



VALWOOD

GO BEYOND

Introduction to Drama Curriculum

Intro to Drama Course Overview

Course Description		Topics At A Glance	
<p>This course is a more in-depth introduction to theater including terminology, pantomime, improvisation, acting, stagecraft, theater etiquette, and theatre history with emphasis on the modern and post-modern genres of American and European theatre. Students will learn advanced vocal control, stage movement, position awareness, character and scene study, and technical theater. Students will assist with directing, lighting, sound, costuming, property creation, and set dressing for One Act Play, Middle School plays, and will perform duet scenes and monologues.</p>		<p>Voice Body Characterization Children’s Theatre Improvisation Story Telling Poetry Morning Announcements Ensemble Work Stage Movement Musical Theatre Blocking Beats, Objectives, and Motivations Styles of Performance Playwriting Acting Philosophies Theatre History Monologues Duet Scenes Scene Studies Performance</p>	
Assessments		Effective Components of Drama Class	
<p>Formative and summative assessments will be used to plan lessons and provide focused feedback to students. Below are some assessment examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer reviews and self-assessments • Observations/Conversations/Work Samples • Student questions/comments/responses • Group/individual projects • Graded discussion/presentations • Critical Responses to performance tasks and audience performances 		<p>Valwood Teachers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set clear and high expectations for all students • Actively engage and motivate students in the process of learning theatrical improvisation • Provide learning activities that are appropriate in complexity and pacing and Model and demonstrate successful and effective improvisational performance techniques • Select challenging yet realistic material for performances • Use multiple forms of representation (e.g. pictures, words, symbols, diagrams, tables, graphs, word walls, audio and video recordings, and movement) to develop conceptual understandings • Introduce and expect appropriate use of theatrical terminology • Provide opportunities for individual and multiple groupings • Differentiate instruction to meet wide range of student needs • Reinforce effort and provide recognition through frequent and descriptive feedback • Integrate Drama and Theatre Arts activities/ understandings with other content areas 	
Grade Level Expectations			
<p>1. Create</p>	<p>1. Creating and sustaining a believable character.</p> <p>2. Participation in Improvisation and Play building.</p> <p>3. Construction of technical and design elements.</p> <p>4.</p>		
<p>2. Perform</p>	<p>1. Characterization in performance.</p> <p>2. Technology reinforces, enhances, and/or alters a theatrical performance.</p>		
<p>3. Critically Respond</p>	<p>1. Recognition and evaluation of contemporary and historical contexts of theatre history.</p> <p>2. Use critical thinking skills in character analysis and performance.</p> <p>3. Respect the value of the collaborative nature of drama and theatre works.</p>		

1. Create

The creation of drama and theatre is a demonstration of learned skills in forming new theatrical works, interpreting theatrical works for performance and design, developing characters, and analyzing roles.

Valwood Graduate Competencies in the Create Standard:

- Use a variety of methods, new media, and technology to create theatrical works through the use of the creative process for performance, directing, design, construction, choreography, playwriting, scriptwriting, and dramaturgy
- Create drama and theatre by interpreting and appreciating theatrical works, culture, and experience through scenes and scenarios, improvisation, creating environments, purposeful movement, and research
- Employ drama and theatre skills, and articulate the aesthetics of a variety of characters and roles

Content Area: Drama and Theatre Arts - Introduction to Drama	
Standard: 1. Create	
Valwood Graduates:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Use a variety of methods, new media, and technology to create theatrical works through the use of the creative process for performance, directing, design, construction, choreography, playwriting, scriptwriting, and dramaturgy ➤ Create drama and theatre by interpreting and appreciating theatrical works, culture, and experience through scenes and scenarios, improvisation, creating environments, purposeful movement, and research 	
Grade Level Expectation	
Concepts and skills students master:	
1. Technical elements of theatre in improvised and scripted works	
Evidence Outcomes	21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies
Students in the fundamental pathway can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Demonstrate how to run a sound board b. Show how to build simple pieces of scenery, and apply several different painting techniques c. Identify appropriate stage properties and costumes for a given production d. Create a publicity campaign for a given production e. Understand and use technology to enhance activities and dramatizations f. Create a project that uses electronic media to present a dramatic form in a new or enhanced way g. Practice safety procedures for working with tools, paints, electrical equipment, and scene-shifting equipment 	Inquiry Questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is the technical side of theatre important? 2. How do the technical aspects of a production support the overall presentation? 3. How is the creative process influenced by the technical aspects of a production?
	Relevance and Application: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Investigating the roles of live theatre, film, cinema, television, and electronic media help to interpret the world at large. 2. Studying technical arts can lead to careers in many disciplines such as architecture and design, the practice of law, engineering, and broadcast. 3. Researching the numerous historical and inventive aspects of technical theatre leads to a deeper understanding of the field. 4. Understanding improvisational technique in theatre gives insight to improvisation in music.
	Nature of Drama and Theatre Arts: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Drama and theatre are multifaceted collaborations that involve numerous levels of production aspects, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills to achieve a vision or concept.

