



Musical Theatre III  
2018-19 Syllabus

**Faculty:** Mr. William Dye: Musical Theatre I, II, IV  
Mr. Morgan Day: Musical Theatre III  
Dance: Ms. Deedra Harris  
Rehearsal Accompanist: Ms. Kim Fox

**Contact:** Mr. Morgan Day, Teacher – [miday@henrico.k12.va.us](mailto:miday@henrico.k12.va.us)

**Telephone (all CFA teachers)** (804) 228-2718

You were chosen for this program because we believe you have the gifts, talent and determination to develop into musical theatre artists. It is both a privilege and an honor to be involved in Center for the Arts. Your peers and classmates can be great resources for you and you can be a great resource for them. Learn to trust each other so that you collaborate, not compete.

Behavior is what you do – it is the action of your attitude! Be open to the constant feedback that you will receive in class and rehearsal. You cannot grow as an artist if you are not able to hear and respond to the feedback that will be given to you. You are expected to change, to use the feedback to improve your performance. One rule we must insist on: during class time, unless instructed to, the student is not allowed to give others feedback. The instructor needs to be heard first and then feedback may be invited from the class. When you give feedback, remember to be constructive in your criticism and supportive of your classmates at all times.

A lot will be asked of you; stay focused and encouraged. We all struggle with some skills. Don't give up on yourself or the group. Singing, dancing and acting all take a great deal of practice, coordination and determination to do excellently. A true professional takes the struggles in stride with the successes and keeps working to improve his or her craft. This is where your behavior reflects your attitude! Keep positive. Finally, Respect yourself, others, and the work, your guest artists and your teachers.

## **Course Description and Objectives:**

- Students will obtain training and skills associated with Musical Theatre: acting, dance and music, and use correct terminology and vocabulary in written and oral discussion.
- Students will achieve understanding of the historical, creative, artistic, and aesthetic aspects of musical theatre.
- Students will gain knowledge and understanding of the social and cultural impact of the arts on society and culture.
- Students will achieve a professional and personal understanding of the arts through rehearsals, auditions, performances, and presentations.

## **Class Expectations:**

Students are expected to practice the following qualities at all times:

Respect for others on and off the stage

100% participation at the appropriate times

Remaining on task during independent and group work without constant supervision

Maintain a positive attitude

Come to class prepared to work, listen, and learn, with all appropriate materials.

Avoid interrupting the class or others with inappropriate talking or talking out of turn

Listen to and follow directions given to you by your instructors

Your contributions to the positive learning environment aid in your learning as well as the learning of the entire class. This includes staying attentive to class activities as well as fully participating in all activities.

**Guest Artists:** We often ask professionals in our area to come to work with you so that you benefit from their expertise and experience. You are expected to show total respect and willingness to learn from their experiences. You are also expected to know the information that they are bringing to you. You will want to take notes on this information, as it will be included on tests.

## **Classroom Procedures:**

You are expected to know the week's schedule and to be prepared for classes. Schedules will be on teacher's websites as well as on the white board in the classroom. The following procedures and expectations are to help you to know what to expect for each teacher's class:

**Dance:** have all of your clothing available Monday of each week as there will be weekly dance class. You will also need your clothing and shoes for rehearsals and guest artist classes.

**All dance clothes and shoes must be marked with your name or initials and Musical Theatre level in permanent marker.**

- You have 5 minutes from the tardy bell to be dressed and in the dance studio. Points will be deducted for being late. Points will also be deducted for inappropriate dancewear.

- Absolutely no jewelry, except small earrings. No head wraps, hats, scarves or bandanas, etc., allowed.
- It is vital that students do not miss dance class since dance classes cannot be made up.

**Music:** Students will keep all music in a binder. Music should always be brought to school or kept in the locker, available every day.

- Homework should be turned in according to the procedures for each upon entering the classroom on the day it is due. It is the student's responsibility to turn in homework without reminders.
- Students are required to always have a pencil with eraser as well as their laptop computer for class.

### Grading:

\*From the CFA student handbook: "You have been chosen for a Specialty Center! We expect you to excel in your CFA classes. A CFA grade below a B will initiate a conversation about your commitment and dedication to your achievement in the arts. A grade point average (GPA) is calculated only on classes that students are enrolled in each grading period. **The minimum GPA expectation for all students is 2.7.** ...It is imperative that students and parents understand the importance of academic and artistic achievement."

