

# Elementary Music & Theater Syllabus – 2023-2024

**Katie Meinzinger, Advisor**

Phone: 509-731-4698

Email: [kmeinzinger@homelinkyakima.org](mailto:kmeinzinger@homelinkyakima.org)

## **Course Description:**

KATS Musical Theater has developed a rich tradition over the past few years, merging history and culture studies with music and theater! This year students will experience Ancient History and cultures through folk tales/myths, amazing-but-true adventures, and the lives of remarkable individuals. Over the year, we will rehearse and perform "King Midas & the Golden Touch" (Greeks), "Queen Esther of Persia," and "Moses & the Freedom Fanatics" (Egyptians & Jews).

## **Class Instruction:**

In class, students will work on music & drama techniques through games and activities designed to build them into better actors & musicians. Each play has a significant music component, so students will learn and polish the songs and dances for each play, as well as learn other fun folk songs and dances from around the world.

In drama, we will focus on developing students' use of voice (good diction, loud voices, and vocal expression), physical portrayal of a variety of characters, focus and memorization, character development, and working together as a team.

## **Assignments:**

Most of their out-of-class assignments will focus on delving deeper into their characters and memorizing their lines, cues, and movements for the current play. It is very important that students complete their assignments each week as we work on drama techniques and prepare for play performances. However, there may be weeks where the only assignment is memorization/character development.

Participation in class is a critical part of their learning, so it is important that students are in class each week. If your student is ill or unable to attend, please call/text me or the HomeLink office 509-248-6388. It is also vital that students be present for all of the performances, so please schedule your travel/family events outside of the performance periods.

## **Costumes:**

As we get started on each play, I will send out costume and props lists. Many of the costume pieces will come from our costume closet, but you may also be asked to provide a base layer to aide in costume changes, or other specific costume pieces. If you have items that may work for another cast member, your student will be encouraged to bring that (labeled with your name), as well as, any props or set items you can contribute. I may also need assistance with organizing costumes, sewing, set-design, etc. If you have skills in these areas and availability, please let me know.

## **Performance Dates:**

Performances will be held at the HomeLink auditorium.

"Moses & the Freedom Fanatics" – December 13 – 2:30 & 6:00

"King Midas & the Golden Touch" – March 13 - 2:30 & 6:00

"Queen Esther of Persia" – May 22 – 2:30 & 6:00

I will let you know well in advance if any changes in date, time, or location are made.

**Class Instructor:**

I am starting my 12<sup>th</sup> year at HomeLink this year! While here, I've taught elementary music, theater, and science, middle school math, high school study skills and MS/HS choir and drama. This year I get to add ancient history to my resume! I love acting, singing and dancing, and have been doing musicals since I was a kid. Before coming to Yakima, I taught K-12 music and math in Oregon. I am married, homeschool 1 elementary and 1 middle school student, and have a crazy number of pets!