

# Theatre Arts I: Introduction to Theatre

The Theatre Arts I standards are designed to provide students with a survey of theatre arts, allowing students opportunities to experience and appreciate dramatic literature and participate in the creative processes of performance and production. The course emphasizes skill development and provides theatrical opportunities that enable students to determine areas of personal interest.

## Performance and Production

- TI.1 The student will recognize that theatre is an ensemble art while developing communication strategies and problem-solving capabilities through group interaction and artistic collaboration to
1. communicate and defend artistic choices;
  2. offer and select alternatives to solve problems and build consensus; and
  3. participate in group collaborations.
- TI.2 The student will create and strengthen trust and expand listening skills through participation in theatre games and improvisations (e.g., solo and group characterizations, portrayals of characters in conflict, experiments in rhythm and imagery, playwriting experiments).
- TI.3 The student will apply the creative process to the skills of storytelling, acting, and playwriting by
1. using an acting vocabulary that includes terminology for blocking and character development;
  2. employing voice, body, and imagination in character development;
  3. analyzing and describing the physical, emotional, and social dimension of characters;
  4. creating and writing a monologue and/or scene; and
  5. memorizing and presenting a monologue and/or scene from a published work.
- TI.4 The student will understand and apply principles of technical theatre by
1. defining types of stages and the terms used to delineate stage areas;
  2. demonstrating knowledge of the technical components of theatre—set, properties, lighting, sound, costuming, and makeup;
  3. identifying the responsibilities of technical personnel, including designers, builders, and operators;
  4. demonstrating theatre safety practices; and
  5. practicing ethical use of available technology and resources.
- TI.5 The student will explore and discuss principles of theatre management, administration, and the production process by
1. identifying the functions of business management, including funding, publicity, and house management;
  2. identifying the duties of the director and stage manager in the production process;
  3. explaining the role of the playwright; and
  4. practicing ethical use of literary material.

## Cultural Context and Theatre History

- TI.6 The student will demonstrate how theatre is similar to and different from other literary genres and art forms.

- TI.7 The student will make connections between theatre and other curricular areas.
- TI.8 The student will reflect on life in historical times, places, and cultures by
1. researching and applying cultural and historical information to artistic choices;
  2. examining non-Western traditions in drama; and
  3. demonstrating knowledge of theatrical institutions and opportunities available in the community and the commonwealth.

### **Judgment and Criticism**

- TI.9 The student will give and integrate constructive criticism by
1. developing and using appropriate theatre arts vocabulary;
  2. discussing performances, projects, and plans; and
  3. applying the concepts of evaluation to oral and written observations, including intent, structure, effectiveness, and value.
- TI.10 The student will read, analyze, and respond to selected dramatic literature to
1. identify the elements of dramatic literature, including conflict, plot, theme, character, and dialogue; and
  2. develop and apply criteria to describe and evaluate dramatic literature.
- TI.11 The student will view and analyze live performances and make informed responses by
1. identifying the elements of production—directing, design, and acting;
  2. describing, analyzing, and evaluating artistic choices in dramatic presentations; and
  3. exhibiting considerate audience behavior at theatrical performances.

### **Aesthetics**

- TI.12 The student will describe how theatrical activity can entertain, instruct, and interpret the human experience.
- TI.13 The student will describe the elements of a theatrical experience that evoke a personal aesthetic response and will describe the response, using appropriate theatre arts vocabulary.
- TI.14 The student will define *aesthetics* and discuss how it is reflected in theatre arts.
- TI.15 The student will discuss and analyze the purposes, values, and meanings of theatrical works.
- TI.16 The student will discuss how personal experience, culture, and current events shape individual aesthetic experience.