Content Area: Drama and Theatre Arts - Introduction to Drama	
Standard: 1. Create	
Valwood Graduates:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Use a variety of methods, new media, and technology to create theatrical works through the use of the creative process for performance, directing, design, construction, choreography, playwriting, scriptwriting, and dramaturgy 	
Grade Level Expectation	
Concepts and skills students master:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Expression, imagination, and appreciation in group dynamics 	
Evidence Outcomes	21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies
Students in the fundamental pathway can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Create scenery and utilize technical elements to support dramatic intention b. Make critical decisions about the technical development of a production through collaborative techniques and cooperative learning 	Inquiry Questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is play creation significant? 2. What are some procedures for arriving at a unified concept when working with a team? 3. How can technical elements of a production support dramatic intention?
	Relevance and Application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Using current social, political, historical, and cultural themes, issues, or philosophies improves creative works. 2. Employing collaborative skills builds on the play making and playwriting processes and develops spontaneous ingenuity in the workplace. 3. Building on various technical sources augments creative works.
	Nature of Drama and Theatre Arts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In creating devised works, an inventive, collaborative process is employed.

Content Area: Drama and Theatre Arts - Introduction to Drama	
Standard: 1. Create	
Valwood Graduates:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Create drama and theatre by interpreting and appreciating theatrical works, culture, and experience through scenes and scenarios, improvisation, creating environments, purposeful movement, and research 	
Grade Level Expectation	
Concepts and skills students master:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Interpretation of drama using scripted material 	
Evidence Outcomes	21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies
Students in the fundamental pathway can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Select a scene from literature, original, or scripted material, and contribute to the direction of a scene as a member of an ensemble b. Articulate the rationale for all artistic choices concerning historical periods, genres, and relevant playwrights c. Determine casting, staging, and technical requirements 	Inquiry Questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How does the selection of a literary work reflect the capabilities of the ensemble process? 2. How does the ensemble process help to build character and self direction? 3. How does a director determine casting? 4. How can music, dance, or art convey a culture or experience?
	Relevance and Application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participating in theatrical experiences builds confidence and fosters problem-solving skills. 2. Using technology can recreate environment, enhance a production, and bring a creative work to life. 3. Understanding the historical and cultural relevance of a play's structure helps to establish the connection among time, place, function, and environment.
	Nature of Drama and Theatre Arts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ability to work collaboratively is realized through coordinating with a production staff to finalize production details.

2. Perform

The theatrical process is a product of the knowledge and essential skills gained in the study of drama and theatre arts toward the expression of the human experience in story, movement, speech, and staging for an intended audience.

Valwood Graduate Competencies in the Perform Standard:

- Express drama and theatre arts skills in a variety of performances, including plays, monologues, improvisation, purposeful movement, scenes, design, technical craftsmanship, media, ensemble works, and public speaking
- Demonstrate the evolution of rehearsal and product through performance and/or production teamwork while simultaneously validating both as essential to the theatre making process

Content Area: Drama and Theatre Arts - Introduction to Drama	
Standard: 2. Perform	
Valwood Graduates:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Express drama and theatre arts skills in a variety of performances, including plays, monologues, improvisation, purposeful movement, scenes, design, technical craftsmanship, media, ensemble works, and public speaking 	
Grade Level Expectation	
Concepts and skills students master:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communicate meaning to engage an audience 	
Evidence Outcomes	21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies
Students in the fundamental pathway can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Rehearse and perform technical procedures for a scripted piece. b. Use previously acquired skills to demonstrate the ability to rehearse and exhibit the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Ensemble works ii. Appropriate etiquette for a technical crew member during performances iii. Design and media iv. Public speaking and Collaborative procedures c. Demonstrate the ability to utilize the conventions of the following styles: Realism, mime, vaudeville, puppetry, clowning, comedy, tragedy, improvisation, and melodrama 	Inquiry Questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why rehearse and perform theatrical material? 2. What roles does an audience play in a variety of performances? 3. What role does public speaking play in the world of drama and theatre arts?
	Relevance and Application: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understanding the historical and cultural background of different forms of theatre aids one in creating believable performances. 2. Utilizing technology can assist in performances, house management systems, and budgeting practices. 3. Studying drama and theatre techniques, forms, styles, and conventions enhances and supports studies in other fields such as music and dance, advertising and marketing, and politics.
	Nature of Drama and Theatre Arts: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participation in individual and ensemble projects instills discipline, initiative, and responsibility, teaches conflict resolution, and promotes taking risks.

