following safety precautions as well as wearing protective gear are mandatory procedures for all

student while working in the shop. These are provided in the wood shop area.

Please review the tools and sign below granting permission for your child to be trained to

use the tools. If you have concerns or questions or would like to know how you could assist your

child please don’t hesitate to e-mail Mr. Seidel at seidelmi@orange.k12.nj.us. Please initial next to each

tool granting permission for your child to be trained and therefore use the tool.

Manual Tools students will learn to use

\_\_\_\_ Screwdriver

\_\_\_\_ Hand Saw

\_\_\_\_ Hammer

\_\_\_\_ Wrench

Power Tools students will learn to use:

\_\_\_\_ Miter Saw/Chop Saw

\_\_\_\_ Jig Saw/Skill Saw

\_\_\_\_ Circular Saw

\_\_\_\_ Radial Arm Saw

\_\_\_\_ Table Saw

\_\_\_\_ Scroll Saw

\_\_\_\_ Power Drill

\_\_\_\_ Pneumatic Stapler

If there is a tool next to which you do not initial, your child will be prohibited from using

that tool for any project throughout the course of the year. By signing this paper you agree to let

your child use the aforementioned tools and understand that, should an injury occur, Mr. Cupo and

the school district are not liable.

\_\_\_ I DO give permission for my student to be trained to use the tools at the Fine Arts Center

under Mr. Seidel’s supervision.

\_\_\_ I do NOT give permission for my student to be trained to use the tools at the Fine Arts

Center under Mr. Seidel’s permission and ask for an alternate assignment be given.

Sign: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Stagecraft Safety and Release Form

Tool Training Permission Slip

My child affirms that he/she has received the following theatre safety training and I

have signed the tool training permission slip:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Watched video: Play it Safe – Intro to Theatre Safety

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Completed Safety Quiz

Print child’s name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Company: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Policy #: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please list any medical conditions or any medications that your child takes that might be

of importance in an emergency:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Emergency Contact #1 – Who should we notify in an emergency?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Emergency Contact #2 – If first contact is unavailable?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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In case of emergency:

\_\_\_\_ I give permission for my child to be treated by paramedics.

\_\_\_\_ I do NOT give permission for my child to be treated by paramedics.

By signing this permission slip I allow my student to use the power tools at the Fine

Arts Center under the supervision of Mr. Cupo in the classroom setting.

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Sign: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Sign: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_