Benefits of Theatre Arts curriculum embedded with the principles of Career and Technical Education and Work-Based Learning

Here at Everett High School Seagull Drama we welcome students in grades 9-12 of all abilities to explore the professional pathways of Theatre Arts performance, management, design, technology and marketing under clear leadership in a safe space where our goals are led by personal growth, communication and acquisition of practical skills that are directly transferable to the field of Arts, A/V Technology and Communications. We recognize the need to provide alternative educational opportunities in order to reach the needs of our ever-changing diverse population and stay current with the evolution of education.

What are these needs?

In general, our current educational trends are leading us further away from a traditional classroom setting and toward a collaborative work environment utilizing resources and technology, critical thinking and problem-solving, environmental respect and awareness, creativity and resourcefulness. Trade schools, focused certificate programs, apprenticeships and other forms of skilled secondary education options are making a come back from our earlier vocational stigmas and bringing with them a promise of bright futures for many of our young people entering the workforce. Through our Theatre Arts program we provide students with direct connections to professional mentors, assign job shadowing, internships, and train our students for the 21st Century. We are the leaders in project based learning where we can blend academic knowledge with the ability to "practice" being in a professional work setting and gain valuable lessons in the art of failing, recovery, reflection and discovery...all which lead to authentic growth not only in the workforce, but as human beings. Regardless of how education has been approached, I think we are all in agreement when I say we want our young people to live healthy, fulfilling and purposeful lives. We want them to make connections that are meaningful and now, more than ever thoughtful of the future of our world and all that it holds. The skills that are built through Theatre Arts will not only provide students with skill sets for future professions, we are helping to establish values that foster stability, social justice and harmony for the future.

Sara Coiley

Everett High School Drama Artistic Director and Advisor Career and Technical Education for Technical Theatre, Management and Performance Credit Recovery Mentor