

2026 CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

(* = Class performs at Fine Arts Night/Improv & Songwriters Night)

Advanced Acting	<p>What makes good actors so good? How are they so compelling? Learn acting secrets and explore methods to develop your acting prowess! Develop technique as you engage with more advanced and challenging scene work, monologues, and short dialogues and bring them to life by creating believable, dynamic characters. Teacher - Noah Miller</p>
Advanced Dance*	<p>This class will allow students with previous dance experience and training to advance their technique and perform challenging choreography. We will primarily focus on jazz and modern dance styles integrated with some ballet techniques. Audition required. Teacher - Elizabeth Irvin</p>
Advanced Improv*	<p>Now that you've mastered the fundamentals of improv, it's time to step into the spotlight! This class pushes your skills to the limit as we transition from scene work to a high-stakes performance mindset. You'll refine your ability to stay present, deepen your character commitment, and maybe even learn how to find that elusive ending. Through fast-paced games and exercises, you'll learn to anticipate your teammates' moves and create seamless, laugh-out-loud comedy. The class culminates in Improv Night, where you'll showcase your mastery of the craft in front of a live audience. Previous improv experience and class participation required. Teacher - Allie Saucy</p>
Advance Make Up	<p>In Advanced Make Up students will build on skills learned in Make 1 & 2, developing original designs. Students will participate in partner and individual work for industry experience. They will work with stage make up to create different characters as well as design for specific shows. Prerequisites: Make up 2 or SFX 1. Optional Make up kit purchase \$20-\$30. Teacher - Mya Brittan</p>
Adv Scene Painting	<p>This course will expand upon the basics of Scenic Painting I with a focus on teaching students how to make realistic looking stone and wood textures of varying difficulties for the productions. Students will learn the importance of layering textures. Teacher - Alicia Scherer</p>
Advanced Set Construction	<p>Focuses on construction techniques and construction planning. Students will plan and create various set pieces for CET in this class. Pre-requisite - Intro to Tech. Teacher - Thad Klocksieben</p>
Advanced Songwriters*	<p>Students will grasp the basic elements of songwriting through learning about song-form, simple chord patterns, and how to write lyrics that best express their own ideas. Class may culminate in a completed group-composition or individual songs depending on class size and ability. Instrumental experience is helpful but not necessary. Teacher - Rich Swanger</p>
Art of Choreography	<p>Have you ever wanted to choreograph and perform your own dance? In this class, we'll learn about the elements that make up a dance and discuss famous choreographers. Students will have the opportunity to choreograph several short group and solo pieces, resulting in one large group piece performed at Fine Arts Night. Teacher - Elizabeth Irvin</p>
Auditioning	<p>Are you a nervous nelly when faced with an audition? Overcome those pesky audition nerves by learning some helpful tips, tools and tricks to making Auditioning is less stressful! Learn how to face auditions with CONFIDENCE! Teacher - Erin Hickman</p>
Beginning Acting	<p>In this class, we'll learn about blocking, stage directions, projection and other valuable skills that will help develop your acting talent! We'll do monologues and partner scenes and will play a whole lot of games along the way. Be prepared for acting lessons, fun games and a whole lot of laughs! Teacher - Hannah Costa</p>

