

August 15, 2018

Welcome to All the World's a Stage!

I'm so excited about having your student in class this year. As the child of an English/Journalism professor and a kindergarten teacher, I have gratefully received from my parents a life-long love of learning. My first love is the theater. I received both my Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Theater. I have also performed in many venues from the Bay Area to Virginia. In the past 20 years, I have directed, written, performed in, and produced many shows for all ages from preschool to senior citizens. Last spring, I was in Sierra Stages production of *A New Brain*.

As a teacher, I care about my students and want them to be successful. There are not too many outside assignments for this course, but I expect students to complete all assignments and participate fully in all class activities. If your student is struggling in my class, I will make every effort to work with them and you to ensure your student's success.

One of the major components of Theater Arts is participation. Please make every effort to ensure that your student is in class each day. They are all expected to participate in the fall and spring shows, either as performers, backstage workers, ticket sales, refreshment sales, etc. Students are also expected to help at one or all of our Movie nights. All Theater Arts students will be expected to perform at our Final Scene Night on Thursday, May 23 at 7 pm. The event is free and you and your family are all invited.

Our other course component that involves outside support is for all students to attend a play somewhere in the community. We work quite a bit on analysis of performance, and this is a good opportunity for students to use their knowledge to analyze a play on their own. Please look at www.seeaplay.com for plays in the greater Sacramento area. We often take field trips to see local shows and we're hoping to take a trip to Ashland next spring to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

Coming this fall will be a production of *Legally Blond, the Musical*, and I encourage all my students to audition for the production. This spring, we will be presenting the comedy, *Play On*, and all students are encouraged to try out for that show also.

I'm looking forward to meeting your student.

Sara Noah
snoah@njuhsd.com

All the World's a Stage

Theater Arts

Sara Noah

snoah@njuhsd.com

Text: *The Stage and the School*, Harry H. Schanker, Katharine Anne Ommanney
Various play scripts, essays, and other reading

Standards Covered

California State Performing Arts Standards for Drama: www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/thproficient.asp

Expectations for Course

This is a participatory course, so students must make every effort to attend class each day. Students are also expected to attend a play outside of school (High school, college, or community/professional theatre) and write a review of the production. Students are also expected to take part in both student productions and Film nights. Not all students will be cast in the productions, but they are required to attend work days, sell tickets, sell refreshments, or work backstage on both the fall and spring production.

Our Spring Finals will consist of a Scene Night, which will be held in the evening on **Thursday, May 23, 2019**. All Theater Arts students will participate by performing in scenes. The event is free and the public is invited.

Grading

Participation – 10 points/day (can make up excessive absences)	1800 points
Play attendance/review – Due Dec 14 and May 31	200
Quarter Projects – (4 total: 50 points each)	200
Fall Play/Spring Musical Participation – 100 pts each	200
Fall Final – 300 points	300
Spring Scene Night (Final) – 300 points	300
TOTAL POINTS (grades based on percent scale)	= 3000

Class Overview

This class will cover all aspects of drama and film, including the following:

Improvisation	Genres
Acting Preparation	Scriptwriting (drama and film)
Theatre History	Production and performance

Class Policies: Cell phones, headphones, chromebooks are not to be used in class AT ANY TIME (Even during passing period). Water in class is okay, food is not allowed. Plagiarism is not allowed and is highly discouraged.