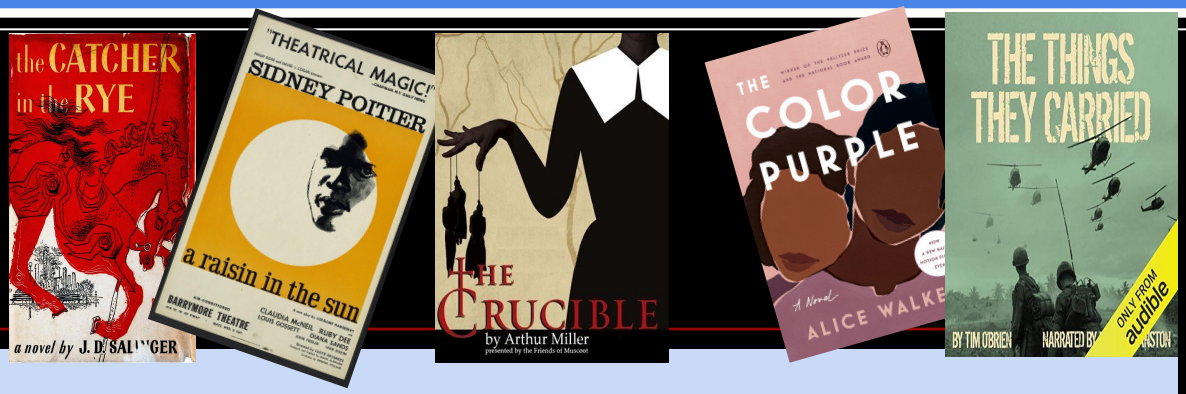
Junior English Course Options

Junior English Options

- Every junior student takes English III or AP Language
- In IC, your teacher's recommendation will be listed. In addition, Accelerated Placement will be listed as "ST" code if qualify.
- Chart to help you think through the differences between AP and English III option.
- FAQ about English AP classes
- Accelerated Placement information

English III

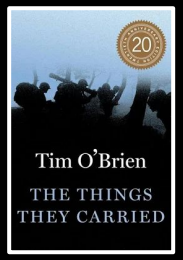


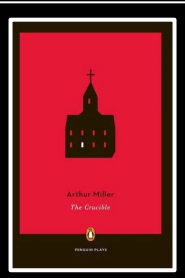
Focus: Blend of literature, persuasive writing skills, & discussion skills

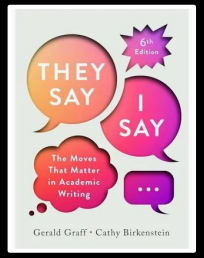
Books: Typically read 1 play, 2 novels, & 1 student choice/student run "bookclub"

Writing: narrative, informative, research, & persuasive writing assignments throughout the year

AP Language







Focus: Blend of critical reading, persuasive writing, & discussion skills. Analyze and produce written/verbal arguments for a variety of audiences and purposes across various genres. Prepare to take the AP English Language & Composition Exam in May *(exam is optional)*.

Reading: Students typically read 1 novel, 1 play, 1 writing manual, 1 self-selected nonfiction book, & LOTS of short nonfiction texts (e.g., speeches, essays, editorials, letters, etc.).

Writing: Rhetorical analysis, synthesis, argumentative, & college application essays and an open letter, commencement speech, & more!

English Electives

- If you really enjoy English, we also offer other elective course options that you can take in addition to the required course of English III or AP Language.

Weighted Credit



Speech Communication

Earn College Credit NOW!!

- Semester course. Open to Grade 11 and 12 students.
- Dual Credit Class - Earn both DGS Elective Credit (.5) AND College of DuPage Credit (3 hours).
- Many colleges require some form of a public speaking course.
- Examine the basic concepts of the oral communication process, including communication theory, speech preparation and delivery.

**Pending Board Approval in December

Speech Communication

- Learn effective ways to communicate and develop confidence in a variety of communication contexts.
  - Small group and large group communication
  - Informative, Persuasive, and Occasion Speaking
- Transfer skills to other classes and work situations now and in the future.



