

The Acting Space

Developmental Objectives

Producing a show brings the arts together and provides growth opportunities for all students in many different ways. A student's kinesthetic learning takes place through dance and acting, linguistic learning is achieved through the written and spoken word, spatial learning through stage layout, set design, costume design, and musical learning via the show's score. Besides being incredibly fun, musical theater helps young people develop many of the skills necessary for a successful life. Our developmental objectives for students include:

Self-Confidence: Throughout the rehearsal and performance process, young performers discover how to take creative and emotional risks and learn to trust their abilities.

Literacy: Students increase reading and writing skills at their own pace by immersing themselves in the story, reading and re-reading their scripts, memorizing their lines, and taking notes at rehearsal.

Communication: During rehearsals, students learn how to articulate their thoughts and questions and carefully listen to direction in order to improve their performances.

Imagination: Theater is most dynamic when the imaginations of its participants are fully engaged. Students make countless interpretive choices in design and performance to create a detailed, fictional world for their audiences.

Empathy: Through character work and story creation, young performers explore the lives of others. First-hand perspectives of new circumstances and challenges facilitates the development of well-rounded student.

Critical Thinking / Problem Solving: The amount of work required to successfully put on a show makes all participants valuable troubleshooters. Whether inventing mnemonics to remember lines, adjusting staging to show off everyone's faces, or mastering a tricky scene change, students have countless opportunities to creatively tackle challenges.

Self-Discipline: Through prompt attendance at rehearsals and learning lines, music and choreography on schedule, students acquire valuable self-discipline techniques and become reliable and trustworthy members of an ensemble.

Public Speaking: Whether performing for their peers during rehearsal or for their audience during a performance, students gain expertise, confidence and the skills required to speak in front of a large groups.

Teamwork / Collaboration: Theater requires extensive creative input from all its participants. Students build ensemble by working together to rehearse, construct, promote, and perform their show. Everyone is a vital part of the team. Every role, whether onstage or behind the scenes, is vital for the show's success.

Curricular Integration: A musical provides a rich and engaging springboard for students to explore many subjects and discover connections among various modes of learning. Our curriculums were chosen to facilitate the Common Core State Standards.

Our students gain valuable life skills through their participation in the theater arts. If you have specific educational objectives for your child's development, please let us know and we can focus on those objectives as we select activities and roles and responsibilities for your child.