

Acting Club!



Hello acting club parents!

24 January 2019

Yesterday, our acting club had a wonderful and fun ***Introduction to Theatre*** lesson! The objectives of our lesson were to create a stage presence (tackle stage fright and project our being/energy), learn to transform ourselves into different actions and objects, and to learn to develop lines and dialogue through creating “Super Sentences.”

As we are new to acting club, our first activities were “Say my name” and “Categories”. “Say My Name” is where our group stands in a circle and passes a ball to each other across the circle. When a player catches the ball, they must say these lines- “ My name is — —! I like — —! I choose— — (another player)!” We also must try too remember the “likes” of everyone else. This game helps us to get to know our fellow actors, conquer shyness, and be able to retain lines/information. Once we were comfortable with this game, we switched the theme to “Categories.” With this game, we chose a category and had to name an object in that category and then quickly pass to a friend. If we repeated an object that was already named or couldn’t name one fast enough we were out! This game encourages us to think on our feet (improv), improve our vocabulary, and to learn to play on each other’s responses; forming a nonsensical dialogue between the players.

Our next game encouraged us to learn to properly take on the form of other objects or characters, which is essentially the entirety of acting. We did this with a super fun game of “Human Rock-Paper-Scissors.” This hilarious game is a simple elaboration on the classic hand game. However, in this version we utilize our entire body to become the rock, paper and scissors. We first practiced what each of the objects would look like if we used our whole body, so that we could create a standardized appearance for each one. For rock, we curled up our bodies into a tiny ball. For paper, we sprawled out on the carpet, taking on a starfish-like position. For scissors, we lied tummy-down on the carpet and kicked our legs open and closed to imitate a cutting motion. Then, it was time to play! Our actors were rolling in fits or laughter at this utterly silly game and really committed to acting as each object. They also demonstrated amazing sportsmanship, encouraging each other and being kind in their competitiveness.

Our final activity was the classic game of charades. This game greatly helped us to learn to act out verbs in a clear and understandable way, bringing about a greater body-awareness and how the audience perceives our actions. One of the biggest responsibilities of an actor is to ensure that our intended message is being received by the audience clearly and in it’s entirety. This requires an enormous amount of awareness of your stage presence. If gestures are too small, they may be missed by the audience or lead to confusion. If our gestures are too grand and all over the place, it may entirely change the identity of the character we are attempting to portray, which can also lead to confusion for the audience. We greatly want to ensure that our character is being acted true to their character and with a clear goal. The class did such a good job of this that we were able to guess nearly every verb (swimming, fishing, snowball fight, etc.) with little difficulty! This will really come in handy for when we begin to develop actual characters.

The class did a really fantastic job with all of our activities of the day! I was so pleased with their effort and greatly appreciated their earnest attempt and excitement to try every activity. Great job, everyone!

Teacher Lauren



SAY MY NAME!
Building teamwork, improv timing,
and memory skills.





HUMAN ROCK - PAPER - SCISSORS!
Developing imitation/character building, Improv skills, and an understanding of friendly competition.



Swimming!



Riding a bicycle!



Hula hooping!



Being a statue!

CHARADES!
Developing actions, strengthening improv skills, conquering stage fright, expanding our vocabulary and building support for our fellow actors.