Can you handle the truth?!

Journalism, at its core, is the quest for the truth.





Journalistic Expression and Media Literacy

A full year course open to Grades 10-12

- Create stories in newspaper and magazine format as well as for radio and television broadcast

- Learn to report the news, cover sports and entertainment, write opinion pieces, review movies and restaurants, and create documentaries

- Design newspaper and magazine layouts and study photojournalism to understand how visual images tell stories

- Video

Within Journalistic Expression and Media Literacy students will:

- Decide what makes an event or issue newsworthy
- Investigate what is going on in the world and in our school
- Discuss what is ethical and legal in journalistic writing
- Learn how to conduct interviews and polls effectively



Within Journalistic Expression and Media Literacy students will:

- Watch television news and news analysis programs and review scripts from radio broadcasts
- View documentary films and exposes
- Read and talk about *The Sun Times* and various magazine selections
- Read books about investigative reporting, rock ‘n roll journalism, sports reporting, etc.





Advanced Journalistic Writing

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation
or Journalistic Expression and Media Literacy



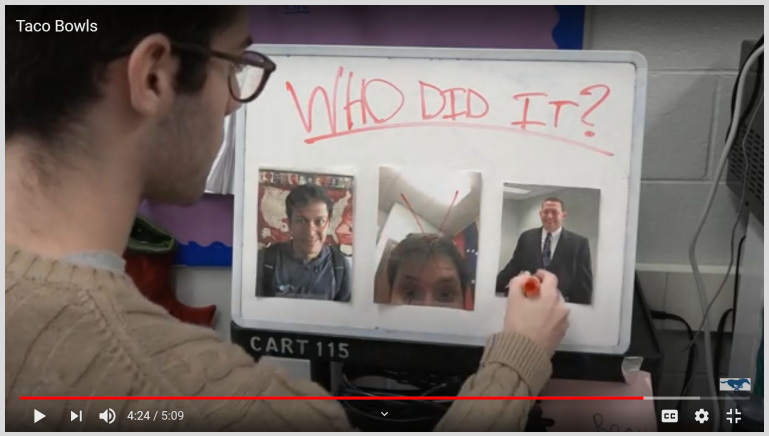
- Get general credits for working on the **Blueprint**!
- Open to Grades 11 and 12 students
- Writing articles for the school newspaper
- Development of principles learned in Journalistic Expression and Media Literacy
- Opportunities for Leadership and Advancement
- Experience other aspects of newspaper production, including editing, desktop design, page make-up and use of graphics

This class is open for repeat enrollment.
Students often take it 2 or 3 consecutive years!

TV I: Video Production









TV I: Video Production

Eligible Grade Levels: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: ½

Credit Type: Elective

Prerequisites: None



- TV news
- Viral video challenge
- Behind and in front of camera work
- Editing (pre, during, and post production)
- Opportunities for publication on southblueprint.com

Who should take this class?

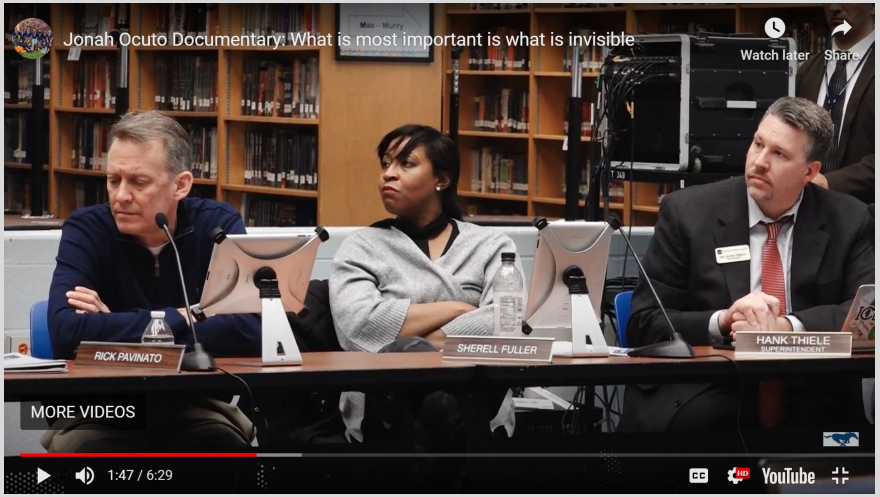
1) Anyone interested in video production
2) Anyone interested in TV news
3) Anyone interested in making creative films
4) Anyone who wants to know more about video editing
5) Anyone looking to improve their own video content
6) Anyone is creative and likes hands-on learning
7) Want to know more? Ask Ms. Long!
   a) mlong@csd99.org





