Ms. Meacham

Honors Adaptive Drama

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**Welcome to Honors Adaptive Drama!**

Welcome to Adaptive Drama! This is a workshop class, which means we will be on our feet, learning through doing. The goal of Adaptive Drama is emotional, social, and intellectual enrichment through the dramatic art form. Students will work closely with the teacher to support their fellow classmates as they learn theatre games, tableaux, storytelling, and improv. The year will culminate in students’ writing and adapting stories for the stage; students will direct and produce a showcase for parents and school community.

Just a reminder: You are an important member of our class ensemble. Also, you must be here in order to learn and explore new theatre concepts. Finally, you need to come to class with an open mind and a willingness to take risks.

**What will you learn?**

Quarter 1: Basic acting skills

 How to create character

Quarter 2: Using voice and movement for performance

 Play Analysis: how to read and analyze a play as an actor

 Scene Study: how to analyze, stage, and perform a scene from a play

 How to adapt a scene from a story into a scene for a play

Quarter 3: Theatre history: Masks

 Improvisation: short form improvisation rules and games

 Storytelling and adapting stories for stage (part 2)

Quarter 4: Ensemble Theatre Techniques: Collective playwriting, blocking, rehearsing, and performing a class play.

**Course Materials**

You will need the following:

* A Drama folder (with pockets) and notebook paper
* A flashdrive
* Pens
* Plays, scenes, monologues, and scripts as needed

**Class Expectations and Standards**

You are expected to:

* Report to class time.
* Be seated and prepared for class when the bell rings.
* Complete all assignments on time and to the best of your ability.
* Treat yourself and others with respect.
* Refrain from talking when others are speaking or performing.
* Wear your school ID around your neck.
* Refrain from eating and drinking.
* Follow the dress code.
* Keep all electronic devices such as cell phones and i-Pods off and in your bags (unless they are used in a lesson).
* Listen.
* Participate and have fun.

**Homework**

Homework is project-based and is expected at the beginning of class the day it is due. If you are absent, you are responsible to find out what homework you missed. The week’s homework assignments will be posted with the class goals every day and on my website. Late homework assignments will be half credit.

**Performance Tasks:**

• Performances of scenes, monologues, class play, and original texts

• Reading/responding to/analyzing plays and performance texts

• Creative writing including, but not limited to: scenes, monologues, poetry, and performance projects

• Oral and written critiques of both written and performed texts

• Design, directing, and management projects

• Acting exercises, performance responses and analyses, presentations, debates, discussion, and questions

**Attendance/Behavior/Community Participation**

Attendance is mandatory; you need to attend class in order to do well. You will receive a 50 point punctuality/attendance/participation grade every 5 weeks. The grade will reflect your participation and behavior in class. Your grade will be lowered for attendance/behavior problems including (but not limited to) the following: tardiness, cuts, cell phone infractions, not wearing an ID. Helpful, punctual, on-task behavior will improve your grade.

Because community is a very important part of the drama class, students will also receive grades as a group/class. The community grades will be based on warm-ups, transitions, station work, and group performances.

**Grading**

* You will be graded on a point system.
* Late papers and projects will receive one letter grade lower for each day they are late.
* Plagiarism results in a zero on the assignment.

**Grading Scale**\*

 **A=90-100**

 **B=80- 89**

 **C=70-79**

 **D=60-60**

 **F=0-59**

**\*Unless otherwise modified.**

**Extra Help, Questions, Concerns**

I am here to assist your learning. Please feel free to email me with class concerns or questions. Also, I am available for extra help before or after school, and during 5th period by appointment. I look forward to a successful year!

 Sincerely,

 Ms. Meacham

 mmeacham@cps.edu

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**Director Student Survey**

Last name:  First name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Class period:  ­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Pronoun:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

You are all amazing people, and I am eager to learn more about each of you. Please help me do so by completing the following handout. I appreciate your honesty. Thank you!

1. What did you do this summer?
2. Why are you taking this class?
3. What would you be interested in learning more about in this class? (Examples: theatre theory, theatre history, technology’s effects on communication, technology’s effects on the brain, education, more information on disabilities, history of language, adaptations of plays, etc.)
4. Please list any theatre related experience. This includes acting, improv, music, dance, and backstage related classes and performances.
5. List your favorite book, TV show/movie, and actor.
6. What are you really good at?
7. What is something that challenges (or is difficult) for you in the classroom?
8. What is something I (as your drama teacher) should know about you?
9. Do you have a job? If so, where and how many hours a week?
10. What are your other hobbies and activities?
11. Who is in your family?
12. What language(s) is/are spoken at home?
13. I learn the most when the teacher…
14. I learn the most when I…
15. I don’t like it when teachers…
16. After high school, I will probably…

**Drama Student Survey**

Last name:  First name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Class period:  ­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Pronoun:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

You are all amazing people, and I am eager to learn more about each of you. Please help me do so by completing the following handout. I appreciate your honesty. Thank you!

1. What did you do this summer?
2. What do you want to do in Drama class?
3. What would you not like to do in Drama class?
4. Have you ever been in a play? Have you ever taken a Drama class?
5. List your favorite TV show or movie.
6. What are you really good at?
7. What do you do for fun?
8. Who is in your family?
9. What language(s) is/are spoken at home?
10. What are you excited about this year?

**PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTACT SHEET**

**DRAMA**

Room 202 – Ms. Meacham

**Student Information**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Information**

Parent 1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (print)

Parent 1 Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent 1 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent 2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (print)

Parent 2 Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent 2 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Student/Parent Agreement***

*Honors Adaptive Drama—Ms. Meacham*

I have read the course syllabus and understand all of the policies and guidelines. As a student, I agree to adhere to the expectations set before me and understand the consequences if I do not. As a parent, I agree to the expectations set for my child and will support them in their academic endeavors.

Signature of Student Print Student Name

Signature of Parent Print Parent Name

Date

**PARENT/GUARDIAN SURVEY**

Dear Parent or Guardian,

These questions will help me get to know both you and your student better. I appreciate your honesty. Thank you!

1. What strengths does your child bring to the classroom?

2. Are there any struggles your child may have in this class? If so, please tell me about your concerns.

3. Please describe a time when your child was particularly creative, or tell a favorite story about him/her/them.

4. Is there anything else that I should know so that we can start the year on the right foot?