

**Theatre 9**  
**Mrs. Marsha Yalden**  
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### **Course Goals & Purpose:**

- Introduce students to the fundamentals of theatre
- Explore the uses of one's voice (volume, diction, enunciation, etc) and movement (facial expressions, hand gestures, full body) to create a character on stage
- Create an environment for students to expand their communication skills and to take risks within uncertain circumstances
- Expand the potential for creativity and the expression of ideas and ourselves in a safe way

### **Course Beliefs:**

- Acting requires **Risk, Joy, Momentum, and Effort**
- Creativity is essential to producing an effective piece
- You do not need to have innate talent to perform or have a role in the theatre arts
- Attitude is everything!

### **Essential Questions:**

- What is Theatre?
- How does Theatre affect our lives?
- How can the use of theatre techniques help in other subjects?
- Why is theatre essential in understanding the human condition?
- Who and/or what decides what quality theatre is?
- Is theatre interpretive or concrete?

### **Area of Knowledge Questions:**

- What roles do the arts play in people's lives?
- Can art change the way we interpret the world?
- Does involvement in the arts help the development of personal value systems?
- Can art express emotion?
- Does art enlarge what it is possible to think?

## **Course Expectations:**

Students are expected to come to class prepared for participation! This may mean working on one's own, with a partner, or with a group. All must be **RESPECTFUL** of others, **OPEN MINDED**, and **WILLING**. The class cannot survive without the participation of all!!!

A concentration on improvisational theatre and acting techniques is central to the course and students will be expected to “perform” on a daily basis (even if the performance is only participation in a theatre game). A willingness to TRY is all I ask for!!

## **Student Materials Needed:**

- Binder and/or notebook with folders for handouts
- Writing utensils (pencil or blue/black pen)
- An agenda/assignment book
- Clothes you can MOVE in!!!! This class is made up of “on your feet” work so come prepared or your participation grade may be affected!!

## **Teaching Materials:**

- *Introduction to Theatre Arts*, Suzi Zimmerman
- *Theatre: Art in Action*, National Textbook Company
- *Theatre: the Lively Art*, Edwin Wilson and Alvin Goldfarb
- *Theatre Games for the Classroom*, Viola Spolin

## **Assessment:**

Each student's grade will be calculated based on the following types of assignments. Percentages will depend upon how many assignments are given in each category for each semester.

- PARTICIPATION
- Homework (mostly reflections)
- Performances
- Quizzes
- Play Reviews
- Mini Projects