TV II: Video Production







TV II: Video Production

Eligible Grade Levels: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: ½

Credit Type: Elective

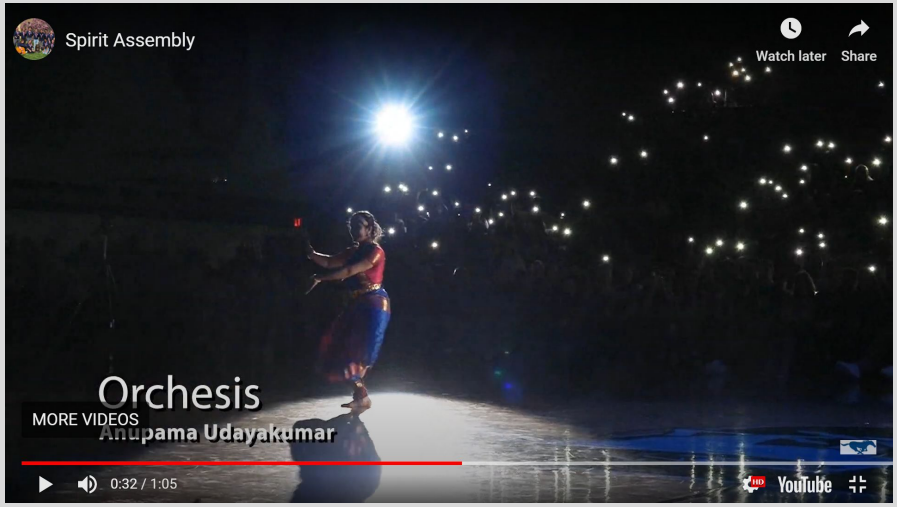
Prerequisites: TV I



- Learn advanced editing skills
- Documentaries
- Short films
- TV news
- Editing (pre, during, and post production)
- Opportunities for publication on southblueprint.com

Who should take this class?

1) Anyone interested in video production
2) Anyone interested in TV news
3) Anyone interested in making creative films
4) Anyone who wants to know more about video editing
5) Anyone looking to improve their own video content
6) Anyone is creative and likes hands-on learning
7) Want to know more? Ask Ms. Long!
   a) mlong@csd99.org







Radio I



- Open to Grades 9-12
- Study history of popular music
- Write and perform newscasts and advertisements
- Hands-on intro to basic studio equipment, programming, and broadcast writing
- Study FCC Regulations
- Plan and perform an entertaining radio show for an audience



Radio II

- Open to Grades 9-12. Prerequisite: Radio I
- Advanced instruction in programming and performance
- Conduct live interviews
- Write and perform radio dramas
- Learn techniques in recording, editing, directing and production
- Prepare materials for radio broadcast
- DJ live school events and sports
- Be an integral part of a broadcast management team
- Plan and participate in fundraisers and charity events

Radio III

- Open to Grades 10, 11 and 12
- Prerequisites: Radio I and II (an A or B in both)
- Independent study designed for the advanced communication student who has a definite interest in broadcasting as a career

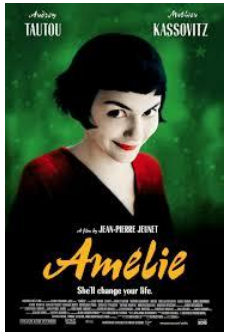


LOVE MOVIES?

