

Theatre Arts IV: Advanced Acting and Directing

The Theatre Arts IV standards are designed to help students refine the concepts and skills acquired in Theatre Arts III while reinforcing the principles learned in Theatre Arts I and II. Through research, performance, and evaluation, students will develop artistic criteria that will be applied to performance and directing. Students will study and respond to a variety of theatre experiences, showcasing their collaborative, analytical, interpretive, and problem-solving skills.

Performance and Production

- TIV.1 The student will work independently and collaboratively to raise the standards of formal and informal performance and production work.
- TIV.2 The student will create a personal acting technique by
1. investigating both external and internal acting approaches;
 2. applying different acting approaches to pieces (e.g., monologues, scenes, plays);
 3. writing character analyses that include prior action, cultural background, objective, tactics, subtext, and consequences of actions; and
 4. writing script analyses that include historical and cultural context, through line, and intent of the playwright.
- TIV.3 The student will demonstrate vocal performance skills—articulation, projection, volume, pitch, tone, vocal placement, rhythm, and dialect.
- TIV.4 The student will demonstrate movement skills—use of facial expression, posture, control of gesture, leading center, balance, poise, timing, and breath control.
- TIV.5 The student will prepare for professional auditions by
1. choosing and preparing a repertoire of one- and two-minute audition pieces of both classical and modern selections from full-length plays;
 2. preparing and presenting written and oral critiques of his/her own and peer audition pieces;
 3. preparing a written performance and production résumé; and
 4. following the audition notice guidelines.
- TIV.6 The student will direct a two-character scene, a multi-character scene, and a one-act play for performance by
1. selecting scripts;
 2. auditioning and casting actors;
 3. establishing rehearsal and production schedules;
 4. creating prompt books;
 5. creating designs for set, sound, lighting, makeup, and costumes;
 6. researching the history, culture, and concept of the scripts;
 7. employing blocking to achieve focus;
 8. working with actors to develop effective characterizations;
 9. overseeing technical responsibilities;
 10. solving technical and design problems inherent in the scripts;
 11. demonstrating knowledge of current copyright laws and their applications (e.g., royalties, rights);
 12. creating a collaborative working relationship among casts and crews; and
 13. modeling artistic discipline in rehearsal and performance situations.

- TIV.7 The student will apply principles of stage management by
1. creating a prompt book noting blocking, lighting, sound, and effect cues;
 2. assisting the director in all areas of the production;
 3. creating production and rehearsal schedules, contact sheets, and cue sheets; and
 4. maintaining effective communication and safety procedures with members of the cast and crew.

Cultural Context and Theatre History

- TIV.8 The student will use cultural and historical research to justify choices in directing and acting projects.
- TIV.9 The student will research the development of the role of the director as a unifying force in a production.

Judgment and Criticism

- TIV.10 The student will use acting and directing vocabulary to analyze, evaluate, and interpret meaning in personal projects and other productions.
- TIV.11 The student will research, analyze, and compare published criticisms from a variety of sources and present a written and oral defense of the findings.
- TIV.12 The student will defend a personal point of view expressed in acting and directing performances by conducting an effective critique.
- TIV.13 The student will describe, interpret, and evaluate in oral and written form, the qualities of theatrical productions that affect the audience response, including
1. directors' interpretations;
 2. balanced production elements;
 3. actors' abilities to sustain and project believable characters; and
 4. audience catharsis.

Aesthetics

- TIV.14 The student will explain how personal criteria is applied to personal performance.
- TIV.15 The student will discuss in writing the application of personal criteria for making aesthetic judgments in theatrical works.
- TIV.16 The student will study, analyze, interpret, and relate the aesthetic qualities of theatrical work of others to personal theatrical work.
- TIV.17 The student will justify personal perceptions of a director's vision of the playwright's intent.