Content Area: Drama and Theatre Arts - Introduction to Drama	
Standard: 2. Perform	
Valwood Graduates:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Demonstrate the evolution of rehearsal and product through performance and/or production teamwork while simultaneously validating both as essential to the theatre making process 	
Grade Level Expectation	
Concepts and skills students master:	
2. Technology reinforces, enhances, and/or alters a theatrical performance	
Evidence Outcomes	21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies
Students in the fundamental pathway can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Participate as a member of a technical crew and management team for a production b. Inform the design of sets, costumes, sound, and lighting for a theatrical production c. Exhibit an understanding of the interrelationship among the technical aspects of production, onstage performers, and audiences d. Apply technical knowledge of safety procedures and practices in the theatre environment 	Inquiry Questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is the technical crew important? 2. Why is research in the support of a theatrical production necessary? 3. What is the value of exhibiting and understanding technical aspects of a production? 4. What is the value of hands-on learning in a theatrical environment?
	Relevance and Application: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Using appropriate technology provides opportunities for meaningful theatrical experiences and expression by individuals who may not be performers. 2. Recognizing safety concerns within a theatrical environment reflects safety in the workplace. 3. Utilizing historical development of technological systems informs the connectivity to science and vocations such as software development, engineering, graphic design, and architecture.
	Nature of Drama and Theatre Arts: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Using technology in a performance promotes nonverbal expression, enhances production value, and fosters independent reasoning.

Content Area: Drama and Theatre Arts - Introduction to Drama	
Standard: 2. Perform	
Valwood Graduates:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Demonstrate the evolution of rehearsal and product through performance and/or production teamwork while simultaneously validating both as essential to the theatre making process 	
Grade Level Expectation	
Concepts and skills students master:	
3. Directing as an art form	
Evidence Outcomes	21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies
Students in the fundamental pathway can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Select and use performance spaces, drama and theatre conventions, and production elements appropriate to an audience b. Generate audience response c. Facilitate the rehearsal process d. Bring a vision to fruition 	Inquiry Questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is a director essential in the playmaking process? 2. What is the director’s responsibility with regard to his or her commitment to the production concept? 3. What is the relationship of the director to his or her audience? 4. What are the best practices to facilitate rehearsal?
	Relevance and Application: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understanding the interdisciplinary and real world connections within a director’s concept for a production allows an audience to grasp the material by building on their prior knowledge or context of the world around them. 2. Locating the resources needed to support a production informs and determines the production concept and requires strong research, reasoning, and problem-solving. 3. Utilizing a director’s skills, such as organizing, blocking, preparing rehearsals, scheduling, and conceptualizing, promotes successful leaders.
	Nature of Drama and Theatre Arts: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Working with a production team fosters collaboration, independent thinking, critical response, problem-solving, and conflict resolution skills.

3. Critically Respond

An informed literacy, thoughtful critique, and cultural research are key aspects of drama and theatre arts study. Responding focuses on the artistic and scientific knowledge of conventions, cultures, styles, genres, theories, and technologies needed to know better choices and best practices.

Valwood Graduate Competencies in the Critically Respond Standard:

- Demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of theatre history, dramatic structure, dramatic literature, elements of style, genre, artistic theory, script analysis, and roles of theatre practitioners through research and application
- Discern and demonstrate appropriate theatre etiquette and content for the audience, self, venue, technician, and performer
- Make informed, critical evaluations of theatrical performance from an audience member and a participant point of view, and develop a framework for making informed theatrical choices

