

Welcome to Acting !!

I am so excited to have you in my course. I look forward to helping you develop your acting skills this quarter. Below is important information about the course, expectations, and more. Please read over it and do not hesitate to reach out with any questions!

Contact Information:

Teacher: Ms. Isabel Kaczmarek

Email: ikaczmarek@wcpss.net

School Main Office Phone: (919) 856-7929

Website: <https://sites.google.com/wcpss.net/lmms-theatre/home>

Social Media: @ligongttheatre on Instagram and Facebook



Course Description and Objectives:

Description: In this course, students will explore characters and situations through their creative resources using theatre games and extended improvisational situations and prepared scripts. They begin to understand the proper use of voice and diction. This course includes an overview of the historical development of the actor's art.

COMMUNICATION

- ★ Develop physical, vocal, and performance skills that foster an ability to clearly communicate ideas, thoughts and feelings.

ANALYSIS

- ★ Analyze texts and performances in terms of theme, characters, conflict, settings, events and their interrelationships for effects on costume and makeup.

AESTHETICS

- ★ Understand and use the design components of theatre.

CULTURE

- ★ Analyze theatre in terms of the social, historical, and cultural contexts in which it was created
- ★ Understand the traditions, roles, and conventions of theatre as an art form.

Note: NCDPI has established a new standard course of study for theatre arts that will go into effect next school year. Students will be taught using a mixture of current and future standards. If you wish to view the [new standards](#) use this link or contact Ms. Kaczmarek.

Classroom and Rehearsal Expectations:

Attendance: This class is performance-based and you will be working closely with other members of your ensemble. You are expected to show up on time and attend class each day. Students who repeatedly arrive late, leave early, and/or miss class and rehearsals do not have the opportunity for adequate preparation, which can have negative impacts on their performance and the performances of others. Plan to be early – remember the Stage Manager's mantra: *to be early is to be on time, to be on time is to be late!* **Support your ensemble** – show up to class 😊

- ★ Following Ligon policy, a total of 3 unexcused tardies leads to a TalkingPoints message home and a write-up.

Dress: Students should dress comfortably and appropriately for class and rehearsals. It is required that you are wearing clothes you are comfortable moving around in and close toed shoes (no slides, flip-flops, or Crocs). Students are encouraged to bring a change of clothes/shoes if needed. There will be a designated area for students to leave changes of clothing they need for class in Ms. Kaczmarek's room.

Food/Drink: No food or drink (except bottled water) is permitted in Ms. Kaczmarek's room or the auditorium. Please bring water in a sealed container. This includes gum. However, hydration is encouraged!!

Technology Policy: Students should bring their Chromebook to class everyday. During the school day, students must follow the LMMS electronic policy. Phones, smart watches, headphones, and other devices must be in the students backpack from 7:05 am to 2:15 pm. If visible in any way, the student will receive one warning before a device is confiscated by the teacher and turned into the main office.

Respect: I hold you responsible for respecting the rights, dignity, worth, spirit, and freedom of each member of our ensemble. Discriminatory speech or conduct will not be tolerated. The behavior of our actors and crew reflects not only on the class but also on the Ligon Arts program and the school as a whole.

Communication: Communication from Ms. Kaczmarek will take place through Talking Points, email, or phone. ***I will be available for any questions through Talking Points or email on school days - Monday through Friday from 7:30-3:30pm.***

- ★ Students are expected to reach out to Ms. Kaczmarek in conversation or through email about any absences they may have such as illness, injury, or medical appointments to practice both rehearsal etiquette and clear communication. Parents, of course, may also reach out, but as actors we must communicate clearly.

Classroom Wishlist: As we embark on an exciting quarter, I want to share some ways you can help support our classroom. I've put together an Amazon wish list of items that would enhance the learning environment and enrich students' experiences. You are not required to purchase anything from this list. If you are able to contribute to our classroom, scan the QR code to find out more.



Acting I Class Units:

1. Ensemble Building
2. Introduction to Stage & Audience Etiquette
3. Pantomime
4. Monologues & Audition Technique

Ligon GT Magnet Middle School Grading Policy:

Each assignment will be graded out of total points and then translated to its corresponding percentage. For example, if a student receives 10 out of 10 points, they will receive a 100% on the assignment. If a student receives a 9 out of 10 points they will receive a 90% and so on. These grades will then be put into their specific Ligon GT Magnet Middle School policy assignment weight categories.

Assignment Grading Weights:

Product (Major): 40% (Performances, Projects, Project/Performance Etiquette)

Process (Minor): 50% (Mini-Projects, Self-Reflections, Quizzes, Warm-Up Participation, Journals, Rehearsal Etiquette Reports, etc.)

Practice (Homework/Small Assignments): 10% (Classwork like Forms, Small Group Work)

All students will be using the 10-point grading scale. A: 90-100; B: 80-89; C: 70-79; D: 60-69; F: 59 and below

Upcoming Extracurricular Theatre Opportunities:

Follow Ligon GT Theatre on social media (listed at top of syllabus) for the most up to date information or any changes to the dates below.

Fall One-Act Play (Performed by Encore Theatre Company & LSSD)

- ★ Performances: November 6-7, 2025 at 6pm

Spring Musical: *Title To Be Announced :)*

- ★ Audition Dates: TBA (***ANY Ligon student is welcome to audition!***)
- ★ Crew Interview/Application Date: TBA (***ANY Ligon student is welcome to apply!***)
- ★ Rehearsal Process: October through February
- ★ Performance Dates: February 19-20, 2026 at 6pm & February 21 at 2pm

End of Year Theatre Showcase (Performed by Encore Theatre Company, LSSD, Select Acting II Students & 6th Grade Scenes)

- ★ Performance: April 30, 2026 at 6pm

Acting I Syllabus Student & Parent/Guardian Acknowledgement

Please fill out the information below and sign (along with your student) to provide some contact information and to acknowledge that you have read and understand the attached syllabus.

*Please remove and return **ONLY** this page to Ms. Kaczmarek by **Friday, August 29, 2025** for the first Practice Grade of the quarter!*

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Parent/Guardian Email(s)/Phone(s): _____

Preferred Method of Communication (Circle one or more)

Talking Points

Email

Phone Call

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Anything you want to share with Ms. Kaczmarek? Please use the space below and/or the back of this page!