

# Acting

## Olathe South High School

**Instructor** - Mr. Hastings

**Room** - 811 (*Black Box Theater*)

**School E-mail Address** - dhastingsos@olatheschools.org

**Falcon 50** – 2nd Session

**Theatre Website** - www.olathesouththeatre.org

**Course Description - Acting I:** This class will give you a chance to gain confidence and skill as a performer. You will play improvisation games focusing on creativity, movement, vocal delivery, focus and concentration. Students will work on creating characters that are interesting, believable, consistent, high energy, and fun to watch. Students will be required to memorize dialogue and perform, both by themselves and with partners and groups. Students will read plays and musicals, watch classic performances, and learn the basics of acting. Attendance at school plays is required.

**Acting II:** This is a performance course for specialization in various acting techniques. This course provides further training for those students who are interested in extending training from Acting 1. Musical comedy, children's theatre, comedy, drama, and mime will be studied in more depth as a continuation of Acting 1. Students will be required to memorize dialogue for presentation in class. Recommended for participation in Repertory Theatre. **Attendance at performances is a required part of the class.**

**The following is a basic breakdown of what we will be doing this semester:**

- August or January – Warm-ups, Improvisation, and Audition Projects.
- September or February– Improvisation, Playwriting, and Individual Events.
- October or March –Individual Events, Improvisation, and Devised Works.
- November or April – Devised Works, Shakespeare Competition, and Improvisation.
- December or May – Group Events and Improvisation

**Textbooks** - We have many different textbooks for this class. The main text is *The Stage and the School*, published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, 1999. We will read plays from several anthologies: *A Book of Plays*, *Types of Drama: Plays and Context*, *Drama for Reading & Performance: Collection Two*, *Famous Stories for Performance*. We will also use a variety of acting textbooks. Books will be checked out upon student request, but will primarily be used in the classroom.

**Supplies** - Students need to bring a pen or pencil and a three-ring binder that has plenty of notebook paper, and their textbooks to class everyday.

### Classroom Guidelines

- **Be Prompt** – All students need to be in their assigned seat when the bell rings.
- **Be Prepared** – Students need to bring all assignments and materials to class. Homework is due at the beginning of the hour.
- **Be Respectful** – Remember the Golden Rule: treat others as you wish to be treated.
- **Follow School Rules** – All school rules as found in your planner will be followed. If in doubt, check your planner.

**Grading** - Grades will be comprised of preparation for performances, quizzes, written reviews, research papers, and class participation. The grading scale will be based on the percentage of points earned.

100-90% = A

89-80% = B

79-70% = C

69-60% = D

59-0% = F

**Participation Points** - Students will earn 5 points everyday (10 points on seminar days) for participation in acting activities. It is not possible to make up these activities, but students can make up the points in two ways:

- Students can take advantage of the unlimited extra for seeing shows in the community. This is worth 50 points per play. There is no limit to this form of extra credit. See the requirements under “extra credit.”
- Students can read a full-length play from one of the classroom textbooks. Students will also have to complete a review sheet for the play. The play must be one the students have not read before. This is worth 50 points. The script review worksheet is located on the theatre website.

**Out of Class Assignment** - Students are required to attend the two theatre productions at Olathe South during semester and complete a play/musical review sheet for each show. The list of shows and dates can be found on the “Shows” page of the theatre website: www.olathesouththeatre.org. Students enrolled in an Olathe South theatre class can attend the final dress rehearsal of each show for free. Each play/musical is worth 25 points.

**Extra Credit** - Students will earn 50 points for each additional play or musical they attend during the semester. To earn these points, students must bring a program and ticket & complete a play/musical review sheet, and be willing to discuss the performance with the class. This form of extra credit is unlimited. The performance review worksheet is located on the theatre website.

**Further Study** - Repertory Theatre & Advanced Repertory Theatre provide more training in theatre performance. Talk to Mr. Hastings for more information about these classes.