Welcome to Ms. Zimpfer’s Yearlong Theater Workshop Class!

MC900338882[1]

**Teacher**: Ms. Zimpfer

**Website:** <http://www.mychandlerschools.org/Domain/3920>

**E-mail:** Zimpfersuraci.Martha@cusd80.com

**Where to find me:** Room 105 (located in the gym)

**Theater Workshop Description:**

This is a yearlong drama class that is intended for students looking to develop more advanced dramatic skills. This class has been created to accommodate students who would like to take it two years in a row, therefore, over the course of two years we will explore the following topics: Collaboration/team-building, characterization, acting, directing and stage directions, pantomime, improv, scene work, monologues, vocal techniques, script-writing, mini-musicals, and much, much more!

As a note, because there is no audition needed for this class, some of what we cover during first semester may be similar to what I will be covering in my semester drama class (as we work on foundational skills); however, due to the yearlong nature of this class, we will be able to extend these skills in more advanced ways – especially throughout second semester.

**General Expectations for Theater Workshop, as opposed to my semester Drama class:**

In drama, all performances and presentations are group-based; there are no individual or dual performances. However, in Theater Workshop, in addition to group presentations, there will be dual scene work (meaning you and one other person), and the possibility of solo performances (AKA monologues). If this sounds frightening to you, I ask that you please trust me that I will help guide you through these projects in a safe, supportive way, and when completed, you will feel incredibly proud, exhilarated, and accomplished that you were able to pull-off these types of performances in junior high! \*Remember, no one looks back on their life and thinks, “I should have taken less risks – I should have played it safe more often!” No way! We will face our fears and anxieties together in this classroom . . . and we will do so in a fun, positive way, full of laughter and cheers! =)

**Importance of Classroom Community and our Drama Family:**

As in all classes, the idea of **RESPECT** is valued; however, it is my belief that in a collaborative art form like drama, respect is of even **GREATER** importance. All of you come to my class room with varying levels of skill and confidence, and it is my job, as well as your job, to make sure everyone in this classroom feel safe and respected. If we do this, everyone will feel free to take risks and grow in ways they never could have imagined!

**Required Supplies:**

**\*** A folder for script work

\* A spiral or composition notebook and 3 post–it notes

\* Pencils

**Donations Needed:**

\*Bags of individually wrapped, fruit-flavored candy or mints (any kind – just no chocolate or peanuts).

-needed for rewarding risk-taking, game and trivia winners =)

Pencils! (All of mine somehow disappeared over the summer . . .)

Hand sanitizer

Individual plastic pencil sharpeners

Band-Aids

Any used/old costumes/props/wigs you want to get rid of! \*

Used Disney or Pixar movies (DVD format, please) \*

**Absences:**

\* Because a vast majority of your grade comes from work you do here while you’re in class, it is not in your best interest to be absent because your progress grade will suffer.

\* When you are absent, it is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to find out and make up what you missed, including vocabulary from the warm up (get it from a friend).

\*Absences during group projects are especially difficult for your other group members because drama is so collaborative. Please be a responsible group member and make every effort to be here.

\*If you are absent on your presentation day, you will be required to do an extensive, alternate writing assignment which won’t be nearly as fun as the presentation!

**Tardy Policy:**

If you are tardy to my class, I will ask you to sign in on the tardy sheet at the back of my classroom. According to school policy, on your 4th tardy, you will start receiving lunch detentions. I myself have walked from the I-Building to my classroom in under three minutes – and I’m an old woman – so you can too! Please keep in mind that being tardy is disrespectful not only to me, but your other classmates as well.

**Spiral Notebooks:**

**\*** You will need to get a spiral notebook for this class, along with post-it notes to create sections within your notebook. This notebook should NEVER leave the classroom.

\* Notebook sections will be as follows: **Warm-ups, Scales, and Notes.** We will set up notebooks in class and design a cover for it as well.

\* The folder you will keep in your backpack

**Leaving the classroom during class:**

\* You may only leave the classroom with a traveler. This is school policy.

\* You are not allowed to leave the classroom during the first 10 and the last 10 minutes of class.

\* You are ONLY allowed to ask to leave the classroom during individual or group work. You may not ask me while I am teaching or during classroom discussions or performances.

**Behavior:**

Drama is a classroom where EVERYONE needs to feel safe and respected. If I feel that you are behaving in a way that is disrespectful in any way, I will first give you a verbal/non-verbal warning. Next, I will send you to the Reflection Room (aka CARE). Finally, if you cannot be nice to people in my classroom, I will remove you from the class.

**Grades:**

Your drama grade is based on active and positive participation, theater vocabulary and warm-ups, performances and presentations, and group and individual writing reflections and analysis. In addition, you will have a final at the end of each semester, worth 10% of your semester grade.

**Remind.com:**

It is incredibly important that both you and your parent sign up for remind.com. I don’t communicate too frequently, however, when I do, it will be important that you get this information (especially being that we see each other every other day – and this means, sometimes just 2x during the school week)! In addition, I use remind.com to get messages out to you, meaning, please do not rely on me to check your responses if you reply with a question. *If you need to get a hold of me, use my work email to contact me.\*\*\**

**Google Drive:**

We will access google drive in this classroom in order to share photos and videos. It is very important that you know your student google drive username and password!

**Cell-Phone Policy:**

We will use our cell phones in this classroom for specific projects. It is important that you follow all school rules when it comes to cell phone usage. In addition to only having your cell phone out when given permission, you must keep in mind that you are never allowed to take a picture or a video of any student in this class without their explicit consent.

**School Rules:**

Please follow all school rules in my classroom.

**Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\*Worth 15 points when you get a parent signature! \***