Playwriting

Content Area: **Music**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Marking Period 2**
Length: **35**
Status: **Published**

Introduction/Summary

The focus of this unit is to provide students with the tools needed to create content for the stage that will be both understandable and interesting for actors and an audience.

Standards

ELD standards:https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wdmsiGOdCHlrjU-WPvAtENnEgi0EStZXo0uiFYv1Nu4/edit

1.4.12acc.Cr1a	Investigate historical and cultural conventions and their impact on the visual composition of devised or scripted theatre work.
1.4.12acc.Cr1b	Understand and apply technology to design choices for devised or scripted theatre work.
1.4.12acc.Cr1c	Use personal experiences and knowledge to develop a character that is believable and authentic.
1.4.12acc.Cr2a	Develop a dramatic interpretation to demonstrate a critical understanding of historical and cultural influences in a devised or scripted theatre work.
1.4.12acc.Cr2b	Cooperate as a creative team to make informative and analytical choices for devised or scripted theatre work.
1.4.12acc.Cr3a	Explore physical and vocal choices to develop a character that is believable and authentic in devised or scripted theatre work.
1.4.12acc.Cr3b	Use the rehearsal process to analyze and revise a devised or scripted theatre work using theatrical staging conventions.
1.4.12acc.Cr3c	Re-imagine technical design choices during the course of the rehearsal process to enhance the story and emotional impact of a devised or scripted theatre work.
1.4.12acc.Pr4a	Refine a range of acting skills to build believable and sustainable characters in a devised or scripted theatre performance.
1.4.12acc.Pr4b	Apply theatrical elements and research to create a design that communicates the concept of a theatre production.
1.4.12acc.Re8a	Analyze and assess a devised or scripted theatre work by connecting it to art forms, history, culture, and other disciplines using supporting evidence and criteria.
1.4.12acc.Re8b	Construct meaning in a devised or scripted theatre work considering personal aesthetics and knowledge of production elements while respecting others' interpretations.
1.4.12acc.Re8c	Verify and articulate how a devised or scripted theatre work communicates for a specific purpose and audience.
1.4.12acc.Re9a	Develop detailed supporting evidence and criteria to reinforce artistic choices when participating in or observing devised or scripted theatre work.
1.4.12acc.Re9b	Apply concepts from devised or scripted theatre work for personal realization about

	cultural perspectives and understanding.
1.4.12acc.Re9c	Debate and distinguish multiple aesthetics, preferences and beliefs through participation in and observation of devised or scripted theatre work.
1.4.12acc.Cn10a	Choose, interpret and perform devised or scripted theatre work to reflect or question personal beliefs.
1.4.12acc.Cn11a	Integrate conventions and knowledge from different art forms and other disciplines to examine cross-cultural devised or scripted theatre works.
1.4.12acc.Cn11b	Explore how personal beliefs and biases can affect the interpretation of research data applied in devised or scripted theatre work.

Essential Questions/Enduring Understandings

- What is the structure of a script?
- How do playwrights develop impactful and interesting characters?
- What is the importance of diversifying speech patterns and vocabulary within a script?
- How can unsolvable conflicts be resolved into a satisfying ending?

	What happens when theatre artists use their imaginations and/or learned theatre skills while engaging in creative exploration and inquiry?
	Theatre artists work to discover different ways of communicating meaning.
	Theatre artists develop personal processes and skills for a performance or design.
	How do theatre artists fully prepare a performance or design?
	Theatre artists make choices to convey meaning.
	How do theatre artists use tools and techniques to communicate ideas and feelings?
	Theatre artists' interpretations of drama/theatre work are influenced by personal experiences and aesthetics.
	How can the same work of art communicate different messages to different people?
	Theatre artists allow awareness of interrelationships between self and others to inform their work.
	As theatre is created and experienced, personal experiences and knowledge are synthesized to interpret meaning and analyze the way in which the world may be understood.
	What happens when theatre artists allow an understanding of themselves and the world to inform perceptions about theatre and the purpose of their work?

Objectives

Students will know:

- how a play is formatted and structured
- how to read a script and apply dramaturgical principles to it
- the common roles found in scripts and their purposes

Students will be skilled at:

- properly formatting a script to ensure legibility to an actor and director
- writing diverse characters who speak with unique voices and perspectives

- creating and resolving conflict within a scene

Learning Plan

- Discuss formatting and structure of a script.
- Use scripts on hand to model this formatting and have students analyze them.
- Revisit earlier scripts to discuss dramaturgy and the roles of the characters.
- Use writing exercises to develop students' creativity.
- Provide guidelines such as pushing students to continue writing, subvert audience expectations, and kill your darlings.
- Provide increasingly open-ended prompts allowing for greater freedom in student writing.
- Offer individualized prompts for the final.

Assessments

- Students will receive feedback throughout the unit as they read aloud scenes.
- Students will submit one original script of their choosing they feel best demonstrates their abilities.
- Students will be assessed on the diversity of voice, the formatting, the scene structure including conflict resolution, and the depth of the characters.
- Students will write a script based on a new prompt as their final.

Materials

- Journals

Suggested Strategies for Modifications

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1A-PxTb-SqSbhdiTWm8sCR69UJhJ2Oq_ixoy_hgPpInc/edit?gid=1426178898#gid=1426178898