

August 14, 2017

Dear Silverado Theatre Parents:

Welcome to Stagehawk Theatre! Open and clear communication is very important to me. Therefore, I would appreciate it if you would please read over this Theatre handbook, which includes a schedule of important events, class expectations, grading procedures, participation standards, and contracts that explain the rules and regulations of participating in after-school hours, Theatre events and productions. This handbook covers the overall expectations for Theatre I, II, III, IV, Theatre Technology I, II, III, Advanced Studies Theatre Technology and Playwriting 1. Some pages are class specific and labeled.

There is a tremendous amount of work in such a program as this, especially if we are to maintain the high caliber of theatre with which we began. If you are willing to help in any manner, please consider marking the form at the end of this handbook accordingly. I don't promise that you will be called upon to sacrifice your time, because it even takes time to organize volunteers! Nonetheless, it is a comfort to know that we have a few extra hands available at times.

Please review this handbook with your son/daughter and complete the forms included throughout the packet. Although it is not necessary to print the entire handbook, the last few pages need to be filled out and signed. Please have your son/daughter return them to me immediately. Any student who has not returned a signed form will be ineligible for extra credit points, field trips, etc.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to contact me directly at 799-5790, X4097. If I don't answer, please leave a message on my voice mail with you name, the student's name and a time and number where you can be reached. I will return your call within 24-48 hours. Another option is to e-mail me at school at: [straiam@nv.ccsd.net](mailto:straiam@nv.ccsd.net). Email is usually responded to within 24 hours. We also will utilize different communication and information dispersing opportunities to find the one that works best for the program and the students.

Thank you sincerely for your prompt attention to this handbook as I know it is lengthy and detailed. Please return all signed documents with your student by September 1, 2017. I look forward to a wonderful school year!

Respectfully,

Alan Strait  
Theatre Director

**THEATRE/TECHNICAL THEATRE STUDENT HANDBOOK AND COURSE EXPECTATIONS**  
**GRADING PROCEDURES –ALL THEATRE/TECH CLASSES**

**WRITTEN WORK:**

Students should be proficient in grammar and spelling. All pre-assigned papers are required to be typed using 12pt. font and double-spaced. Handwritten work is to be legible. Assignments that are not typed, when required, will have points deducted from them. All homework assignments are to be typed.

**GROUP WORK:**

Theatre takes a close look at human relationships and behavior. One of the by-products of this course is mastering the skills of interpersonal communication, cooperation, understanding, patience, tolerance, and acceptance. Group work and teamwork is an integral part of theatre arts. Students will often be assigned random partners to work with that they will not choose. Students will receive both objective and subjective grades, as well as group and individual grades.

**PARTICIPATION POINTS:**

Many assignments in theatre are graded solely based on participation during class time. Each student will lose points based on tardiness, absences, not volunteering in class, and lack of preparation.

**LATE WORK:**

All late work/performances will have a grade deduction in accordance with the SCPCTHS late work policy:

If an assignment is one day late, the grade will be reduced by 25%

If an assignment is two days late, the grade will be reduced by 50%

If an assignment is three days late, the grade will be reduced by 75%

If an assignment is four days late, the assignment will not be accepted.

In the case of absence the assignment is due immediately upon return if it was assigned previously. Semester Exam projects are due on their assigned date regardless of absence.

**\*\*\*LATE PERFORMANCE GRADES ARE RETROACTIVE TO THE DAY THE PERFORMANCE WAS DUE, NOT THE DAY THE STUDENT WAS CALLED ON TO PERFORM.**

**MAKE-UP WORK:**

Students have 3 days to make contact with the instructor for make up work. Students will be given the opportunity to make up for lost participation points on an individual basis. Students failing to attend a required performance will not be allowed to make up the points without prior approval. Opportunities may include volunteering to usher, working in the tech shop, or attending outside performances, etc...

**SUBJECTIVE GRADING:**

Performances and projects are graded subjectively. Critique sheets will reflect a series of elements to be evaluated by a specific point system. Whenever possible, we will discuss the elements and point break down prior to a performance.

**CITIZENSHIP:** Students begin each quarter with perfect citizenship at 100 points.

<u>Points are deducted as follows:</u>	<u>Grades are as follows:</u>	<u>Codes:</u>
Unexcused Absence = -5	90 and above = A	O = Outstanding
Tardy = -5	80 – 89 = B	S = Satisfactory
Detention = -5	70 – 79 = C	N = Needs Improvement
Referral = -10 to 20	60 – 69 = D	U = Unsatisfactory
	Below 60 = F	

**GRADE CALCULATIONS:**

Participation=20% of grade. Involvement in daily warm ups and class activities.

Formative=40% of grade. Journals, writing exercises and rehearsals.

Summative=40% of grade. Performances, major writings and projects.

**SEMESTER EXAMS** will be worth 20% of your overall semester grade.

**THEATRE ETIQUETTE, POLICIES AND RULES**

1. ***Always be prepared.*** Have with you at all times your SCPCTHS Agenda (Theatre Notebook, paper, writing utensils, scripts, handouts, highlighters, whiteout, etc.) Be ready to perform on the date assigned. Please turn in written work that has been completed with pride—neatness counts! Continual lack of preparation may result in the poor participation points.
2. ***Remain with the class at all times.*** The restrooms located in the dressing rooms and lobby are **not for student use**. They are strictly for productions. No student is allowed to stray into the dressing rooms, backstage areas, lobby, tech shop, tech booth or theatre office etc., without permission. Students loitering in these areas will be referred to the Dean.