TAKE FILM STUDIES!





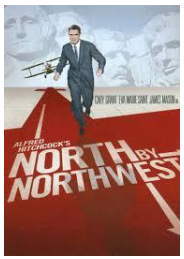


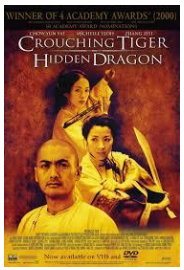


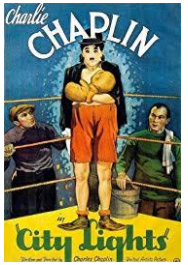
ORIGINS AND ELEMENTS OF FILM:
Study shots/angles/movement and editing techniques; development of film

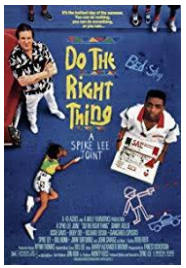
DIRECTORIAL AND STYLIZED APPROACHES TO FILMMAKING:
Watch and analyze the styles of noted filmmakers

GENRE EXPLORATION:
Class-selected movie genre unit, such as action, sci-fi,documentary, comedy, etc.









Yearbook Class

Why you should take yearbook:

- Tell important stories and preserve memories
- Develop skills that prepare you for careers in journalism, photography, and graphic design
- Become part of a close class community
- **Your hard work gets published for everyone to see!**



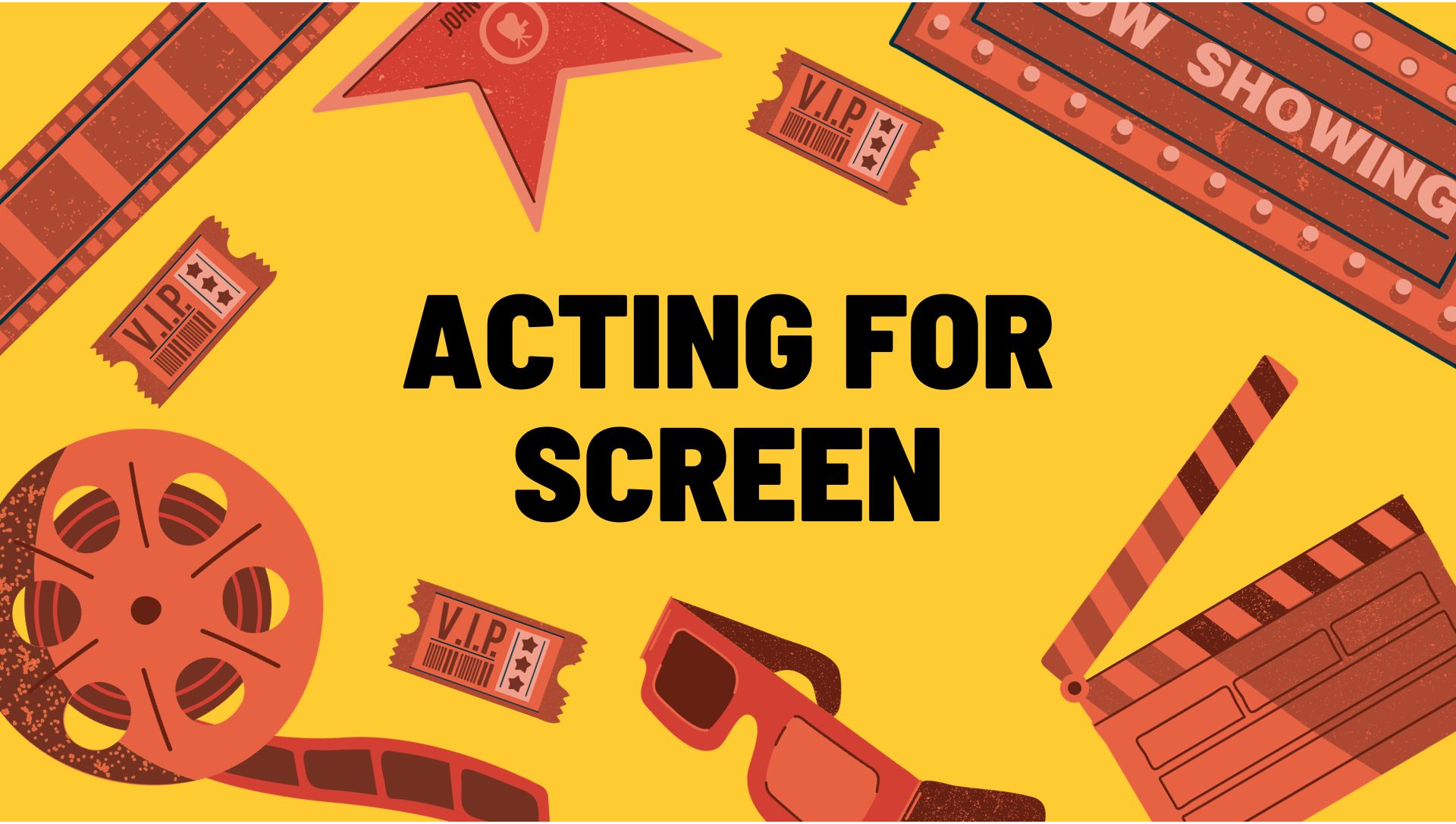
What type of students are we looking for:

