

DHS Drama Club – Fall Play 2008

This fall, the DHS Drama Club will produce *Anatomy of Gray* by award-winning playwright Jim Leonard. This play, set in America's Heartland during the late 1800's, is really a fable, or as the playwright describes it - "a children's story for adults." This coming of age story deals with death, loss, love and healing, and manages to throw in some really humorous moments, as well. This production will prove to be nothing like any previous DHS show, and certainly one not to be forgotten!

Below is a list of roles open to students going into 7th-12th grades. Next year's LMS 6th graders are eligible to audition for the musical only.

ANATOMY OF GRAY - CHARACTER LIST

Galen Gray, *a stranger*
June Muldoon, *age 15*
Rebekah Muldoon, *her mother*
Pastor Phineas Wingfield
Tiny Wingfield, *his sister*
Crutch Collins, *blacksmith*
Belva Collins, *his wife*
Maggie, *tavern owner*
Homer, *17, a farmer*
Townspeople

All of the characters are very lively and interesting. Each has their own quirks and spirit about them. I want the Townspeople, although unnamed, to be equally as lively and interesting as the named characters.

This show does not call for an elaborate set. In fact, this show can be done with just a few pieces of furniture – so the actors must work that much harder to create the world in which the story takes place.

A lot of work will be done in rehearsal to create the town of Gray, Indiana fully enough for the audience to really see it.

Show Dates

Performances will take place **November 21-23, 2008**: Friday & Saturday at 7:30pm and Sunday at 3pm.

Auditions

Auditions will take place right when we get back to school!

Sign-Ups: Thursday September 4th & Friday September 5th on the Drama Club callboard.

Mandatory Audition Workshop: Friday September 5th from 3:15-4:30pm

First round auditions: Monday September 8th Callbacks: Tuesday September 9th

First rehearsal: Wednesday September 10th

For your Audition - please prepare:

- 1-2 minute monologue from a contemporary play; nothing classical, please. And of course – nothing with profanity in it.
 - Your monologue may be comedic, dramatic or a combination of both, and should be MEMORIZED! Reading off the paper, as if you've never seen the piece before, will not be a good thing for you (or for me). Holding the paper, referring to it if you lose your line, and then moving on – all in character – is fine.
 - Select something that is age-appropriate and something that shows your range as an actor and a bit of your own personality.
 - You may choose something from *Anatomy of Gray* or another Jim Leonard play.
- Also, please prepare a short folk-song, hymn or familiar tune, like “Happy Birthday” to sing a cappella at your audition. This show has some singing in it!

You will need to start preparing over the summer. You can find monologue books at bookstore chains like Barnes & Noble and Borders, and sometimes at the public library. I advise you to locate a copy of the play, read it and do a little research on it, as well. The more prepared you are, the better your audition will be!

Rehearsals

The rehearsal schedule for the fall play will combine afternoon and evening rehearsals. Not all cast members will be needed at every rehearsal, until we start running the show.

The **tentative** rehearsal schedule will be:

- Monday & Wednesday evenings between 4pm-8pm
- Tuesday, Thursday & Friday afternoons from 3:30pm-5:30pm
- Occasional Saturdays between 10am-4pm

Be prepared to put most or all of your other activities on hold during the two weeks *prior* to the show's performances. We will need the entire cast & crew available at EVERY rehearsal during that time. Also, rehearsals **WILL** take place on any days you have off from school (a few days in Oct, the long weekend in Nov.). I don't anticipate needing everyone for the entirety of these days off, so don't freak out and think I'm making you give up ALL of your free time. (Believe me – I'd like some time off, too!)

The entire cast & crew will be **required** to put in work hours during the production process. These work hours will be either on weekday evenings or on Saturdays. A schedule will be created in September, once the production needs have been evaluated.

If you have any questions or concerns over the summer, please do not hesitate to email me: houstons@dunellenschools.org.

Break a leg and I'll see you in September!
Ms. Suzanne Houston, Director