

Theatre Semester Courses

Introduction to Theatre

Grade Level: 9

Semester Course

Enrolled in JSA

Explore the fundamental elements of theatre, including acting, stage design, script analysis, and the different roles involved in a production. Learn about stage types, blocking, and key performance techniques, as well as the basics of set, lighting, and costume design. Hands-on activities, improv exercises, and group projects will allow you to experience the creative process firsthand. By the end of the course, you'll have a solid understanding of theatre terminology and the skills to participate in a production, whether on stage or behind the scenes. Students identified as accelerated in theatre will be offered an advanced option within the course to challenge and build their skills and interests. Whether you're interested in acting, design, or simply want to understand how theatre works, this course provides a fun and supportive environment to discover your passion.

Audition Technique and Portfolio

Grade Level: 9 -12

Semester Course

Enrolled in JSA

This performance course will develop and craft your audition skills for theatre, television, and film. Students will be taught how to select and perform monologues, develop cold reading techniques and experience exercises in auditions, callbacks and screen tests. Students will build an audition portfolio, create self-tape videos and a resume.

Theatre Tech 1 - Set Design, Lighting, Sound, Scenic Projection and Stage Management

Grade Level: 9 -12

Semester Course

No Prerequisite

Enrolled in JSA

In this course, students will study stage technology and production, gaining a broad understanding of the roles involved in bringing a theatrical production to life. From set design and scenic painting to lighting, sound, and stage management, students will learn the technical aspects of a show. Projects will include building sets for musicals and plays, projection mapping, model-making, and creating computer-controlled lighting and sound effects. Students will also learn about dramaturgy, directing, and the roles of producers and stage managers.

Theatre Tech 2 - Hair, Makeup, and Costumes, Puppetry and Props

Grade Level: 9 -12

Semester Course

No Prerequisite

Enrolled in JSA

Step into the vibrant world of theatrical design through hair, makeup, costumes, puppetry, and props! In this hands-on course, learn to create unique character looks, including costume rendering, makeup techniques, special effects, and hair styling while also mastering the design and construction of puppets and props. Students enrolled in this course will work in the JSA Costume Lab using professional-grade tools and materials to bring creative visions to life. Whether you're interested in character design or building imaginative stage elements, this course will give you the skills to bring the stage to life with creativity and craftsmanship.

Improvisation

Grade Level: 9 -12

Semester Course

No Prerequisite

Enrolled in JSA

Discover the principles of spontaneous performance, including quick thinking, character development, and collaborative storytelling. You'll learn both long and short-form improvisation techniques through engaging

exercises, games, and scene work that build confidence, communication skills, and adaptability. The course will culminate in a live performance as part of the JSA improv troupe, "Bearly Funny." Whether you're new to theatre or looking to sharpen your improvisational skills, this course offers a supportive environment to experiment, perform, and have fun. Get ready to embrace creativity, think on your feet, and bring your imagination to life on stage!

Playwriting & Directing

Grade Level: 9 -12

Semester Course

No Prerequisite

Enrolled in JSA

This semester-long course is designed for students passionate about creating their own theatrical works and bringing them to life on stage. Uncover the essentials of playwriting, including structure, character development, dialogue, and thematic depth, while also learning the fundamentals of directing. Through hands-on writing exercises, peer reviews, and readings of classic and contemporary plays, you'll refine your voice as a writer and director. By the end of the semester, you'll complete a polished short play and experience the excitement of seeing your work come to life through table reads and potential student performances. Whether you dream of becoming a playwright, director, or just want to enhance your creative writing skills, this course provides a supportive environment to develop and share your dramatic ideas.

Media in Theatre Arts

Grade Level: 9 -12

Semester Course

No Prerequisite

Enrolled in JSA

Investigate the fusion of performance, design, and media arts. In this semester-long course students will learn the essentials of performance techniques, design principles, and media production, including audio and video basics. The course covers digital and social media, print materials, and their roles in the arts. Students will create a diverse digital portfolio featuring podcasts, radio dramas, web series, and viral videos, integrating these skills to produce innovative and professional-quality content. Ideal for those interested in how performance and media intersect, this course provides practical experience and prepares students for future creative endeavors.

Acting for Stage and Screen

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Semester Course

Enrolled in JSA

This high school-level course introduces students to key acting theories and techniques, focusing on both stage and film performance. Students will examine the methods of influential theorists, including Konstantin Stanislavski, Lee Strasberg, Uta Hagen, Sanford Meisner, and Stella Adler. Through practical exercises, scene work, and monologues, students will learn to apply these techniques on stage while also gaining insight into the nuances of film acting, including camera awareness and subtle performance. By the end of the course, students will have a strong foundation in diverse acting approaches for both stage and screen.