

Education Class Handbook

Pickwick Players

Contact Information

Midland Community Theatre	432-682-2544	www.mctmidland.org/education
Judith Giebler, Theatre School Director	432-682-2544 ext. 113	judith@mctmidland.org
Bill Williams, Pickwick Players Director	432-682-2544 ext. 112	bill@mctmidland.org

Facebook page www.facebook.com/MCTEducationDepartment

Pickwick Players Overview

All participating Pickwicks must be enrolled in the seventh through twelfth grade. To be a member of Pickwicks is an honor. Therefore one must seriously consider the obligations that one is committing to when they decide to audition. School and family always come first. However, if you know the upcoming year is going to be full of various activities and responsibilities, then it is best for you and the Pickwicks if you choose not to add to your busy schedule. The focus in Pickwicks is education. Equal emphasis is put on the classroom and production. That is why it is imperative that Pickwicks attend class. In the classroom we focus on creativity, acting techniques, styles of theatre, and the building of the ensemble. Only by going through this process can the student explore their creativity, develop their skills, and become a better actor. A person will never be forced to perform an exercise or assignment. However, you are involved in the class to learn, grow, and improve as an actor and person. Therefore it defeats that agenda if a student refuses to participate on a consistent basis. If non-participation happens on a regular basis by any student, then the Director will address that issue with the individual in order to rectify that problem.

Auditions

Pickwicks is an audition only theatre education, performance, leadership, and service group. Auditions are held annually in May. Students must audition every year to be a member of Pickwicks, even if they have been a member of the company previously. Students wanting to audition must have a one to two minute memorized monologue ready to perform. On the day of auditions, auditionees will learn part of a song, which they will be asked to sing individually, and a dance combination, which they will perform in small groups.

Class Schedule

There are two semesters during the course of the school year. Pickwick classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 PM-7:00 PM. Specific dates for each semester will be given after the company has been selected.

Pickwick Productions

Any student who has auditioned and made the Pickwick company for the upcoming school year is eligible to audition for any of the three shows produced throughout the year. Information regarding production auditions will be provided by the director closer to the audition dates.

Absences

There are strict guidelines when it comes to attendance as a Pickwick Player. Only 4 excused absences per semester are allowed. Vacation leaves are allowed in the summer term. However, the Director should be notified of the student's intentions prior to auditions. If a student is going to be gone for an extended amount of time during the rehearsal process of the summer show, then it is unadvisable to audition for that particular production. Once the maximum excused absences have been reached the student will be notified in person and also by letter that their limit has been reached. If any absences occur after that, then the student will be put on probation and risks being expelled from the program with no refund of tuition.

Inclement Weather

In the event of inclement weather, students and parents will be contacted regarding any changes to class or rehearsal schedule. Information about class or rehearsal cancellations will also be posted on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/MCTEducationDepartment.

Further Questions

If you do not see the answer to a question regarding the Pickwick Players, check the FAQs and Programs sections of the website. You may also contact the Education Office for more information.