- Students who are interested in **photography** or **graphic design**
- Students who are social and would be interested in **interviewing** others
- Students who are involved and know what is going on at DGS
- Students who can meet deadlines (the yearbook is printed in 6 deadlines throughout the year)



"This class taught me how to present myself in the best possible way… not just to casting directors, but to people in general."
-Tina, class of 2011

Acting Classes (Fine Arts Credit)


V.I.P.
V.I.P.
V.I.P.
SHOWING
ACTING FOR
SCREEN



In Acting for Screen, you'll:

- Understand and apply the technical and practical ins and outs of **auditioning for the camera (television, film, and commercials).**
- Analyze **film and television scripts** in order to better understand **character motivation and relationships.**
- Take part in the **business of acting**- set yourself up as a marketable performer by creating a **resume, headshot advice, reels, and self-tape.**

You'll also get tons of experience actually shooting mock auditions and practice on-camera scenes!





This class is for...

- Students who want to know more about how to "make it" in the film/television industry as an actor.
- Students who feel comfortable acting on stage, but would like to broaden their options and learn to act on screen.
- Students who don't mind being recorded and who don't mind watching themselves back for feedback and self-reflection
- Students who have behind-the-camera knowledge but who may want to try their hand in front of it!


ACTING
FOR
STAGE

In Acting for Stage, you'll:



- Understand and apply the technical and practical ins and outs of **auditioning for stage productions.**
- Analyze **theatrical scripts** in order to better understand **character motivation and relationships.**
- Understand and apply basic elements of **physicality & movement**, along with **vocal expression** to create a more realized character onstage
- Understand and apply the basics of **theatrical staging** in order to create an **effectively blocked and staged scene or monologue**



You'll get plenty of chances to rehearse, take part in games and exercises, and receive feedback!

This class is for...

- Students who want to know more about how to develop interesting characters for the stage
- Students who would like to become better public speakers, but would like to do so in a creative way.
- Students who don't mind being in front of the class and who don't mind receiving feedback and self-reflection
- Students who have tried acting for screen, but who may want to broaden their acting styles for stage.



FINE ARTS HONORS COURSE

ADVANCED ACTING STUDIO

Can be taken multiple times!