3. **Help to keep the theatre clean.** Food and/or drink are strictly prohibited. Gum is not allowed in the theater. Students who chew gum while performing will receive a 50% grade deduction on the first infraction, will receive a grade of “zero” on the second infraction. Students violating this rule will also receive disciplinary action and loss of participation points.

Please do not bring valuables with you to class, as activities will often require students to leave their personal belongings unsupervised, and SCPCTHS is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Please be sure to take all of your belongings with you at the end of class. **Nothing may be stored in the dressing rooms at anytime! You must use your school locker.** This includes any props/costumes/furniture used in scenes, shoes, socks, articles of clothing, trash, iPods and materials for other classes. Items left in the classroom/dressing room are done at your own risk.

In addition, please do not touch anything that doesn't belong to you without permission. Prior approval is necessary before using any SCPCTHS property. This includes the computers and music players! Also, please make sure that the room is in order at the end of the period, replacing any tables/chairs, music players, depositing trash, etc. **Any items left may become the property of SCPCTHS Theatre Dept., taken to lost and found or may be thrown away!**

4. **Do not use the theatre as a shortcut to other classes.** Please enter and leave the classroom through the door to 400's hallway, unless there is a sign on the door directing you to go somewhere else. Do not ask to be in the theatre area during any time other than your scheduled class time. Attend your regularly scheduled classes.
5. **Please follow the dress code/nuisance items policy as outlined in your student handbook.** Violation of the dress code will result in being sent to the Dean's office. Don't expect visible electronic devices (iPods, Cell Phones, Games, etc...) to be ignored when you are not authorized to use them.. They, too, will be immediately confiscated and delivered to the dean's office.
6. **Fund-raising activities must NOT interfere with class.** Although fundraising is allowed between classes, sale items MUST BE out of sight during the class period.
7. **Appropriate classroom conduct is a must in this program.** Sensitivity toward—and understanding of—other human beings are all part of this discipline. Inappropriate language, conversation, or actions will not be tolerated. Although this is a creative environment, it is necessary to maintain order; thus, traditional classroom protocol is practiced (raising hands before speaking, staying in seat during discussions, etc.).
8. **All material must be edited for appropriateness.** Any questionable cuttings must be approved prior to presentation. Students involved in any SCPCTHS theatre activity or class shall maintain conversation and behavior pursuant of CCSD Regulation #6130, Section II:

*Profanity, inappropriate dress, or any action promoting the acceptability of alcohol, drugs, immoral conduct, or any language that might be interpreted as degrading shall be prohibited.*

9. **ABSENCES:** (See “Grading Procedures”)

Find a buddy with whom you can trade phone numbers, since you are responsible for all work and information missed. If you know that you will be absent and your scene partner is depending on you, you should call 799-5790, ext. 4097, and leave a message. If you miss a performance, it is up to you to reschedule with the teacher. You may not make up pop quizzes, as they document attendance.

Previously assigned work is homework or class work that was assigned prior to an absence. Barring extreme circumstances, previously assigned work is due the day you return from your absence. YOU are responsible for turning the work in to the teacher without being asked for it. After any absence, you are required to initiate contact with the teacher to obtain appropriate makeup work within 3 school days immediately following the absence. Once the contact has been made, specific makeup work must be completed and returned to the teacher within a reasonable length of time, to be determined by the teacher. This makeup work must be

returned to the teacher by the specified due date if it is to be acknowledged. You shall have at least three days to complete the work.

If you are absent on the day of a previously announced major quiz, performance or test, you must be prepared to take the missed test or quiz or perform immediately upon return. If the quiz/test cannot be made up during class time, you will be given 3 days to schedule a time to make up the exam.

In order to be eligible to participate in after-school productions, students must attend classes for at least 2 periods during the day (except in the instance of a school-approved activity absence). Students who miss more than 2 classes must seek administrative approval for participation.

10. **TARDIES:** (See “Grading Procedures”) You will be marked tardy if you are not seated in your assigned seat when the tardy bell finishes ringing. NO EXCEPTIONS! Tardiness is often disruptive. Please enter quietly. If a performance is in progress, please stand quietly by the classroom door until the performance is finished.
11. **All criticism must be phrased positively.** The studies of drama and stagecraft and the discipline of acting are easier when we work together, building up one another, as opposed to insensitively destroying fellow classmates. Students who continuously violate this will not be allowed to participate during the feedback period after a performance.
12. **We will follow the school-wide discipline policy in all areas.** Violation of any of the class rules may result in parent contact, detention, and/or dean’s referral. Please do not waste our valuable class time by ignoring school policies.
13. **Guest speakers and guest teachers will be treated with respect.** You are to treat any guests of the school and/or theatre as you would any administrator or teacher. You represent our class and school with your attitude and manner. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.
14. **Theatre Etiquette is to be followed during any performance.** Show respect and courtesy to your fellow classmates during class performances and school performances by paying attention and remaining quiet. Set a good example for others to follow.

