

HOW TO WRITE A MINI MUSICAL

AGES: High School, College

DESCRIPTION

A step-by-step way to teach students an effective way to understand the full process of developing and writing a musical.

MATERIALS

- CD that contains 3 contemporary songs
- Pens/Paper

FULL LESSON PLAN

- 1) Listen closely to all the songs on your CD. Go ahead and start imagining ways you could combine them to create one clear storyline as you listen.
- 2) Write down the lyrics to each song. You will need these for you libretto, and they will help you in finding a storyline if they're written down.
- 3) The group begins brainstorming ideas for the story and its characters. All members of the group will get their chance for input. You should listen to every single idea and write it down. Keep a record of all ideas because you never know when you can use them later on. Feel free to change it if its not working.
- 4) Begin writing your libretto. Have a story that makes sense and involves interesting characters and make sure the songs fit into the story. Remember the script must be in the form of a libretto and include all stage directions. When you finish writing a section, get up and walk through it as an actor to see if it works.
- 5) Begin learning your lines and lyrics and begin to assign choreography. You will discover many new ideas; feel free to add them to your script.
- 6) Rehearsals should be quite frequent, including all props, costumes, music etc. as the performance date draws near.
- 7) Performance for class/classes.

Graded On/To Be Turned In:

- Lyrics
- Ideas and the name of the person who created it.
- Rough draft
- Rehearsal individual grades
- Rehearsal schedule
- Final draft and Libretto
- Performance

--> Theatre is a collaborative art that depends on trust and communication. Each team must work together and rely on each other.