

*Norwood Public Schools*

Grades 10-12 Advanced Acting Troupe  
Curriculum Overview

The advanced acting troupe will focus on developing highly evolved material for performance. In this course students will review, tone and apply acting and directing skills acquired through study in other drama courses and through extracurricular work. This course offers the student the opportunity to independently produce unified, meaningful productions for public viewing. Students will work with Norwood instructors in developing programming and theater for young audiences. Students in this course will have the opportunity to contribute to and participate in the cultural life of the community. Students will work in teams to develop pertinent theme based theater. Students each year will study, develop, and produce works from diverse cultures and from other locals in the United States. Students enrolling in this course must demonstrate well-developed acting skills through audition. Through work in this course students prepare for advanced academic and professional work in college. The students who take this class would function as a company and will participate in festivals including The Mass. Drama Guild Festival. Students may enroll in this course with the recommendation of the drama instructor. The level of intensity and of complexity of assigned work and independent projects increases in volume and difficulty from standard to honors level. Also, standard level students will have the opportunity to learn acting, directing and production through group projects led by college and honors students. College level students will have the opportunity to independently work on technical needs of the productions developed by the group. Honors students will have the opportunity to work with the instructor in developing a college length experience and research based thesis paper.

Learning Experiences from the Student's Perspective

- I direct or co-direct a one-act play for a public audience—
- I write a director's concept statement for the interpretation of the work—
- I develop a plan for the audition/casting process—
- I create and implement a complete rehearsal/production schedule—
- I prepare a director's prompt book to record blocking and other notations—
- I maintain a journal of approaches to coaching actors and solving artistic problems—
- I will learn to work collaboratively with technical and production staff to coordinate all production details.
- I document and reflect on my own work created over several years and identify successful approaches that could be applied in the development of future work—
- I research the ways in which other artists have used self-reflection to document and refine their work—
- I identify and describe, orally and in writing, the influence of other artists on the development of their own artistic work.

## **TERM 1**

Acting: Scene study; Character Development; Audition Technique; performance Technique; Subtext; Substitution; Physical Work; Transitions; Performance.

## **TERM 2/TERM 3**

Play production – Through traditional means of rehearsal and alternatively through experimental play development a one-act is developed for touring and festival participation. Students are involved in all aspects of production.

## **TERM 4**

Self-directed study and Theatre production - document and reflect on their own work; Research other artists; explore movement; mime; film; and theme play development.

Resources used

- *On the Technique of Acting, Michael Chekov Harper Collins Publishers 1991*
- *The Great Acting Teachers and Their Methods, Richard Brestoff, Smith and Krauss 1995*
- *The Great Acting Teachers and Their Methods Volume 2, Richard Brestoff, Smith and Krauss 2010.*
- *Respect for Acting, Uta Hagan, John Wiley and Sons 1973*