## **MANDATORY ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION**

### **SCPCTHS PRODUCTIONS:**

All students enrolled in a theatre course are required to see all Theatre Department Mainstage Productions. Students are required to write a one page critique (TYPED and double-spaced) for a grade. This paper will be due the Wednesday or Thursday following the performance weekend. The dates of all performances are released well in advance of a production so it is the student’s responsibility to arrange their schedule in order to see the show or to make other arrangements. Should a student be unable to afford a ticket to the show, arrangements need to be made at least **ONE week prior** to attend a dress rehearsal or usher a performance. Students with an emergency must provide documentation in order to receive a make-up assignment. Non-typed critiques WILL NOT be accepted.

One-act Gallery Productions are additional, though not required assignments. One Mainstage may be replaced by a Gallery throughout the year.

### **NEVADA THESPIAN CONFERENCES:**

All Theatre II, III and IV students are required to participate in the Nevada Thespian Regional Conference, all Theatre students are eligible to compete in the Regional Conference. Officers and techs are encouraged to attend the Leadership Technical Conference. All students are encouraged to attend the State Conference.

## **DRAMA CLUB/THESPIANS**

All students are encouraged participate in the Thespian Meetings. Meetings will be weekly on Thursdays from 1:30-2:30. Silverado is troupe 5489.

## **AUDITIONS:**

**Auditions are subjective.** No student will be pre-cast in a production. The Mainstage plays are cast by the Theatre Director. The Student Directed One-Acts are cast by student directors. The musical is cast by the Theatre Director, Choir Director and other members of the Production Team. Students who do not show up to audition on the pre-posted audition date will not be allowed to make up their audition and will forfeit the opportunity to participate in the production as a performer.

## **FIELD TRIPS**

Students may have the opportunity to travel with the Theatre Department. Students must meet the prerequisites for each field trip. This may include grade level, GPA and performance ratings. Only students enrolled in a Theatre class or given special permission may travel with the Theatre Dept. Field trips may be added throughout the course of the year, so stay tuned for further developments. All students are required to fill out a field trip/private car permit and medical form for Thespian Conferences at the beginning of the year to be retained on file. No student will be taken on a field trip without prior announcement.

## **TECHNICAL THEATRE DRESS:**

All students serving as technicians for a production/concert must wear all black clothing that fits Silverado dress code and technician requirements.

## **TECHNICAL THEATRE HOURS:**

Students enrolled in Technical Theatre II, III, and APS class are required to work theatre productions and events outside of class. A rehearsal schedule will be given to them in advance in order to adjust their schedules. Saturday tech calls are not unusual and students should be prepared to work most Saturdays especially close to the major shows.

**USHER DRESS and DUTIES:** Students who have trouble paying for tickets or wish to volunteers may sign up to be Ushers. Ushers must show up at least 45 minutes prior to curtain going up and will stay about 15 minutes after the curtain closes. Ushers will help take tickets, hand out programs and other duties designated by the house manager. Ushers must be in semi to full formal attire. They represent the program and must be dressed to represent the program well. No clothing outside of CCSD dress code is accepted. Students who are not dressed respectively will be asked to either leave or pay the price of admission and removed from Usher duty.

## **PERFORMANCE/REHEARSAL CONFLICTS**

In the case of a mandatory performance/rehearsal conflicting with another SCPCTHS activity, students will need to make arrangements with the director four weeks in advance. Every effort will be made to accommodate both activities. Students having to miss all or part of a mandatory performance or rehearsal will be given the opportunity to make up those missed points by completing research paper assignment. The topic will be theatre related and will be assigned by the Instructor. The length of the paper will be determined by the amount of points the student will miss. Students who do not arrange for this in advance will not have the opportunity to make up the lost points.

## **PLANNERS**

Students must have a planner to use as a hall pass. Planners are \$5 if lost.

## **THEATRE WEBSITE/CLASSROOM BOARD**

Students are responsible for checking the website/class board for any missing paperwork, updates and announcements. The calendar online is kept up to date with standard assignments. Students are responsible for keeping a planner of all due dates via the website and the classroom board.

## AUDITIONING FOR AND CASTING OF PRODUCTIONS

Auditioning for a show is the most difficult part of the casting process. Auditions are subjective. What one director may like, another may not. The ultimate goal in casting a show is providing the best overall cast for the show to be successful. Students can assure themselves a more successful audition by following the directions on the audition notice and being prepared. *For example if the show asks for a contemporary monologue for auditions, students should not perform a classical monologue.* Factors that may affect casting include a person's personality, demeanor, history, experience, social skills and seniority. Students must realize that past infractions can hurt their chances in the casting process as well as students with poor grades and poor attendance. Students who have shown a lack of dedication and responsibility must face the same realization. *For example if a student has dropped out or has been released from a past production it may affect the director's opinion of their reliability.* Students and parents must also realize the ability to work and blend as an ensemble is an extremely valuable consideration in the casting process. Students must understand that auditioning allows the director(s) to place students in the part that is most compatible to the rest of the ensemble and skill of the student.

