

**Department:** Performing Arts  
**Course Name:** Stage Experience

**Course Description:**

Stage Experience is an innovative eighth-grade course where students will explore life's challenges and relationships through the creative interaction of theater. Concentrations will include building a performer's inner resources, movement, observation, oral interpretation, preparing a character, developing a scene, improvisational and rehearsed performance, analyzing a script, and analyzing live performances and a production of a play. Through these creative exercises, students will become more familiar with and hopefully gain more appreciation for the disciplines theater demands.

**Content:**

Critique  
Creative Integrity  
Stage Safety  
Script Analysis  
Content Specific Vocabulary  
Technology as a Tool  
Theatrical Design  
Theater History  
Stage Movement  
Body awareness  
Diction and Clarity of speech

**Skills:**

Apply critical thinking and problem-solving strategies for individual performance pieces.  
Demonstrate teamwork in both small and large groups in acting scenes.  
Adhere to consistent safety practices.  
Demonstrate proper understanding of both visual and audio interpretations of material as they apply to use in the world of theater.  
Strengthen memorization techniques for use in script/monologue presentations.

**Texts and Materials:**

J. Michael Gillette, THEATRICAL DESIGN AND PRODUCTION, McGraw-Hill 2007  
Paul Carter, BACKSTAGE HANDBOOK Broadway Press 1994

**Methods of Instruction:**

Teacher directed instruction  
Individual and small group problem-solving  
Peer led review

**Methods of Evaluation:**

Attendance, effort and enthusiasm daily.  
Timely and correct submission of assignments.  
Willingness/ability for teamwork, using interpersonal skills in a positive, character-building way.  
Displaying leadership and responsibility for class objectives.