

NYSSMA MUSIC VIEWS

Standards-Based Teaching & Learning Across the State



Lesson Plan for NYSSMA Music Views

Name: Ann Mosner

Title: We're All Performers – Acting and Interpreting

Level

- Elementary
- Middle School
- High School

Content Area

- Band
- Chorus
- Classroom
- Orchestra

Objective

- To tap into creative acting abilities that students all possess.
- To make students aware of subtleties that create actors
- To help the students to be able to use and develop their creative gifts

The NYS Learning Standard(s) this lesson will address...

- Creating, Performing and Participating in the Arts
- Knowing and Using Arts Materials and Resources
- Responding to and Analyzing Works of Art

Understanding the Cultural Dimensions and Contributions of the Arts

National Standards for Music Education this lesson...

Singing – alone and with others – a varied repertoire of music

Performing on instruments – alone and with others – a varied repertoire of music

Improvising melodies, variations and accompaniments

Composing and arranging music within specific guidelines

Reading and notating music

- Listening to, analyzing and describing music
 - Evaluating music and music performances
 - Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts
- Understanding music in relation to history and culture

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Instructional Ideas

The students will be taken through a series of warm-ups and activities which will help them to begin to unleash their creativity and develop skills that will make them be better performers.

They will also be encouraged to assess and critique others as they observe classmates do the same.

- Physical Warmups
- Improv exercise
- Exercise where students become aware of the space around them and how to use that space - negative vs. positive space
- Statue and Expression activity - use of their personalities
- The MACHINE - exercise to make students aware that they are part of a mechanism that needs to function as a whole and the sum of its collective parts.

Assessment

Self assessment and observational assessment of others is the best tool. It is necessary to create a safe environment which is conducive to creativity and "trying it out"

References/Resources

- "Break a Leg" The Kid's guide to Acting and Stagecraft' - Lise Friedman & Mary Dowdle.
- Theatre games and professional actors used as references.

Notes

Workshops and sessions with local professional actors in your area are ALWAYS possible. NYSTEA is also an excellent source - New York State Theatre Educators Association.