When casting for any type of production, one must look at everything concerning the production such as the music (if applicable), character types, number of cast members possible, and genre. Casting is subjective and based on the overall vision of the directors. Their professional experience and training allow them to make decisions that may impact a student based on subjective material. Casting a show is much like baking a cake. One must have the proper ingredients that work together and blend. Casts overall compliment the integrity of the show. *For example if we were to cast Jack and the Beanstalk, one would cast the Giant larger than Jack.*

Students should be aware of the type of characters they can portray and what abilities they have. Every actor/actress cannot fit every part. Some will have the wrong look, voice, or height for example. Others may look too young or too old for a part. *For example a person who is extremely tall would not be cast a young child.* Some may not have the right singing voice. Some actors may not blend well into the rest of cast vocally. *For example a person with an Ethel Merman type, brash voice would not be cast in a role like Louisa from The Fantasticks.* The number of students auditioning for a production is also a factor in casting. *For example if 75 people audition for a show that only has a cast of 25, they only have a 1 in 3 chance of getting cast.* In this case several students may fit roles and directors must narrow down the cast by selecting those who best blend together vocally and visually, including the playwright's intent for the specific character's appearance. Many times directors must refer back to experience and seniority if two students are evenly matched. Many times the Director(s) will call students back to see them perform again and narrow parts down. If a student is not called back, it does not mean they are not being considered for a part. Many times females have more competition for roles as there are normally more females than males who audition. Overall the director(s) will cast what they feel will make the production the most successful.

### **Full Season Calendar (Subject to Minor Changes)**

August 23 and 25: Auditions and Callbacks for 1984, On The Verge

**September 22: Southern Nevada Leadership Conference at Liberty High School**

**September 23: Southern Nevada Technical Conference at Liberty High School**

September 28-30: Utah Shakespeare Festival Fieldtrip

October 19-21: 1984 and On the Verge Blackbox Shows

November 8-9: Hamlet Class Project Performances

December 12: Silverado Showcase

January 25-27: Southern Nevada Regional Conference at Silverado High School

February 22-24: Big Fish Department Musical

**March 7-11: Nevada Thespian State Conference at Arbor View High School**

April 26-28: Student Directed One Acts

June 19-25 International Thespian Festival in Lincoln, Nebraska.

## Audience Etiquette

Because our culture has rapidly moved from the art of live performance into the television and film industry, certain behavioral standards have been lost. The longer I direct plays, the more I realize a desperate need to educate the public on “audience etiquette.”

Participating as an audience member in live theatre is a communal act in which the actors, technical crews, and audience share in the performance. Because it is a living art, the audience needs to respond differently than it might to film or TV. A noisy, insensitive audience can destroy the concentration of the performers and frustrate audience members who want to concentrate on the action. Students are required to see the Theatre productions so here are a few guidelines to help you to have a productive part in the audience:

- **Dress for the occasion.** Attending a live performance is often a special occasion. It costs money and takes special plans. Dress up to celebrate the event!
- **Be prompt.** Give yourself plenty of time to arrive at the theatre and be seated. If the performance has already started, most theatres (all Union theatres) will wait to seat you until intermission. We try to follow this policy, because in many productions, cast members are making an entrance from the aisles in the auditorium. An unsuspecting audience member who enters late poses a danger to himself and to our cast members. Also, you’ll want to give yourself time to review the program before the performance starts.
- **Purchase tickets in advance.** For many of our productions tickets are available in advance. Purchasing tickets in advance prevents you from having to wait in line and possibly being late going into the performance.
- **Be considerate.** If you have to pass in front of people in your row to get to your seat, politely and quietly excuse yourself, and proceed slowly with as little disturbance as possible.
- **Respect property.** Don’t spread out your hat, coats, umbrellas, or other personal belongings on the seats around you even if they are empty. All hats should be removed when entering the theatre. NEVER put your feet on the seat ahead of you . . . especially if it is occupied.
- **NO FOOD/BEVERAGES/GUM!!!** We understand many hotels/casinos/theatres allow this. WE DO NOT. Please consume all food and beverages in the lobby so we don’t have spills or attract pests in the Theatre.
- **Keep quiet.** Coughing, whispering, or unwrapping gum or candy (WHICH IS PROHIBITED IN Silverado’s Theatre) will disturb other audience members and the actors. Turn off the beeper on your watch or pager and the ringer on your cell phone. Do not text message or play video games which are distracting to other audience members and to the cast and crew. Don’t comment on the performance at the show; you’ll have plenty of time later to discuss the show. Make sure young children are looked after and not wandering out into the aisles or on the stairs where they could be hurt.
- **Participate!** Bring your active listening and imagination skills to the performance. Let your emotions respond to the message and environment of the theatre.
- **Refrain from flash photography & videotaping!** The sudden flash distracts not only the audience, but the actors as well. Although they are accustomed to the bright lights, certain flashes can prove to be disconcerting and even dangerous. In addition, many license agreements prohibit photographing or taping any part of the production.
- **STAY!** Stay and enjoy the entire play. Don’t leave once the play has begun, except in the case of an emergency.
- **Appreciate.** Applaud at the beginning of the production if the setting is especially pleasing, at the end of a solo performance, and at the end of an act. Give a standing ovation only to the truly extraordinary performances.
- **Reward talent.** Keep in mind that although we try to make our productions as professional as possible, we are still an amateur organization. However, if you want to recognize the contributions of a cast or production crew member, arrange to send flowers or a card backstage. Don’t go there yourself, and don’t present them onstage.
- **Leave responsibly.** Take all of your belongings with you, including programs. Don’t leave trash in your area. Also, please leave the facility in a timely manner. If you are providing transportation to a cast or crew member, make prior arrangements for a meeting place outside the building.
- **Spread the word.** If you have enjoyed a performance, share the good news with others. The recommendation of a friend or acquaintance can bring greater numbers of people to the theatre.

