Scene Study; Creating and Building a Character

Content Area: **Music**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Marking Period 3**
Length: **40**
Status: **Published**

Introduction/Summary

The focus of this unit is to enhance student ability to create and portray diverse characters, combining both physicality with vocal quality to find unique and personal expressions for their character.

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.Pr5a	Discover how unique choices shape believable and sustainable characters in devised or scripted theatre work.
1.4.12acc.Pr5b	Identify how essential text information, research from various sources, and the director's concept to influence character choices in a theatre work.
1.4.12acc.Pr6a	Produce devised or scripted theatre work using a creative process that shapes the production for a specific audience.
1.4.12acc.Re7a	Respond to what is seen, felt and heard in devised or scripted theatre work to develop criteria for artistic choices.
1.4.12acc.Re7b	Apply theatre elements and production values to formal and informal evaluations or

	artistic choices in a theatrical work.
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 a character, and how is one developed?
- How do you analyze a character within a structure of a given play and how does it inform the acting method and performance?
- How does an actor incorporate physicality, tactics, movement, blocking, stage pictures, character voice, emphasis, and memorization into a scene performance?
- What is the importance of dramaturgy as it relates to an actor's portrayal of a character?
- How can you draw upon prior knowledge and context clues to prepare for a scene performance?
- How and when should an actor raise the stakes to improve a scene?

	Theatre artists rely on intuition, curiosity and critical inquiry.
	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.
	How, when, and why do theatre artists' choices change?
	Theatre artists refine their work and practice their craft through rehearsal.
	How do theatre artists transform and edit their initial ideas?
	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, through a shared creative experience with an audience, present stories, ideas, and envisioned worlds to explore the human experience.
	What happens when theatre artists and audiences share creative experiences?

Theatre artists reflect to understand the impact of drama processes and theatre experiences.

How do theatre artists comprehend the essence of drama processes and theatre experiences?

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 apply criteria to investigate, explore and assess drama and theatre work.

How are the theatre artist's processes and the audience's perspectives impacted by analysis and synthesis?

Theatre artists allow awareness of interrelationships between self and others to inform their work.

What happens when theatre artists foster understanding between self and others through critical awareness, social responsibility, and the exploration of empathy?

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:

- Students will be skilled at determining the intentions of a character and use it to get what the character wants.
- how a series of scenes form a play.
- how to use the given text to develop a believable and authentic character.
- the historical context of the play and character.

Students will be skilled at:

- analyzing a character within the structure of the play.
- determining objectives, beats, actions, and helpful business within a scene.
- memorization techniques for learning lines and blocking.
- decontextualizing a scene to make it relevant to an uninformed audience.

Learning Plan

- Model the Stanislavski Method and how to apply it to any realistic scene.
- Students find scenes from television and movie and work to adapt them to the stage.
- Students apply the Stanislavski Method to these scenes, submitting marked up scripts.
- Review memorization techniques.
- Students switch roles for a day and discuss what they learned about their character by playing their partner's.
- Students are assigned a short scene from a published script to be analyzed, memorized, and performed

during the midterm.
- Discuss cold reads and model their effectiveness.
- Cold read a full script as a class.
- Assign scenes from this script.
- Repeat above steps on a faster timeline.
- Students perform exercises to connect with their partners on a deeper level.
- Students perform scenes at the Spring Acting Showcase.

Assessments

- Students will be assessed on their application of the Stanislavski Method at least three times during the course.
- Students will receive regular feedback at scene presentations throughout the course.
- Students will be assessed on their commitment and understanding of the cold read.
- Students will be assessed at the Spring Acting Showcase based on clarity of beats, dramatic arc, preparedness, and vocal quality.

Materials

- Scripts: Our Town; Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike; The Dining Room; All My Sons; Stop Kiss; Picnic

Suggested Strategies for Modifications

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