Stage Production - Unit 1 - To Play or Not To Play?

Unit Focus

Students will be introduced to foundational elements of theater and the stage. This includes the physical space that is the stage, elements of plays and the theater, as well as various roles and responsibilities within the creation of a stage production. This unit will ultimately end with students analyzing a script to make an informed decision on how they might adapt the script for a modern production. From there, the teacher and students can make a collaborative decision on which adaptation they would like to produce.

Stage 1: Desired Results - Key Understandings

Standard(s)

National Core Arts Standards
Theatre: HS

- Accomplished Choose and interpret a drama/theatre work to reflect or question personal beliefs. (TH:Cn10.1.HSII.a)
- Formulate creative choices for a devised or scripted drama/theatre work based on theatre research about the selected topic. (TH:Cn11.2.HSII.a)
- Understand and apply technology to design solutions for a drama/theatre work. (TH:Cr1.1.HSII.b)
- Cooperate as a creative team to make interpretive choices for a drama/theatre work. (TH:Cr2.1.HSII.b)

Madison Public Schools Profile of a Graduate

- Idea Generation: Studying a problem, need or model (mentor text, political piece, documents, art work, etc.) to consider limitations and imagine new solutions/ transformations. (POG.2.1)
- Collective Intelligence: Working respectfully and responsibly with others, exchanging and evaluating ideas to achieve a common objective. (POG.3.1)

Transfer

Students will be able to independently use their learning to...
T1 Create works of art to personally engage in the artistic process and/or communicate meaning
T2 Make appropriate choices as a responsible, respectful participant within a communal artistic experience

Meaning

Understanding(s)

Students will understand that...
U1 Creating a stage production requires all parts and persons to work in collaboration to achieve the same vision.
U2 Each element of a stage production is thoughtfully analyzed and researched.
U3 Adaptations require a shared vision from a team of experts.
U4 A script must be analyzed from various perspectives before an adaptation or production can take place.

Essential Question(s)

Students will keep considering...
Q1 How must crew members collaborate to fulfill their shared vision of an intended production?
Q2 What research must occur to create a cohesive adaptation?
Q3 How can crew members leverage experts to create a shared vision for a production?
Q4 How do crew members analyze a script to determine what is important for their shared vision?

Acquisition of Knowledge and Skill

Knowledge

Students will know...
K1 Various terms associated with the stage and stage directions.
K2 Various roles and responsibilities of stage and crew members.
K3 The necessary elements associated with the main parts of a stage production (lighting, props, costume, sounds, etc.).

Skill(s)

Students will be skilled at...
S1 Navigating the stage's landscape.
S2 Understanding their role as part of a stage crew.
S3 Analyzing a script to determine a vision for a production.