# International Thespian Society

The International Thespian Society (ITS) is the primary organization to honor secondary students for their outstanding work in Theatre. Thespian membership is granted for the performance of meritorious work in Theatre Arts which meets the Society's general guidelines. Specifically students become members by earning points for their work. Any student who has participated in at least two productions for a total of 100 hours of work is eligible for Thespian Society membership.

The following are general guidelines on the awarding of points:

- One point represents approximately 10 hours of excellent work.
- To attain Thespian Membership, a student must earn 10 points, 5 of which must be acquired at the school where he or she is to be inducted.
- Thespian membership will be awarded on a democratic basis to all students who qualify according to the requirements of the point system. No student will be elected into the Society. No student will be denied membership if they have accumulated the required points and has fulfilled all membership requirements.
- A student must participate in at least 2 full-length productions, or one full-length and two one-acts, or four one-acts. Participation should be in two of the listed categories, for example, acting and production.
- Students may earn up to 5 points toward membership through participation at the middle school level, in community, children's or professional theatre, or in other activities in the performing arts.

After Thespians have attained membership, further recognition for their outstanding work in theatre arts may be awarded in the form of honors, cords, and letters. Coronado students should keep their points updated throughout high school in order to be eligible. Students will be given a date approximately 1 month before Theatre Awards Night to have their points updated by. Students failing to do so will forfeit being eligible for cords and honors as they will not have been ordered. Students who are not members of ITS cannot receive cords and honors to wear at graduation. Cords are awarded to students who have earned them, letters and other honors items will be available for purchase based on the EDTA costs.

Being a member of ITS allows students to be eligible for certain scholarships and auditions. The cost to become a member is currently \$30, some of which is used to help pay for Thespian Honors. It includes membership, membership card, and a 1 year subscription to *Dramatics* magazine. Membership drive will begin in March in order to be prepared for inductions in May. It is the student's responsibility to inquire about eligibility and fill out their point sheet. Students who do not turn in their point sheets and membership fee on time will need to be inducted the following year.

Silverado High School is International Thespian Troupe 5489.

# CLASS ASSIGNMENTS/EQUIPMENT

\*\*\*All students should have a notebook or 3 ring binder solely dedicated to Theatre that can be left without consequence to another class.

Every theatre student is required to turn in the following paperwork throughout the year: Notebook, Character Analysis, Play Reviews, and PSO's.

**Notebook Checks:** The requirements for the Theatre Notebook are on the following page. Students are required bring their notebook to class daily. Notebooks are checked approximately every 10 entries.

**Character Analysis:** 2 days prior to every class performance, students are required to turn in a character analysis based on the character they are portraying unless otherwise noted. Students should have read the play their character came from to determine the character's personality and background.

**SSR (Sustained Silent Reading)** All Theatre II, III, IV students will be required to bring their current PSO plays to class and read in class. There will be periodic play checks in class.

**Play Reviews:** As stated earlier, all students are required to attend all SCPCTHS Theatre productions and write a play critique. I have included the proper way to write a play critique.

**Plot Structure Outlines/PSO's:** As part of their curriculum, students are required to explore different types of plays and authors. Each Theatre level has been assigned a certain amount of plays to be read each quarter. The list is found in this handbook. Students are required to read certain authors to fulfill different time periods, styles, and genres. Authors must be read in the order they are written. Students must not use Sparknotes.com.

**Performances:** Students will perform in class several times throughout the year. All performances need to be memorized and from a published play. Performances are a mandatory part of class. Students should not use the internet to find performance pieces. They should also not use monologue/scene books with unpublished or original work.

**Musical Performances:** All musical theatre performances must have back tracks or karaoke tracks and must be memorized. Students may not sing over vocals. Students will only be allowed to use ipods/iphones/smart phones during musical theatre performances. Students are responsible for making sure their device is capable with the music players or should provide their own. Students are also responsible for making sure their CD's work prior to the day of the performance. Missing or defective music will not excuse a late grade.



## **NOTEBOOK REQUIREMENTS**

### **Students are required to have their notebook daily!**

#### **Theatre I/Theatre Technology I**

Students must maintain a spiral notebook (separate from other classes) for Theatre vocabulary. It must be separate to allow for leaving the notebook in class.

Students are required to write down:

1. the daily objective
2. vocabulary word and definition
3. 3 sentences that use the word

Each entry is worth a total of 10 points. Notebooks are checked every ten entries for a 100 point grade.

#### **Theatre II/Theatre Technology II/Musical Theatre II**

Students must keep a three ring binder for Theatre with dividers.

Dividers should be for graded papers, copies of performances, handouts and daily journal.

Every day the student should write down the daily objective and a daily goal/observation for class. There will be occasional vocabulary word and you should follow the above directions for Theatre/Tech I. The goal/observation must be no less than 3 sentences.

Each entry is worth a total of 10 points. Notebooks are checked every ten entries for a 100 point grade. An additional 50 points are given for dividers, organization and for keeping it current.

#### **Theatre III/IV**

Students must keep a three ring binder for Theatre with dividers.