Content changes each semester

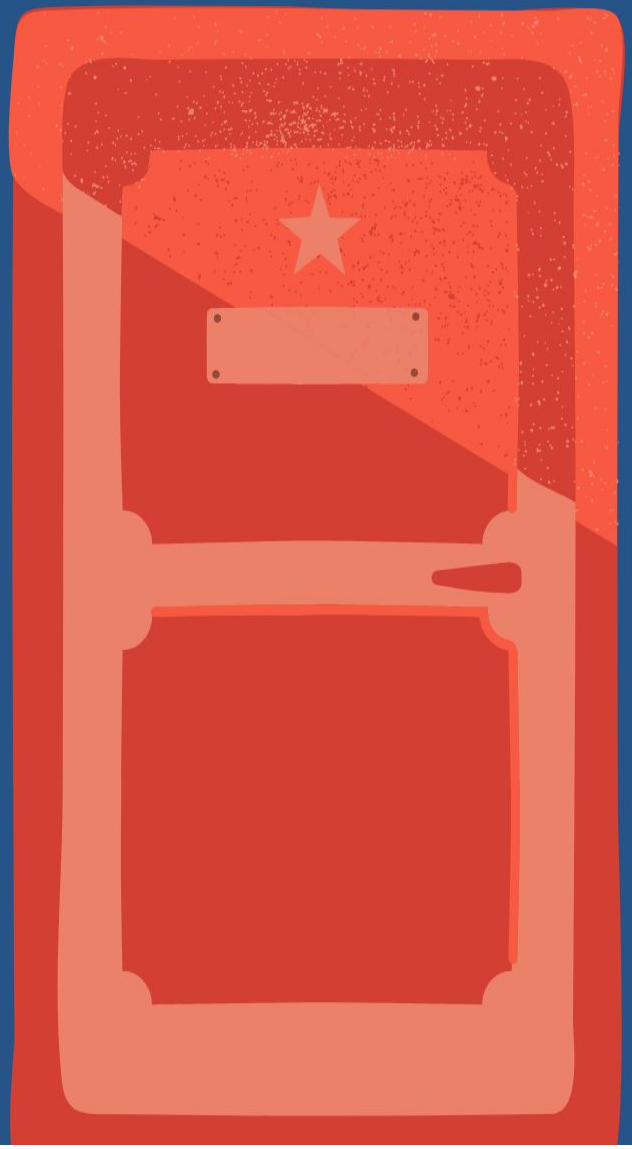
Advanced Acting Studio is an advanced-level acting class; prerequisite of taking either Acting for Stage or Acting for Screen before enrolling.

In this class, you'll:

- Experiment with character through **sense memory exercises, emotional recall, and substitution, as well as character analysis**.

- Research various **theatrical styles** in order to thoroughly understand the styles' core concepts and apply them to **scripted performances** to illustrate mastery.

- Develop, collaborate on, and create a **unified showcase for a live audience,** demonstrating methods and techniques explored throughout the semester.



You'll have a final performance for the public to watch you demonstrate what you've learned!



This class is for...

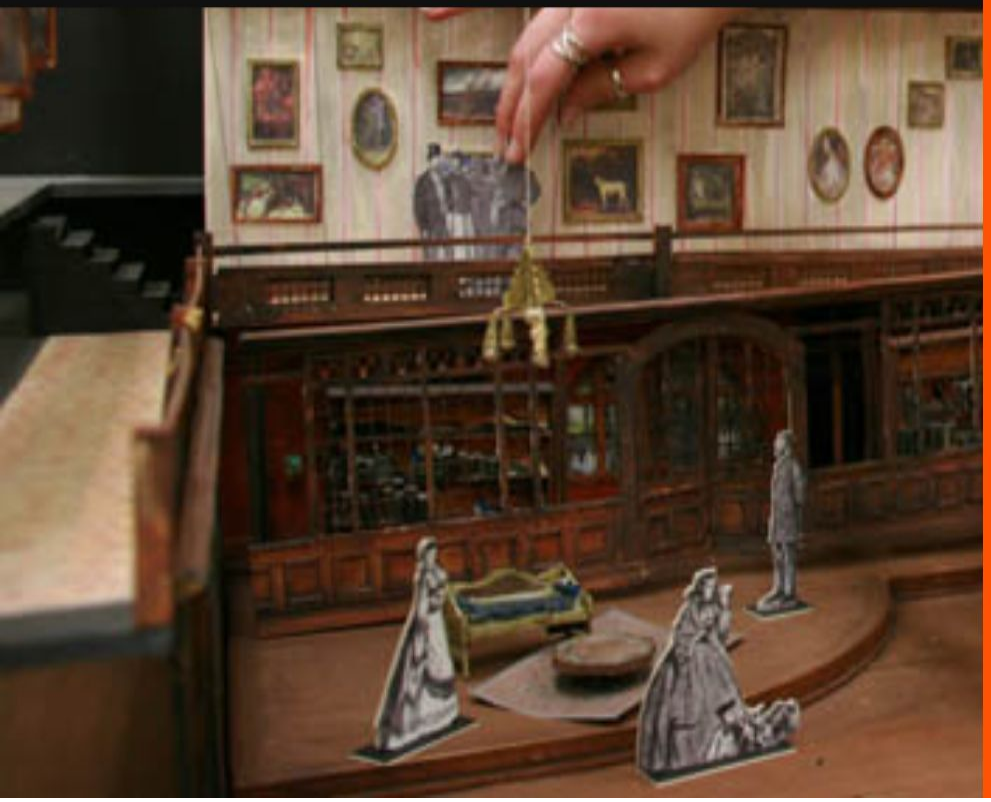
- Students who wish to **pursue acting outside of school or in a more focused manner.**
- Students who wish to be challenged with **dramatic analysis** and **complex character-building.**
- Students who have moved beyond the basic foundation of acting and want to **experiment with stylistic acting and acting techniques.**