Beginning Dance	This is an introductory dance class for students who have never had a dance class before or very little experience. It will cover the basics of movement using a variety of styles, and teach entry level routines. Teacher - Vivian May
Beginning Improv	Improvisation means acting without a script. In this class, we will learn the basics of creating a scene from thin air, and stimulate your imagination with fun games and exercises. This class is designed for students with little or no improv experience, and will help build performance skills for the future. Teacher - Allie Saucy
Beginning Scene Painting	Learn the basics of scene painting, and help paint the sets for our shows. No Painting or art experience necessary, we will teach you all you need to know, just the desire to make the sets look awesome! Teacher - Kristin Bauzon
Beginning Songwriters*	Students will grasp the basic elements of songwriting through learning about song-form, simple chord patterns, and how to write lyrics that best express their own ideas. Class may culminate in a completed group-composition or individual songs depending on class size and ability. Instrumental experience is helpful but not necessary. Teacher - Rich Swanger
CET Choir*	A choir for young singers that will focus on singing with good technique including: breathing skills, tone quality and partner singing, while singing fun and appropriate music. If you want to improve your singing skills in a group setting, this is the group for you. Teacher - Kent Wilson
Commedia	What is Commedia? Take improv theatre, crazy stock characters, and outrageous physical comedy, and throw them all in a blender with a nonsense language called Grammelot, and you have the right idea. This class is a workshop that will prepare scenes for Fine Arts Night. The world of Commedia is a very silly place; come check it out! Teacher - Hannah Costa
Creative Dramatics/Reader's Theatre	<p>The art of dramatizing stories both familiar and original by using simple staging and few, if any, props...sets or costumes. Thinking "outside the box" applies to this class! Scarves can be a river! Bodies can be a bridge! Baseball caps can be duck bills! Backpacks can be turtle shells!...Imaginations rule!!!</p> <p>The very origin and heart of theatre! The art of storytelling is dying out as technology has been slowly taking over our ability to imagine and hear a wonderful story. Creating sound effects will come into play as we create stories to be LISTENED to! Who doesn't love to hear a scary, exciting, weird, romantic or shocking story? Let's unplug and rediscover the powerful and delightful art of telling a story! Teacher - Erin Hickman</p>
Exploring Theatre Basics	In this class we will learn stage directions, script notation, and introductory acting and technical vocabulary. We will explore what goes into a production, the job responsibilities of those involved, and a brief introduction to non-western/world theatre. Required class for NEW 3rd and 4th graders. Teacher - Erin Hickman & Grace Matheny
Filmmaking	A collaborative look on what makes an engaging short film. All classes (1, 2, and 3) will begin by covering film principles from storytelling on screen to shot composition, lighting and music. Throughout the course, students in each class will work together to create an engaging short film. Film 1 is for students who have never taken a film class before. This course focuses on film principles, and students will work with a pre-written script. Film 2 will divide into teams to write and shoot short stories of their own creation throughout the season. Film 3 is a small class for veterans of the program who are looking for a more focused and intensive filming environment with more time for an ambitious project. Film 3 has an application process to fill limited roles. Filmmaking 3 requires an audition. Teacher - Sara

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Foley Sounds	Foley is a filmmaking/live radio technique that involves re-creating and performing everyday sounds to enhance a movie or TV shows audio quality. In this class, we will be creating sound effects for short films, reader's theatre and radio theatre. Teacher - Sara Chaison
Hip Hop	This all-levels class will focus on techniques and rhythms of hip hop dance, both old-school and contemporary. We will explore this genre through its origins in an attempt to understand and appreciate where hip hop came from. Teacher - Vivian May
Intermediate Improv	You've learned the basics. Now it's time to dive deeper into the craft of spontaneous storytelling. This class focuses not just on learning the rules but on putting them to use. You'll work on strengthening your comedic instincts while supporting your partner's ideas more effectively. We'll explore how to keep momentum going and find humor in every situation as we bridge the gap between "Yes, And" and the stage! Class participation is required. Teacher - Allie Saucy
Intermediate Songwriters	Students will grasp the basic elements of songwriting through learning about song-form, simple chord patterns, and how to write lyrics that best express their own ideas. Class may culminate in a completed group-composition or individual songs depending on class size and ability. Instrumental experience is helpful but not necessary. Teacher - Rich Swanger
Intro to Tech	Only want to dip your toes in the water? No problem! This class is perfect for you. In Intro to Tech we will go over all the basics in tech theatre. This includes our sound system we use, the lights that are used around the Salem area as well as new innovations in lighting. And it doesn't stop there, we will get to do basic scene painting techniques, and build miniature sets with pre-built furniture and flats. Teacher - Kristin Bauzon & Alicia Scherer
Level 7 Music	Level 7 Performance students will learn and fine-tune the music for their production in this class. Students will grow toward using healthy vocal technique, blend and balance skills, and basic knowledge of sight reading and music theory. This group will perform at Fine Arts Night. Teacher - Noah Miller
Level 7 Tech	High school credit class where students will practice leadership skills. Students will learn about all aspects of a production and serve as stage managers and leader for productions. Level 7 students will learn about all production elements and create the set, props and costumes for the level 7 show. Teacher - Thad Klocksieben & Kristin Bauzon
Make-Up I	Introduction to stage make-up . There is a focus on basic face shaping techniques using tools such as sponges and brushes. Students will practice applying make-up to themselves as well as others; adjustments can be made on request. Students will explore various character types, animals, and be introduced to scrapes and bruises. Students can provide a smock/cover and washcloth or towel. A \$26.00 fee covers an individual Ben Nye Creme Personal Make-up Kit. Teacher - Mya Brittan
Make-up II	This class is the next step in learning about stage makeup. It will refine students' makeup and makeup design techniques. Students will discuss the impact of color as a means of conveying characters. They will also work to create theatrical makeup designs for characters from fantasy, pop culture, and historical periods. There will also be an introduction to special effects techniques. A \$26.00 fee covers an individual Ben Nye Creme Personal Makeup Kit as needed. Financial support is available. Prerequisite – Makeup I. Teacher - Amelia Smith

