

Musical History 2.0 SPARK Cohort (7th Grade)

Teacher: Ms. Russo

Class Overview:

In Musical History 2.0, students will learn about different musicals that take place during important times in history but with a new twist. Students will take a more critical look at the content of the musical through its film adaptation and create different ways of looking at it. For example, maybe you feel a dialogue should be changed into a song or vice versa. This will be a class to explore that artistic creativity. You will also learn to look at the historical content in a musical and decide whether or not it most accurately portrays the historical event in question. Throughout the year, we will perform at school events, visit museums to learn more about the historical events, and be visited from working performers in Musical Theatre. By the end of the year, you will not only perform musical numbers but will also perform acting scenes both from musicals, as well as those you've created yourselves that could have been in the musicals we will study.

Music Classroom Expectations

- Respect others
- Respect the room and materials
- Participate
- Have fun!

Materials Needed:

- Any type of notebook
- A folder

*If you cannot get these materials for any reason, please dedicate a section in your binder for music instead.

Homework Policy

Homework will be assigned every class. All homework must be handed in by the indicated due date.

Late homework will only be accepted if a student is absent on the day it is due. In this case, the homework is due the following class.

Extra credit opportunities will be available to make up missed homework upon request when more than 2 assigned are missing.

On homework please write the following so that I am able to grade it:

- your first and last name
- name of the class
- full description of the assignment

Journaling Expectations

At the beginning of each class, Ms. Russo will play a new piece of music. You will be asked to *listen* and write a journal entry (around 3-5 sentences) in the back of your notebook responding to the question:

“What do you hear?”

You can write about *anything* you hear in the music! In case you are not sure what to write about, here are some suggestions:

- ❖ What instruments you hear
- ❖ What the words are and what you think they mean
- ❖ What mood or emotion the music makes you feel
- ❖ What genre of music (like pop, jazz, rock, classical, etc.) the song could be from
- ❖ What the music reminds you of (maybe another song or type of music)

Reminders:

- Write the date at the top of your journal
- Write the name of the song under your paragraph when Ms. Russo writes it on the board

*Journaling entries will be read periodically and count for quiz grades.

Musical History Specific Questions

- ❖ What do you think is happening during the song?
- ❖ What do you think the scene looks like during the song?
- ❖ What time period or event in history do you think this takes place during? Why?