

Theater II (8th+) **Teacher:** Janet Gilleland**Class Size:** 12-15**Tuition:** \$150/year**Material fee:** \$35/year

Text to purchase: None

Day/Time: Thurs. 2:30-3:30**In-Class Instruction:** 55 min/wk

*Note: Spring Production will involve additional production fee and mandatory parental involvement.

Our theater classes are a combination of theater appreciation, cultural history, and grammar/diction and performance. In keeping with our historical time frame for the 2010-2011 school year, the class will be focusing on theater from the Renaissance through the 1850s. We will look at the cultural environment in which the plays of this time period were written and how this has affected the style and content of today's theater. We will do a smaller "studio" type production in January, as well as a full scale musical production in the spring.* This musical requires the production support of the Theater parents. Committee service is mandatory. Outside rehearsal time will be required.

The focus of this class is on gaining confidence, improving memory and increasing a student's ability at expanded thinking or "thinking outside the box." At the same time we will examine the basic elements that are necessary in presenting any play--the development of the characters, the structure of the plot and enunciation/pronunciation. We will be learning about the elements of a performance both on stage and behind the scenes.

We will also experiment with improvisation, role playing in skits, and fun vocal exercises that will be appropriate for various grade levels. In an effort to grow and challenge the individual student, there will be different classroom expectations for students depending on their grade level and for those who have had previous theater classes at HSU.

Homework = Light to Moderate

Janet Gilleland (Theater, all sections)

Janet resides in Carol Stream. She received her undergraduate degree in Communication/Linguistics with a minor in theater. Janet has worked in the performing arts (music, dance and theater) since the age of seven. She has studied and/or worked with the Pittsburgh Playhouse, Wisdom Bridge Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre and Second City. She has been a member of the Screen Actors Guild, American Federation of Television & Radio Artists and Actors Equity. She is the leader of the drama team at Community Fellowship, a drama teacher at the Creative Christian Conservatory and Artistic Director of Accent On History Theatre Company. Besides teaching the fundamentals of theater and theater performance, Janet's goal is to equip each student with basic communication skills. These skills will build confidence that can be used whether the student is giving a book report, leading a debate, or starring as the lead in a play.