- **Tests/Performances/Major Assignments/Paper and or Projects 40%** Tests will be given in a variety of formats and may include performances, presentations, standard written tests, demonstrations, etc.
- **Quizzes/Homework 30%** Quizzes will be given in variety of formats, some announced, some not! Late homework assignments will lose 10 grade points per day.
- **Class Participation 20%** Class preparedness and attitude will factor into the class participation grade along with compliance with the classroom rules and procedures. Come ready to work!
- **Performance Reviews 10%** Each student is required to see one theatrical production (musical or play) each grading period and turn in a theatre log along with a ticket stub or program. The theatre log has a format that must be followed and failure to follow the format or proofread for spelling and grammatical errors will result in a reduced grade. Students will be given a list of professional and community performances in the Richmond area; however, they may see productions outside of Richmond. You may not review a production that you are in or the following types of performances: dance concerts, talent shows, pageants or music concerts. Performance reviews must be turned in no later than **TWO WEEKS** after seeing the performance, and will not be accepted after the following dates for each grading period: MP 1 – Nov. 2, MP 2 – January 18, MP 3 – March 22 and MP 4 – June 3. Performance reviews may be turned in on paper and dropped into Schoology; *please tell Mr. Day if you are turning your performance review in to Schoology!* **Please note: if your GPA at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period is 3.0 or above, you will be exempt from writing your marking period 4 theatre log!!**
- **Extra help is available!** Your musical theatre teachers are available for extra help by appointment. We want to help you succeed!

**Attendance:** Attendance in school is the most important factor in school success! Always bring a note to the attendance office to explain your absence. **Without the excused absence note, you will not be allowed to make up work and will receive a 0 for work missed, including class participation, quizzes and tests. It is your responsibility to ask about what you missed in class and how it may be made up.** Tests and quizzes must be made up within three days of returning to school after an excused absence. Refer to the CFA Student Handbook for additional information regarding attendance.

**Rehearsals and Performances are part of the curriculum, and therefore are mandatory, and graded.** While we encourage you to take an active role in your artistic education by participating in as many aspects of theatre, dance, music, or other aspects of our craft, it is imperative that you look at all possible conflicts well in advance of your Musical Theatre rehearsals and performances to avoid missing rehearsals or performances, thus receiving zero test grades for these absences. You may report emergencies by calling the CFA Office at 804-228-2718 and leaving a message if you cannot speak directly to Mr. Day.

### **Housekeeping:**

**Lockers:** You will be assigned a locker – and given the combination to the lock. Please keep your locker number and combination where you can find them; teachers should not have to remind you of your locker number and combination on an ongoing basis. You may keep all your school supplies in this locker, but you **MAY NOT SHARE THIS LOCKER WITH ANYONE ELSE.** **Do not store your personal belongings in the dressing room, classroom, hallway, backstage or anywhere else. Items get lost when they are kept in these public areas, and your Musical Theatre materials, especially dance clothing and shoes, are expensive to replace.**

**Backstage:** This is an extension of our classroom – and we are responsible for taking care of it as well as sharing it with all others in the school. It is the utmost importance to look after yourself and your belongings, and to practice safety whenever on stage. You will be taught stage safety and be expected to practice proper decorum at all times. You should never be on the stage, in the auditorium, or in the Musical Theatre classroom without a staff member present. Wait in the hallway until a teacher arrives for class, rehearsal or performance.

**Dressing rooms:** Food and drinks are never allowed around costumes, and are not allowed in the dressing rooms. Keep the room clean and neat at all times. Items left in the dressing rooms can and will be disposed of if not claimed in a timely manner.

**A note:** Deodorant, Perfume, and Hairspray: Have deodorant on hand and use it. Do not spray perfume in the bathroom, dressing room, or classroom spaces. Be careful using hairspray around others who may be sensitive to it.