THEATRE DESIGN & CRAFT

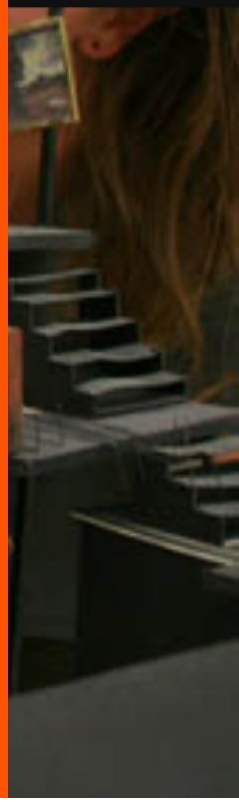
A FINE ARTS COURSE



IN THIS CLASS, YOU'LL...



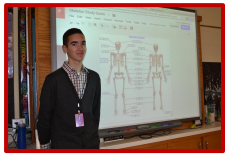
- Learn the **guiding principles of theatrical design**
- Create theatrical design **projects for real plays**
- **Record, edit**, and **create** theatrical **sound effects and cues**
- Design, find, and craft **costumes** for characters and plays
- Design, scale, and build 3D models for **sets** of real plays
- Construct real **props** for use in a theatrical production
- Solve **pratical design problems** for theatrical productions

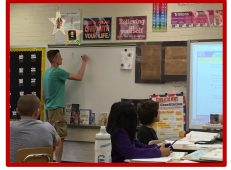
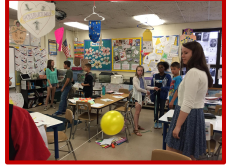


THIS CLASS IS FOR...

- Students who are **interested in theatre**, but do not want to perform onstage
- Students who are looking for a **creative outlet** and are open to **working with different mediums**
- Students who **enjoy hands-on application** of concepts and **solving practical problems**
- Students who want a change of pace from a typical "notes and books" class





2027-2028

INTRO TO TEACHING

- **Students interested in a possible career in education or otherwise working with children / adolescents**
- **Members of the Class of 2028 and Class of 2029 are eligible to take the course**
- **Students in the program are eligible to earn 6 hours of college credit for FREE in addition to 2 elective credits through DGS.**
- **Students get hands-on experience as a teacher intern in a local elementary or middle school.**
- **Application & letter of recommendation are due by December 4, 2026 (Class of 2028) or January 8, 2027 (Class of 2029).**
- **Have questions? Contact Mrs. Hardy (vhardy@csd99.org) and be sure to talk to your counselor about your interest in Intro to Teaching during your course selection appointment.**