Acting Workshop I - Unit 2 - The Monologue

Unit Focus

In this unit, students will begin preparing a monologue, which they will then perform. While preparing their monologue, students will consider who they are as actors and how that might influence their decisions on their approaches. Students will take a deep dive into the mind of their character as they continue to build an authentic, well-rounded character that they will bring to life during their monologue performance.

Stage 1: Desired Results - Key Understandings

Standard(s)

National Core Arts Standards
Theatre: HS Proficient

- Research how other theatre artists apply creative processes to tell stories in a devised or scripted drama/theatre work, using theatre research methods. (TH:Cn11.2.HSI.a)
- Practice and revise a devised or scripted drama/theatre work using theatrical staging conventions. (TH:Cr3.1.HSI.a)
- Explore physical, vocal and physiological choices to develop a performance that is believable, authentic, and relevant to a drama/ theatre work. (TH:Cr3.1.HSI.b)
- Shape character choices using given circumstances in a drama/theatre work. (TH:Pr4.1.HSI.b)
- Perform a scripted drama/theatre work for a specific audience. (TH:Pr6.1.HSI.a)
- Use script analysis to generate ideas about a character that is believable and authentic in a drama/theatre work. (TH:Cr1.1.HSI.c)

Madison Public Schools Profile of a Graduate

- Analyzing: Examining information/data/ evidence from multiple sources to identify possible underlying assumptions, patterns, and relationships in order to make inferences. (POG.1.2)
- Design: Engaging in a process to refine a product for an intended audience and purpose. (POG.2.2)

Transfer

Students will be able to independently use their learning to...
T1 Evaluate the author's message, identify the author's purpose, and cite text evidence to support conclusions.
T2 Develop and refine techniques and skills through purposeful practice and application to become more fluent
T3 Capture the feeling or emotional response which an artistic piece elicits

Meaning

Understanding(s)

Students will understand that...
U1 Dramatic characters are complex, authentic, and well-rounded.
U2 Different characters fulfill different roles.
U3 All performances, even smaller pieces like monologues, require practice and thought.
U4 Feedback is a critical part of the rehearsal and performance practice.

Essential Question(s)

Students will keep considering...
Q1 How can actors use a variety of resources to create life-like characters?
Q2 What is the purpose of my character?
Q3 How do actors prepare for a role?
Q4 How can I utilize feedback to enhance my performance?

Acquisition of Knowledge and Skill

Knowledge

Students will know...
K1 Elements of a production: artistic preferences, audience, budget/box office returns, technical resources, company style
K2 Actors use annotations to track their character movement and development.
K3 Actors use their bodies and voices to portray internal and external traits.
K4 Vocabulary: monologue, "methods"

Skill(s)

Students will be skilled at...
S1 Considering physical, technological, and artistic limitations before planning a performance.
S2 Annotating a monologue
S3 Analyzing their character and character motivations
S4 Displaying emotions with their voices and bodies.