

Retelling History (Musically!) SPARK Cohort

Grades: 7th & 8th

Teacher: Ms. Russo

Class Overview:

In Retelling History, students will explore historic events through the lens of musical theatre shows in order to create their own short musicals and film them as well! Retelling History will use movie musicals as case studies to learn what aspects they need to incorporate when creating their own musical. Students will also explore different historical events and explore what makes something history in order to choose the history they would like to embed in their own musical.

After doing the research, students will be placed in groups to create their own movie musical including writing the script, writing the songs, and performing and filming it all!

In addition, students will participate in performances for M.S. 890's annual concerts throughout the year in order to experience performing musical numbers first hand.

R-E-S-P-E-C-T!

- Respect your classmates
- Respect your teacher
- Respect yourself
- Respect the music
- Respect the room
- Respect the instruments

Materials Needed:

- Any type of **notebook** OR a section in your **binder**
- A folder

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.

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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 5-8 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

***ALL JOURNAL ENTRIES WILL BE COLLECTED AND COUNTED AS A QUIZ GRADE!**

Please write thoughtful responses.

Retelling 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?