Mime	Welcome to the world of silent theater! In this class, we will dive deep into the world of mime. We'll learn how to use our bodies to tell stories without having to use our voice. Even if your true calling is not the life of a mime, we'll work on building fun skills you can use in any aspect of theater, all while having a lot of fun! Teacher - Noah Miller
Monologue/Scene Study	Focus on your acting skills by studying and performing monologues, two-person scenes and group scenes. Teacher - Sara Chaison
Musical Theatre Performance	Do you want to sharpen your singing, dancing, and acting skills? Then this class is for you! We will be reviewing the history of musical theatre as we put together a medley of show tunes that students will perform for Fine Arts Night. Teacher - Sara Chaison
Playwriting	Do you love writing? Do you love putting on plays with your friends? Do you love coming up with crazy creative ideas and letting your imagination run wild? Then this is the class for you! We'll be working on how to write a script, how to tell a good story, how to build convincing characters and so much more! Teacher - Grace Matheny
Prop Building	Creating the hand props needed for the shows, and learning how to do so creatively and effectively. Pre-requisite - Intro to Tech. Teacher - Dani Potter
Set Model Building	Learn how to design a set model in three stages: thoughtful design, white model, and fully realized 1/4" model. This class will be a fast paced, hands on paper building course that teaches the importance of pre-planning a set design before bringing it to life! Teacher - Alicia Scherer
Shakespeare*	Considered the greatest playwright in the English language, Shakespeare is still sometimes intimidating for actors and audiences alike. In this class we will learn how to speak and act "Shakespearean," unlock the meaning and comedy in his language, and develop scenes from one of his best-loved plays for performance. Teacher - Hannah Costa
Specialty Effects Make-Up I	Begin to learn how to apply a variety of special effects makeup, including age, wounds, bruises, and more! Students will work on conveying intentional storytelling through their special effects makeup designs. An additional \$22 fee covers the purchase of Ben Nye special effects makeup for each student. Financial support available. Prerequisite - Makeup II. Teacher - Amelia Smith
Specialty Effects Make-Up II	This class builds on the skills from Special Effects Makeup I. With even more fake blood, cuts, and bruises, you'll have everyone fooled! Students will continue learning new special effects makeup techniques, such as burns and prosthetics. An additional \$22 fee covers the purchase of Ben Nye special effects makeup for each student. Financial support is available. Prerequisite of any of the following - Special Effects Makeup I, Special Effects Makeup, Makeup on Film. Teacher - Amelia Smith
Sound & Lights	This course will focus on the specifics of theatre lighting, including fixtures, color and design. You will learn how to produce sounds that don't exist. As well as operate sound equipment for the show this CET season.. Teacher - Brycen Martin
Stage Combat I: Unarmed*	Want to fake fight? In this class students will learn safe and effective Stage Combat techniques in the discipline of Unarmed. Students will learn how to protect themselves and others while performing fight choreography. It's all about taking care of each other. They will then have the opportunity to implement what they've learned in fully acted scenes/performances. Teacher - Paul Malone

Stage Combat II: Knife*	Want to fake fight? In this class students will learn safe and effective Stage Combat techniques in the discipline of Knife. Students will learn how to protect themselves and others while performing fight choreography. It's all about taking care of each other. They will then have the opportunity to implement what they've learned in fully acted scenes/performances. Teacher - Paul Malone
Stage Combat III: Single sword*	Want to fake fight? In this class students will learn safe and effective Stage Combat techniques in the discipline of Single Sword. Students will learn how to protect themselves and others while performing fight choreography. It's all about taking care of each other. They will then have the opportunity to implement what they've learned in fully acted scenes/performances. Teacher - Paul Malone
Super Singers*	An advanced auditioned choir that will focus on part singing, blend and balance. We will sing a combination of fun and appropriate music in different styles. If you want to work on your stage presence and performer as a singer, this is the class for you. Audition required. Teacher - Kent Wilson
Tap	This all-level tap dance class will offer students the opportunity to explore and learn the techniques of hoof and jazz tap dancing. Shoes are not required but you are encouraged to bring them if you own them. This class will be a mix of understanding how to mimic rhythms from music and create your own rhythmic patterns. Teacher - Elizabeth Irvin & Vivian May
Tech Seminar	High school credit class where students will practice leadership skills. Students will learn about all aspects of a production and serve as stage managers and leader for productions. Teacher - Dani Potter
Video Editing	This class will work to learn the basics of video editing in iMovie, and apply then to videos created by you! Use these skills as building blocks to creating videos with friends as well as the next filmmaking classes. Teacher - Brycen Martin
World Theatre	In every time and place around the world, people perform. In this class, we will learn about the performance styles of different cultures, and make art and design projects that reflect global traditions. Teacher - Grace Matheny