

Fundamentals of Theatre



Teacher: Ms. Paley

Room: 267

Robyn_L_Paley@mcpsmd.org

(301) 929-2282 x 1088

Course Description: This course is the second of three courses in the Theatre program at A. Mario Loiederman Middle School for the Creative and Performing Arts. The focus is on improvisation, acting, monologue work, scene study and performance, directing and technical theater.

What to Expect in Ms. Paley's Class:

1. Attitude is important. As the Emcee proclaims in *Cabaret*, "Leave your troubles outside!" Respect is really important in the theatre classroom. Everyone is expected to listen to one another and there is absolutely no name-calling!
2. Wear comfortable clothing! Students sit on the ground and perform other tasks that may be difficult when wearing certain garments. It is important to dress appropriately for theatre class.
3. Each student is responsible for work that he/she misses when absent. Questions about an assignment should be directed to the teacher. This course primarily involves participation and performance. Excessive unexcused absences will affect a student's grade.
4. Extra help is available before and after school. Please schedule an appointment for extra help before or after class. Parents and students are encouraged to email or call.

Assessment Plan: Assignments are categorized as Summative (30%), Formative (65%), or Homework (5%).

Assignments and Assessments Include:

- "Checking Your Knowledge" assignments
- Journal writing and reflections
- Improvisation/In-class performance
- Monologue and scene work
- Written character work
- Theatre critiques
- Technical theatre assignments

Due Date/Deadline Policy: The due date is the date the teacher expects the student to submit an assignment. Work turned in after the due date but before the *deadline* is subject to drop a letter grade. Unless otherwise noted, late work must be turned in no later than the deadline. Late work submitted after this deadline will not receive a grade.

Make-up work: Work can be made up only if the absence is excused. Per county policy, a note must be presented to the attendance office within three days in order for the absence to be excused. Students will be given the same number of class periods missed, plus one, to make up work. For example, an absence of three class periods means that a student would be given four class periods to make up work.

Reassessment and Re-Teaching Policy: Students will have the opportunity to retake any formative assessment for which they have completed the previously required tasks. Summative assessments are not eligible for reassessment.