Dividers:

1. Daily Journal (IV)
2. Current copy of SSR play
3. Graded Papers
4. Graded performances
5. Handouts/notes
6. Copies of previous performances (scenes, monologues, songs, etc...)
7. Current Resume

Daily journal should include daily objective, observations, goals or reflections for the day, and should be no less than 3 sentences. Each entry is worth a total of 10 points. Notebooks are checked every ten entries for a 100 point grade. An additional 100 points are given for dividers, organization and for keeping it current.

#### **Theatre Technology III/IV**

Students should begin to collect for a portfolio as well as maintaining a class notebook.

Students should have a three ring binder with dividers.

Dividers:

1. Daily journal
2. notes/handouts
3. graded papers and projects
4. Portfolio collection – photos, drawings, plots, etc...
5. Current Resume

Daily journal should include daily objective, observations, occasional vocabulary word, goals or reflections for the day. It should consist of no less than 3 sentences including objective.

Each entry is worth a total of 10 points. Notebooks are checked every ten entries for a 100 point grade. An additional 100 points are given for dividers, organization and for keeping it current.

Notebooks are checked every 10 entries. Students are responsible for any missed entries due to absences.

\*\*\*Students are responsible for picking up their notebooks at the end of class on the day they are graded. It is not the teacher's responsibility to keep track of the notebook once it has been graded and placed back on the table. Should the student lose their notebook, it is their responsibility to replace it.

# How to Write a Play Review



All students enrolled in a Theatre class must attend all Theatre productions and write a 1 page review. It must be typed with 12 pt font and double spaced.

**\*\*Students with 2 or fewer missing or late assignments** may turn in play reviews from other **Theatre** productions for up to 10 extra credit points each. Up to 3 per quarter.

1. Give the title, author, and type of play
2. Give the date of the production, place and name of the performing group
3. Include the program or ticket from the play

## Essay Outline

- I. Theme of play (main subject matter or message of the play)
- II. Atmosphere (Tell how it was expressed. In the scenery? Lighting? Sound effects?) Be detailed!
- III. Technical evaluations. (Did the setting, lighting, costuming, make-up, sound effects, etc... fit the play? Did they help communicate the play's message or detract from the play in some way?)
- IV. Acting Evaluation. (Were the actors convincing in their characters? Did all characters do their share, or did some detract by not doing as well as they should? What about their voices and movement? Did any of the actors underplay or overplay their parts? Were there any outstanding performances?) Be specific, give details!
- V. Direction Evaluation {Technical, Vocal, Acting, Choreography} (Did the stage stay comfortably balanced? Did all aspects of the production communicate the same idea or feeling, or were some things not harmonious? In your opinion did this production interpret the play (script) to your satisfaction? Do you think it was true to what you think the playwright had in mind when writing this play? Were any aspects of the play confusing?) Be specific, give details!
- VI. Personal Opinions. (Discuss any aspect of the play, but give reasons with specifics to justify or explain your opinions.)

Remember to keep this review positive. Explain your criticisms and give suggestions for improvement as well as noting positive moments in the production. Keep in mind cast/crew members may read these.

## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS AND ADVANCEMENT THROUGH THE PROGRAM**

### **Theatre I: Intro to Theatre**

Theatre I is an introductory course designed to give an overview of the world of theatre. Students will gain acting experience through monologues, scene work, pantomime, improvisation, classical performance, musical theatre, and play performance. Students will learn about the origins of theatre through a history unit. Students will explore their senses and emotions through class exercises. Students also keep a daily notebook for notes and new vocabulary words.

### **Theatre Technology I**

Technical theatre is an introductory course designed to teach students the production aspects of Theatre. Students will be certified in tools and safety procedures, learn basic carpentry, painting, sound engineering and light board operation. Students are required to participate as crew members for all Theatre productions. Students will also learn to run school events such as band, choir and orchestra concerts in addition to other specialized events.

### **Theatre/Theatre Technology II**

This course is a continuation of Theatre I on a more advanced and technical level. Participation in school productions, theatre competitions, and workshops is encouraged. The prerequisites for advancement into Theatre/Tech II are: “C” or better in Theatre I or equivalent experience, audition, and teacher recommendation.

### **Theatre/Theatre Technology III**

Theatre III is designed primarily for the serious theatre student who wants to continue to improve his/her performing abilities. Students will focus primarily on auditioning skills and methods of acting and directing. Participation in school productions, district competitions, and workshops is required. The prerequisites for advancement into Theatre III are: “C” or better in Theatre II or audition, and teacher recommendation.

### **Theatre/Tech IV/APS**

This course is for seniors with a high aptitude and desire for advanced training in acting techniques, acting theory, and directing. Students will be required to attend early bird or late bird one day each week; the day and time will be determined once the students are promoted. Students will focus on performance, auditioning, directing and producing. Tech students will focus on leadership and direction. Students must participate in all Coronado High School productions, theatre festivals, and workshops. The prerequisites for advancement are: “B” or better in Theatre/Tech III, audition, good attendance, interview, and teacher recommendation.