Content Area: Drama and Theatre Arts - Introduction to Drama	
Standard: 3. Critically Respond	
Valwood Graduates:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of theatre history, dramatic structure, dramatic literature, elements of style, genre, artistic theory, script analysis, and roles of theatre practitioners through research and application 	
Grade Level Expectation	
Concepts and skills students master:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analysis and evaluation of theatrical works 	
Evidence Outcomes	21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies
Students in the fundamental pathway can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Research the ways in which other artists have used self-reflection to document and refine their work b. Identify and describe orally and in writing the influence of other artists on the development of their own artistic work c. Demonstrate knowledge of conventional theatre vocabulary d. Research the cultural and historical background of a specific play e. Communicate individual research to a collaborative team 	Inquiry Questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What can be gained by observing numerous and contrasting live performances? 2. How does objectivity relate to experiencing a piece of art? 3. Why is theatre live and what are the benefits of live theatrical performances? 4. How should audience members and crew conduct themselves before, during, and after a performance?
	Relevance and Application: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Practicing proper behavior and dress at a public performance validates one's position as an adult in society. 2. Investigating the importance of copyright laws in scriptwriting, set and costume design, script adaptation, and the use of music in production supports respect for these vocations and artists. 3. Respecting the roles of the theatre family promotes maturity and social responsibility.
	Nature of Drama and Theatre Arts: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proper etiquette in a theatrical environment helps the audience appreciate the production and translates to a greater respect for the arts.

Content Area: Drama and Theatre Arts - Introduction to Drama	
Standard: 3. Critically Respond	
Valwood Graduates:	
➤ Make informed, critical evaluations of theatrical performance from an audience member and a participant point of view, and develop a framework for making informed theatrical choices	
Grade Level Expectation	
Concepts and skills students master:	
2. Evaluation of elements of drama, dramatic techniques, and theatrical conventions	
Evidence Outcomes	21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies
Students in the fundamental pathway can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Critique and evaluate artistic choices and personal reactions to dramatic presentations using guidelines for evaluating a theatrical production Investigate and compare common themes among theatre, various art forms, and content areas Compare and contrast practices and methods of performance with the practices and methods of film, cinema, television, and electronic media 	Inquiry Questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What are the guidelines for understanding a theatrical production? How can artistic choices affect a production? What types of themes and practices within a theatrical performance can be identified and compared with other medians? What criteria make a play performance better or worse than another? How does one write or speak about evaluations of theatrical works and performances?
	Relevance and Application: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Analyzing and articulating knowledge of theatrical works from various cultures enhances a personal engagement with dramatic literature and awareness of other cultures and lifestyles. Responding to the study of modern theatre and various media and various cultures validates studies and proficiency in language arts, world languages, business, social studies, sciences, mathematics, physical education, and performing arts. Comparing and contrasting film and cinema and media presentations from various genres and cultures broadens the scope and appeal of artistic technologies from around the world.
	Nature of Drama and Theatre Arts: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Critical response to theatrical works objectifies and validates the importance of the field to the well-rounded growth of the individual and the overall growth and functionality of school, community, and culture.

Content Area: Drama and Theatre Arts - Introduction to Drama	
Standard: 3. Critically Respond	
Valwood Graduates: ➤ Discern and demonstrate appropriate theatre etiquette and content for the audience, self, venue, technician, and performer	
Grade Level Expectation Concepts and skills students master: 3. Respect for theatre, its practitioners, and conventions	
Evidence Outcomes	21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies
Students in the fundamental pathway can: a. Attend live performances of extended length and complexity, and demonstrate an understanding of the protocol of audience behavior appropriate to the style of the performance b. Use group-generated criteria to assess one’s own work and the work of others c. Demonstrate objectivity in assessing one’s personal abilities in creative endeavors and ability to receive and act upon coaching feedback and constructive criticism d. Devise specific methods for documenting and assessing one’s own artistic development throughout participation in a drama or theatre project e. Demonstrate a respect for copyright laws f. Address the importance of timelines and personal responsibility as a member of a production ensemble	Inquiry Questions: 1. What can be gained by observing numerous and contrasting live performances? 2. How does objectivity relate to experiencing a piece of art? 3. Why is theatre live, and what are the benefits of live theatrical performances? 4. How should audience members and crew conduct themselves before, during, and after a performance?
	Relevance and Application: 1. Practicing proper behavior and dress at a public performance validates one’s position as an adult in society. 2. Investigating the importance of copyright laws in scriptwriting, set and costume design, script adaptation, and the use of music in production supports respect for these vocations and artists. 3. Respecting the roles of the theatre family promotes maturity and social responsibility. 4. Adhering to schedules, time restraints, and deadlines, and learning to prioritize are valuable life skills that promote positive social and work related relationships.
	Nature of Drama and Theatre Arts: 1. Proper etiquette in a theatrical environment helps the audience appreciate the production and translates to a greater respect for the arts.