**Introduction to Musical Theater**

Instructor: Mr. Salvi

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Time: HI (12:22-1:10)

Credits: 1/2 (term)

**Course Description and Objectives**

Introduction to Musical Theater is a half-year course designed to introduce students to the exciting world of musical theater. Students will learn about the basics of acting, staging, and script writing. Students will also learn about and use improvisation on a daily basis. Students will have the opportunity to work in small groups to develop and write a script for a children’s puppet show. Students will be responsible for creating their own puppets and scenery and will perform their finished product for their fellow classmates. Students will also have the opportunity to sing Broadway Show Tunes.

The main objective of this course is to give students a glimpse into the exciting world of musical theater and acting. Although being able to sing is helpful, it is not required for this course. This course is a prerequisite for the Musical Theater II course.

**Goals and Expectations**

1. Students are expected to be in class daily. Since much of the work done in class is ensemble-based, if a student is absent, their fellow cast members may not be able to properly rehearse the scenes they are working on.
2. Class participation is essential in this course and is expected of all students.
3. Each student will write their own original monologue and will perform it, from memory, in class.
4. Students will create, in small groups, a children’s puppet show. They will develop and write their own script and construct the puppets and scenery needed for the puppet show.
5. Students will learn about and utilize improvisation on a daily basis. Improvisation is an essential acting skill and is an integral part of this course.

**Materials Needed**

The following materials will be used in class every day:

* Notebook
* Pen or pencil

**Grading**

**Improvised/Scripted Scenes (40%):** Students will be assessed on their ability to act in an improvised or scripted scene. They will also be assessed on how they work with fellow actors in an ensemble in both rehearsals and performances. Scene work is a major component of this course.

**Projects (30%):** Students will work in small groups to develop and write a script for a children’s puppet show. They will be responsible for creating the puppets and scenery. Students will also develop and write their own original monologue and perform it, from memory, for the class.

**Participation (15%):** All students are expected to participate daily in exercises and activities.

**Attendance (15%):** Students are expected to be in class daily. If a student misses class and the absence is excused, no points will be lost.