## **PLAYWRITING 1**

This year long course is designed to provide students with the skills to write scripts for the performing arts. Emphasis will be given to the process of research, analysis, interpretation, and language study which are essential to any successful script development. Recent productions of comedies, tragedies, and historical plays will be compared, analyzed, and evaluated from a playwriting perspective. This course will fulfill either the one arts/humanities credit or one of the elective credits required for graduation

## Theatre Performance Course Objectives

All students participating in a performance class will strive to be proficient in:

- Public speaking (projection, enunciation, confidence, focus)
- Memorization
- Play Structure and Analysis
- Genre types
- Audience etiquette

All students in Theatre II, III, IV will have at least one performance opportunity per semester.

Rehearsals for the performances will happen in class but the actual performance will happen outside of normal class hours. If a student is unable to perform in one of these opportunities then they must make arrangements with the teacher for an alternative assignment at least THREE weeks before the performance. These performances are done for a grade, based primarily on work in class and participation on event, not on overall rating of event score.

1<sup>st</sup> Semester: *Hamlet: The Tragedy of the Prince of Denmark*. Performances during the school day on November \_\_\_ and after school performance November 11 and 12 and

2<sup>nd</sup> Semester: Regionals at Shadow Ridge High School: Cost \$10 entry plus \$15 per individual event. A student may participate in 2 IEs and a one act, the one act is no extra cost. There is also the State Conference at Spring Valley High School March 7-11, though State is not a requirement. We will also be working on an original piece second semester.

## TECHNICAL THEATRE HOURS REQUIREMENTS

All students in Theatre Technology II-Advanced Study are expected to work a certain number of hours to apply in a functional show setting what has been learned in the classroom. How many hours is determined by the following criteria. The Tech Leader and Mr. Strait will schedule technicians in advance.

### Part A- Value of Completed Performances/Related Experiences

- |                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. A one night concert         | 1 point each                |
| 2. A special event             | 2 points each               |
| 3. One acts/Showcase events    | 3 points each               |
| 4. Full Length Shows           | 4 points each               |
| 5. Outside Theatre Experiences | TBD by a teacher conference |

### Part B- Theatre Technology Hour Requirements

- |                             |                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Theatre Technology II       | 4 points per semester  |
| Theatre Technology III      | 8 points per semester  |
| Advanced Theatre Technology | 12 points per semester |

## STUDENT/PARENT CONTRACT

*In an effort to ensure a successful production/conference experience, the Silverado High School Theatre Department needs your cooperation. Please read and sign the following to indicate you have read and understood the previous pages rules and regulations as well as this page and to ensure your level of commitment to this production/conference.*

I am fully aware and agree to support the fact that if I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
(Student name)  
am attending a conference, cast in a role, or assigned to a crew for any of the upcoming productions (including class productions), I will be responsible for attending all rehearsals assigned as well as performances, with the exception of the dates indicated on my audition form, dates pre-approved by the director, or in cases of extreme emergency- at which the student will notify the director PRIOR to the scheduled activity. The office number is 799-5790x4097. It is then up to the director's discretion to consider an absence excused or unexcused. This means that any NEW activity, including employment, will come secondary to all scheduled rehearsals and performances. Excessive absences may lead to removal from the production. Under NO circumstances will I miss a technical or dress rehearsal, or a performance. Should I do so, I realize that may reflect upon future casting and performances for the current production.

I also agree to arrange all of my own transportation. I am aware that the director will be leaving campus fifteen minutes after the conclusion of rehearsal and cannot be held responsible for students without transportation.

I also understand that this student may incur a fee for damaged SCPCTHS theatre property or rented items if it is shown that the item was damaged due to inappropriate/negligent behavior on the side of the student. For example, a student is told not to eat in their costume, but do and they get sauce on their costume and the costume is beyond repair.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I, as the parent/guardian have read and agreed to support the terms of this contract.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **PARTICIPATION IN PRODUCTIONS/WORKSHOPS/CONFERENCES**

Various productions, conferences and workshops will be available for all SCPCTHS students throughout the year. Because success in theatre demands self-discipline and an educated mind, and because any student who participates in any event represents the SCPCTHS Performing Arts Dept, the following criteria must be satisfied in order to be involved and to remain involved in a SCPCTHS production or Nevada State Thespian Conference. Please initial each of the following rules that you have read and understood it.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Each student must adhere to the attendance policy mandated in the student-parent-teacher contract, which must be signed prior to the acceptance of a position. Attendance at rehearsal is mandatory and imperative. No cast member may miss more than one unexcused rehearsal (this includes arriving late/leaving early) or two excused absences. The director will make every effort to accommodate other school related activities as much as possible. Students who are not present for at least 3 class periods may not participate in a rehearsal/performance unless they obtain approval from an administrator. It is the student's responsibility to do so.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Each student must have at least a 2.0 GPA, as well as a passing grade in every class for the current grading period. This will be verified via Infinite Campus and periodic printouts and contact with each instructor.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Each student must show leadership by displaying admirable behavior qualities – building rather than destroying cooperation and productivity. If a student's name appears on the daily addendum under any category other than "Passport," (s)he may be dismissed from the play/workshop.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Each student must strive for a sound mind and body. Therefore, the illegal use of substances, calls for immediate dismissal from the play/workshop and a Dean's Referral.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ For those advanced students who are required to participate, these rules still apply. If you are dismissed for any reason or violate rules, your grade will be adjusted accordingly. This is also for any student who quits.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Food/drink/GUM are strictly prohibited in the Theatre/Theatre Areas. This will not only aid in keeping the facility clean, but will alleviate distractions.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Transportation to and from rehearsals/conferences is the responsibility of the student. Arrangements must be made prior to the day. Failure to plan on your part does not constitute an emergency on someone else's part. A suggestion would be to offer gas money to fellow students/parents who live in your area in exchange for rides.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Your behavior in class reflects future behavior in a production, therefore students should adhere to all above the above rules at all times so as to set a good example for others and present a trustworthy, hardworking image to be admired.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Students are responsible for scripts/vocal books. Students returning the scripts/books damaged or failing to return books will be charged for them.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Students violating any of these policies risk demotion or dismissal from the production. If the production is part of a class grade, students will lose participating points.

