

# Foundations of Musical Theatre

Content Area: **Performing Arts**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Full Year**  
Length: **35 Weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## **School Mission Statement**

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The mission of Chartertech is to provide artists the opportunity to blend principles of artistic expression with cutting-edge technology, so artists will excel in academic, career, and civic pursuits and contribute to the harmony and productivity of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Artistic integration:** Performing arts will be accessible to all artists as a skill and content area and will serve as a vehicle for imparting, enlivening, and motivating excellence in all academic topics, as well as providing a platform for learning multicultural appreciation and empathy, not just tolerance.

**Technological integration:** Technology will serve as the foundation for instructional delivery systems leading to knowledge acquisition, concept understanding, and skill mastery in all academic subjects. Technology will not be studied as a separate entity but infused into the very fabric of educational pursuits, exactly as it occurs in the business world. Artists will be prepared to compete in the modern workplace or post-secondary institution.

*"Education has always been torn between vocational and utilitarian purposes on one hand and creative and holistic purposes on the other... We are rapidly entering a world that is hard to imagine. By developing the problem-solving skills, creativity, and discipline required in the arts, artists can prepare for life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century."*

From Understanding How the Arts Contribute to Excellent Education

National Endowment for the Arts, 1991

## **School Goals**

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### **Goals for Arts Education:**

**Artists will learn the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to turn their passions and gifts in the arts into vocations or serious avocations.**

Objective 1: Each year, each artist will take two semesters (10 credits) of career-oriented training (80 minutes per day) in their artistic major.

Objective 2: Each marking period, each artist will perform or produce frequently, in diverse settings and for diverse audiences.

Objective 3: Artistic instruction will be integrated into the study of all academic subjects.

Objective 4: Each year, each artist will complete at least twenty after-school “lab” hours in their artistic major. These will constitute career-oriented service to the school and/or community, and demonstrate accomplishment of the NJCCCS crosscutting workplace readiness standards.

**Goal for Technology:**

**Chartertech will model the technology-intense workplace and artists will be able to compete successfully and perform well in a technology-intense workplace.**

Objective 5: Each artist will routinely use technology in a workplace-like manner to acquire, analyze, communicate, and present information in every subject.

Objective 6: Each artist will have access to a computer every day, every class so that automated sources will be the main conduit for educational content.

Objective 7: All administrative and instructional functions of the school will be supported by the most modern technology available.

**Goals for Academic Achievement:**

**Artists will apply themselves in the serious pursuit of knowledge and skills, especially skills in critical thinking, problem solving, decision making, and communication.**

Objective 8: Each year, and to be promoted to the next grade each artist will pass five credits in English, Health, Social Studies, Science, Mathematics, and PE/Health. Between grades 9-12 artists will also complete 1 year of Spanish.

Objective 9: In each academic subject, each year, each artist will complete a significant project that involves critical thinking, problem solving, decision making, and communication skills, and which demonstrates cross-content workplace readiness skills.

Objective 10: Each year artists will develop a artist resume to guide his/her academic and artistic studies and to document his/her academic and artistic accomplishments. This work will be done under the mentorship of the faculty in the artist’s artistic major.

Objective 11: Academic instruction in all subjects will be highly cross-curricular, in accordance with curricula design and continuously improved by teachers, in compliance with the New Jersey Artist Learning Standards.

**Course Description**

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<b>Course Title:</b>	Intermediate Musical Theatre
<b>Department:</b>	Musical Theatre
<b>Prerequisite:</b>	Assessment
<b>Number of Credits:</b>	10
<b>Grade Level(s):</b>	9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

<b>Standards:</b>	Aligned to New Jersey Student Learning Standards and Career Readiness Practices.
<b>Description of Course</b>	<p>The application of the objectives of the Musical Theatre Courses is not significantly linear in nature (as are the topics in history, math or science). Learning of acting technique, interpretation of character, musical theatre history, music terminology, movement and dance technique, technical theatre, peer critique, and career opportunities is an ongoing, organic process intertwined with the learning of musical theatre to be performed at showcases during the year.</p> <p>This course is designed to reinforce the basics of musical theatre to provide a groundwork for more advanced study in successive years. Acting skills are built upon by introducing methods and stressed from a written, technical, and practical standpoint. Elements include reading, writing, marking and analyzing scripts, oral interpretation of literature, voice and diction, breathing technique, beginning design theory, and theatre protocol and etiquette. Historic and social references will be made occasionally as the class proceeds.</p> <p>Practical techniques in music and dance will include warm up and breathing techniques, rhythmic study, sight singing, ear training, Laban movement analysis, stretching and body awareness and working together on solos, duets or small ensembles, and rehearsal and performance technique. Styles of dance including ballet, tap and jazz will be introduced at this level. Ear training and Sight Singing will continue at this level. Artists will have the opportunity to work on technical crews for performances</p>

## Overview & Pacing

Unit #	Major Content	Expected Time
Acting/Directing		14 Weeks
Audition Preparation		2 Weeks
Portfolio		1 Week
Set Design/Stagecraft		3 Weeks
Theatre Business		1 Week
Vocal Music		3 Weeks
Dance/Movement		5 Weeks
History of Theatre		4 Weeks
Lighting/Sound		1 Week
Costumes/Makeup		1 Week