**Dance Class Needs: Purchase these over the summer and have them ready week 1.**

Girls:

1. Shoes:

- A. Black character shoes (1-1/2" or 2" heel (Not 1-inch), ankle-strap style)
  - B. Black jazz shoes (non-high top, traditional or sneaker style)
  - C. Black tap shoes (Oxford-style, low heel)
2. Attire:
- A. Black jazz pants (NOT sweatpants, capris or leggings, non-drawstring, non-lycra (no tight, shiny fabric))
  - B. Leotard/Fitness Top/Non-oversize T-shirt

Boys:

1. Shoes:
- A. Black jazz shoes (non-high top; traditional or sneaker style)
  - B. Black tap shoes (Oxford-style, low heel)
2. Attire:
- A. Black jazz pants (NOT sweatpants, non-drawstring, non-lycra (no tight, shiny fabric))
  - B. School-appropriate T-shirt, not oversized; must fit snugly

\*\* No jewelry (except small stud earrings)

\*\* Hair must be pulled back away from face (use elastics or barrettes; no scarves or hats)

\*\* Dance items may be purchased at Ellman's (19 S Belmont Ave, Richmond, VA 23221), or online at [www.dancedistributors.com](http://www.dancedistributors.com) or [www.discountdance.com](http://www.discountdance.com).

**Dance clothes and shoes are due to class on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of school, September 10, 2018. Secure all these items in the summer.**

**CENTER FOR THE ARTS - MUSICAL THEATRE**  
**SUMMER ASSIGNMENT 2018**



## Level III: Summer Assignment

**We will begin hearing selections on the second day of class**

### **Prepare an audition:**

1. Choose a monologue. The monologues must be at least one minute in length. You will need to source the monologue, print off two copies and bring in to class. Monologues can be found online or at the public libraries. Your monologue must be from a play or musical. Be prepared to present the following about the play:
  - A. Who is the playwright? What year was the play written?
  - B. What is the plot of the play?
  - C. Which character says the monologue?
  - D. What happens before and after the monologue in the action of the play?
  
2. Research a musical and present a one-minute audition song **with recorded accompaniment** (you may use your Anthology CD or a soundtrack. There will not be a pianist available for these presentations as there wasn't one when you were learning the song during the summer.
  
3. You should be prepared to present the following about the musical:
  - A. Who are the composer, lyricist and librettist? What year was the musical written?
  - B. What is the plot of the musical?
  - C. Which character sings the song?
  - D. What is happening in the plot when this song occurs?
  
4. For the class presentation during the first week of classes, be prepared to present your audition:
  - A. Wear appropriate audition attire (A pulled-together look, nice pants and top/skirt or dress, character shoes, dress shoes or other non-athletic footwear – no flip flops!)

- B. Slate: your name, title of play your monologue comes from, title of song and title of musical your song comes from
- C. Perform: Confidently present your song and monologue as if you were auditioning for a role in a musical or for a place in a college or university theatre/musical theatre program.

**WARNING:** Give yourself adequate time to choose and prepare your material. Have fun, prepare well and enjoy a wonderful summer!! Do not wait until the weekend before school starts to prepare these assignments. You will not be prepared.

**Class MATERIALS LIST:**

- I. **Level 3** will be required to purchase individual songs from [www.musicnotes.com](http://www.musicnotes.com) throughout the year in lieu of the upfront Music Theatre Anthology book. Establish an account with musicnotes.com.
- II. Other resources can often be found in the collection in the Musical Theater classroom. Also, **bring your** Level 1 and 2 Anthologies and have those in your locker for use in class upon occasion.

**Classwork Materials:**

1. New, sturdy 1 inch 3-ring binder for sheet music.
2. Separate notebook for note-taking paper and pockets for keeping handouts
3. Laptop computer
4. Pencils and pens
5. Clothing for movement (daily class will include movement exercises; avoid wearing clothing that hinders your movement (ex: clothes that are very short or tight). Please keep extra movement clothes (t-shirts, sweatpants, sneakers, etc.) in your locker!

Water bottle! (Performers must stay hydrated!)

I have read and understand and will honor the entirety of the Musical Theater class syllabus.

<b>Classwork materials are due on 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of class, September 10, 2018</b>
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Syllabus Signature Page



**Please sign and return to your Musical Theater Teacher  
by Friday, September 7, 2018**

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature