

Performing Arts Electives: Bridgemont High School

Course Description: Drama 1-2 (2005-06; '08-09) Grade Level: 9-12

Drama 1-2 is a beginning drama course designed to help students develop acting skills by participating in theatre games, improvisation, scenes, monologues, and productions. We will also learn about the origins of drama, study significant plays and playwrights, write original scenes, and practice voice, movement, and characterization. Outside of class, we will be involved with seeing plays in the community, helping produce Arts with Dessert in the fall, and producing our own main stage play in the spring. In May 2009, this will be a comedy, selected based upon the students who sign up for the course. In addition to being a fun class, drama is considered a great help to anyone pursuing a major or career that deals with people, as it builds public speaking skills, self-confidence, and poise.

Course Description: Musical Theatre (2006-07; '09-10) Grade Level: 9-12

This is a year-long course designed to help students develop skills and understanding of the American Musical. For practical skills, students will learn various techniques of acting, singing, and dancing for musicals. For understanding of the art form, students will view and discuss musicals of various eras, studying the evolution of American Musical Theatre. They will also craft and perform their own original musical scene. The culminating project will be a formal musical theatre production in the spring semester. This year, students will perform Snoopy and take it on tour to local elementary schools.

Course Description: Playwriting and Directing (2007-08) Grade Level: 10-12

This advanced drama course allows students to experiment with writing and directing short plays for production. All students will actively participate in class "workshops," giving one another oral feedback on the writing. Some of the plays will be selected to have a public performance. In the second semester, students will hold auditions, cast the plays, direct rehearsals, design, promote, and produce a one-act festival. The creative skills learned in this course will help students become better writers, artists, thinkers, communicators, and project managers.

Course Description: Stagecraft (2004-05; '08-09) Grade Level: 12

This is a technical theatre course for students who want the opportunity to work behind the scenes of a theatrical production. Students will learn to design and create posters, programs, costumes, sets, props, lighting, and sound. They will learn the basics of stage management and will have the opportunity to follow a production from conception to performance, applying their classroom instruction in all staged productions.

Course Description: Advanced Theatre Production (2007) Grade Level: 10-12

This is a semester-long course designed to help students develop acting, dancing, and singing skills, culminating in a public performance. Students should have completed Drama 1-2 or Musical Theatre, and they must audition to be allowed in the class. All rehearsals are held during 8th period (after school) and sometimes on weekends. This year's production is the musical *Little Shop of Horrors*. Although this drama class will receive Bridgemont course credit, it is NOT a UC approved visual and performing arts class, so it does NOT count toward the 2 required VPA classes for graduation.

Course Description: Arts in Worship (2001-03; '05-06; '09-10) Grade Level: 9-12

This class is designed to build a team of spiritual leaders who want to help make chapel interesting, challenging, and exciting. Students will study, pray, plan, and critique chapel services, to help make chapels fun, creative, and meaningful. The focus in the fall semester is on worship through music, and students will learn to play piano, guitar, bass, drums, and handbells. In the spring semester, students will experiment with drama, dance, poetry, visual arts, and video as entryways to worship God. This is a great opportunity for any believer who enjoys the arts to see how these gifts can be used to glorify God.

Course Description: Speech and Debate (2006-09) Grade Level: 9-12

This is a year-long course designed to help students become better communicators. Students will develop skills in organization of ideas, writing, critical thinking, and self-confidence in public speaking. The skills developed in this course will assist the students in other classes, in college, in the careers they choose to enter, in communication skills, in personal growth, and, consequently, in life. This course is strongly recommended for all students, and starting with the graduating class of 2010, will be required for graduation from Bridgmont.