MOVIE PERMISSION SLIP



This year in Theatre we will be studying many styles of Theatre, Performance, Film Styles and Genres. To help express these different styles, I would like to show videos and DVD's of various musicals, movies and plays. I am requesting your permission to allow me to show materials with No rating, G, and PG ratings to your student. I really feel that this will help accurately display the importance of these different styles and help your child appreciate all styles of musical performance and film genres. Please sign this form and return it with your child. If you opt to not allow your child to view these videos, I will give them an alternative assignment in the library on those days.

Thank you,

Alan Strait

-----  
Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

I give my permission for my child to view PG material in Theatre

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I **do not** give my child permission to view PG material in Theatre

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes, I have thoroughly read and fully understand the Theatre Course Handbook.**

_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>Signature of Parent</b>	Date	<b>Signature of Student</b>	Date
If your student is only in Technical Theatre or Performance Theatre write N/A in the other category.			
<b>If a student is in both, the fee will be reduced from \$40 to \$30</b>			
<b>Course Fee:</b> Performance Theatre \$20 _____		Theatre Technology \$20 _____	
Home Phone _____		Cell Phone _____	
Work Phone _____		E-mail _____	



I am interested in assisting the following areas:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Organize and arrange Guest Speakers, Field Trips, etc.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I can sew and help with making costumes!!!
- \_\_\_\_\_ Backstage assistant during productions.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I can help you build sets, paint, etc.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I can feed the cast/crew on Saturday rehearsals and extended rehearsals!
- \_\_\_\_\_ I have a truck and can transport lumber, tools, materials!
- \_\_\_\_\_ I know influential people who can give you MONEY, free tickets, donate raffle items, donate equipment, etc.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I can help publicize your show with magazines, newspapers, radios, TV.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I can help find vendors to take out advertisements in your play programs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **I can donate concessions for productions! (water, soda, candy, etc...)**
- \_\_\_\_\_ I can supervise the concession stand/box office during productions while Drama Club members work.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I wish to join the Parent Council and volunteer at events. Please mark twice if you'd like help lead the parent council.

The school's open house is September 1<sup>st</sup>. Our first parent council meeting will be on that night for about 30 minutes at the close of the evening. If you cannot attend but wish to help, please email me at [straiam@nv.ccsd.net](mailto:straiam@nv.ccsd.net)

**TECHNICAL THEATRE COURSE EXPECTATIONS AND SAFETY CONTRACT  
(In addition to the regular Theatre Course Handbook)**

- A. The use of both domestic/professional manual and power tools for the purposes of instruction and theatre set building by the participant includes, but is not limited to power drills, saws, hammers, nails, sewing machines and a hydraulic lift.
- B. The use of such domestic/professional chemicals for the purposes of instruction and theater set building by the participant includes, but is not limited to paint, glue, and paint thinner. The participant should make the instructor aware of any allergies that may be associated with such materials.
- C. The use of physical labor for the purposes of lifting and moving heavy objects by the participant includes but is not limited to flats, platforms, furniture, paint cans, lumber, tools, risers, concert shells stage weights and back drops.
- D. The operation of electronics for the purposes of instruction and performances by participants includes but is not limited to light board, spot lights, microphones, sound boards, fog machines, and portable sound equipment.
- E. Participants will be involved in activities involving the climbing of ladders and stairs as well as the use of catwalks.
- F. The use of safety equipment is mandatory for all participants and includes, but is not limited to goggles and gloves.
- G. Participants will be trained on the safety and use of all equipment used in this class. Students will adhere to all safety instructions and regulations.
- H. It is understood that if a student endangers him/herself, other students or the teacher by failing to follow instructions or safety regulations, the student will be placed on probation from participation in the class and immediately referred to the Dean's Office.
- J. All advanced techs are strongly encouraged to attend the NV State Thespians Tech Conference (Sept 12, 2015).
- K. Students are not to be in the tech booth without permission. This includes after school events as well as during class.
- L. There is no food or drink allowed in any area of the theatre or booth other than water. Students caught will deal with consequences and if needed a dean's referral.
- M. No flip-flops in the technical shop or when building onstage. Being barefoot is FORBIDDEN! Students will lose participation points for the day.
- N. All advanced students are required to compete at the NV Thespians Regional Competition.
- O. All techs must be in proper tech attire during any show or event worked.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class Period \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I have read and fully understand the Technical Theatre Course Expectations and Safety Contract and agree to abide by the stipulations set forth.

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

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

Course Fee Paid (\$20) Y \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to Mr. Strait with Theatre Handbook signed paperwork

**Please sign the following and return it immediately to the Theatre instructor along with the performance contracts and PG permission slip.**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Theatre Class Period \_\_\_\_\_