

Theatre Department Philosophy and Class Offerings

The theatre department at HSPVA provides a pre-professional program, which reflects the traditions and working relationship of all professional theatres. Because our art is special in that the product results from ensemble work, designers, playwrights, actors, technicians -- all create one art form/product together -- the relationship requires a personal commitment, self-discipline, the ability to relate to one's natural instincts and to communicate those instincts. Also required is a willingness to support other individuals, as well as the team. A successful theatre person is always in the process of learning about himself or herself and about life.

The theatre artist approaches the craft physically, intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually. As their theatre teachers, our job is to develop a supportive atmosphere and to help them experience the practicing of their craft at their highest potential. We will teach them the skills. They respond by committing wholeheartedly.

We find parental involvement to be integral to the success of our students. We can be reached at **713-942-1966** and look forward to your calls.

Our email addresses are:

jblackjr@houstonisd.org (James Black; Director, Design and Production, Stagecraft)

cogden@houstonisd.org (Cynthia Ogden; Dept. Chair, Director, Movement, Musical Theatre, Acting IV)

sjenning@houstonisd.org (Suzanne Jennings, Director, Acting 1,2,3/Camera, Film, Shakespeare, Directing)

mduncan@houstonisd.org (Advanced Design, Facilities Manager)

LEVEL ONE CLASSES:

Introduction to Theatre:

(Philosophy and professionalism)

Acting I

Voice and Diction I

Stagecraft, Intro to Design

Movement/Yoga

Introduction to Musical Theatre

Advanced Design I (Design focus)

Production, (after school crews)

Showcases

LEVEL TWO CLASSES:

Acting II

Voice and Diction II

Introduction to Design

Speech

Make-up

Movement/Dance/Yoga

Musical Theatre II (survey & sight-singing)

Advanced design II (Design focus)

Production, (after school crews)

Showcases

LEVEL THREE CLASSES:

Theatre Business

Playwriting / Dramatic Literature

Directing & Acting Shakespeare

Building of a professional portfolio (all focus areas)

Advanced Design III (Design focus)

Production, (after school crews)

Showcases

LEVEL FOUR CLASSES:

Acting IV for Acting & M/T focus

Preparation for Senior Recitals (all focus areas)

Preparation for college auditions (all areas)

Physical conditioning

Building of a professional portfolio (all areas)

Advanced Design IV (Design focus)

Acting on Camera / Film Technique

Our part-time faculty includes:

Brooke Barnes-Meeks, Dance, Movement for the Actor 1, Choreography & Director

Michael Barrett, Shop Foreman

Matt Hune, Acting 4, Director

Laurie Husmann, Costumes Design and Foreman, Stagecraft

Chesley Santoro Krohn, Dance, Acting IV Coach & Guest Director

Julia Krohn, Movement for the Actor

Michael Mertz, Musical Theatre, Musical Director

Terry Ogden, Playwriting, Combat, Special Movement & Director

Dabrina Sandifer, Intro to Theatre

Susan Shofner, Acting 4

Deneen Tyler, Acting 1, 2, and 4

Todd Waite, Acting 4