

**The Department's Educational Philosophy**

Education in the Arts plays a major role in three general areas of education. Students gain knowledge of events and historical movements that shaped society. The arts help to develop critical and creative thinking skills. The arts can provide the means for communicating thoughts, emotions, and ideas that cannot otherwise be expressed.

**Guiding Principles**

For those students interested in developing skills in voice, instrumental, and drama performance, the Performing Arts Department offers courses and activities of considerable variety. Performance material is selected to meet the varied needs and skill levels of the students, provide cultural enrichment for the students, help students develop aesthetic, make provision for technical growth of the students, provide for school and community service, and create interdisciplinary relationships.

## **INTRODUCTION TO DIRECTING: COURSE #891**

**Course Frequency:** 5 days per week – one semester

**Credits Offered:** 2.5 Credits

**Prerequisites:** None

### **Background to the Curriculum**

Drama is essential to the performing arts curriculum. ABRHS has had a successful, award-winning drama program for many years, including speech and debate and broadcasting, with courses in each area. The drama courses allow students to develop skills that are needed in all of these courses; many students take the drama courses as a first step in their development of oral performance. The classes, therefore, aid those students who are interested in drama, as well as those students who are interested in both speech and debate and broadcast.

This course will focus on methods to unlock the life of a script in a production. Studies will include historic styles, blocking, casting, auditioning, working with designers, rehearsing, technical rehearsals, marketing and managing a theatrical production. Students will be expected to direct one ten-minute play for the public at the conclusion of this class. Assignments include play reading, play analysis, creation of rehearsal schedules, rehearsals with actors and preparation for production. It is expected that directors rehearse with actors outside of class time.

### **Core Topics / Questions / Concepts/ Skills**

By the completion of this course of study, the student should be able to:

- Read and analyze scripts
  - ~ Study scripts from a variety of genres and time periods
  - ~ Demonstrate an understanding of the playwright's intentions
  - ~ Write, rehearse and direct their own scenes
- Perform and direct
  - ~ Experience directing on stage
  - ~ Perform for class and friends

- Technical Theatre
  - ~ Roles and responsibilities
  - ~ Analyze requirements
  - ~ Research of needs
  - ~ Understand relationship between technical aspects and on-stage performers
  - ~ Apply safety procedures
- Critical Response:
  - ~ Students will describe and analyze their own theatrical work and the work of others using appropriate theatre vocabulary. When appropriate, students will connect their analysis to interpretation and evaluation.

### **Course-end Learning Objectives**

#### ***Students will:***

- 1] Read and analyze scripts
  - Study scripts from a variety of genres and time periods
  - Demonstrate an understanding of the playwright's intentions
  - Write, rehearse and direct their own scenes
- 2] Perform and direct
  - Experience directing
  - Perform for class and friends

### **Assessment**

Students will be assessed on the following:

- Growth over the length of the course
- Attainment of pre-stated goals
- Journals
- Scene work
- Final performance – all aspects

### **Materials and Resources**

Materials will be used from varying eras of dramatic literature, ranging from Greek to present day contemporary. Literature for scenes and directing projects will be substantial in its educational value. Readings will be drawn from the literatures of the most respected directors and playwrights of the ages.