

Drama

“Drama is an essential part of the way in which we mirror our Creator. Innate in all people is the tendency to relate what happens in our lives in a dramatic way: through facial expression, gesture, tone of voice, movement. Drama is not just something we do once in a while; it is something we live.

God did not express His promises only in words. He could have merely told Abraham about the covenant. Instead the Lord dramatized His covenant by passing between the two halves of the sacrificial animals (Genesis 15). Jesus could have merely defined in words the new Kingdom which he came to usher in. Instead, he also dramatized this Kingdom by telling parable upon parable. He could have only healed the sick by speaking a word, but often chose to touch the leper and to put mud on the eyes of the blind. The Holy Spirit could have remained an invisible reality but instead chose to be represented dramatically as a dove and as tongues of flame.

The triune God made creative choices in the way that He communicates Himself to His people. We, too, use a variety of ways to respond to the world around us and to our Maker.

Drama builds communication and community. In the midst of an increasingly impersonal world drama encourages personal interaction. God’s gift of drama needs to be nurtured because it enriches the way we communicate.”

(From *Expressions*, OACS publication, pg. 2)

Drama Program Goals*

Drama is an effective tool that enables us to hone all our communication skills. Its practice also gives us a window on to humanity and all of God’s creation, thus heightening our awareness of spiritual, emotional, and physical responses. Drama teaches life skills.

Drama will develop the following life skills, enabling students to interact more effectively with others:

Communication Skills

- *Verbal* – good oral skills
- *Body Language* – expressing emotions and life situations with the body
- *Facial Expression* – showing feeling and reactions to events with the face
- *Gesture* – communication of ideas with actions

Listening Skills

- *Hearing* – being aware of one’s surroundings
- *Sharing* – listening to one another
- *Deciphering* – marshalling relevant information to make decisions

Comprehension Skills

- *Critical Thinking* – taking in all options and sorting through the information thereby making it useable
- *Decision Making* – action upon information given thereby making choices

Connecting Skills

- *Telling* – sharing stories, ideas, and actions
- *Empathizing* – walking in another’s person’s footsteps and therefore appreciating his or his situation
- *Relating* – working together as a team, using individual and collective skills and ideas to create a whole

Revelation Skills

- *Heightening Senses and Sensitivity* – emulating senses in given dramatic situations, thereby learning to recognize them in life situations
- *Uncovering* – finding the “heart” of relationships and situations
- *Interpreting* – processing ideas and situations with understanding to then share with others effectively

*From *Expressions*, OACS publication, pg. 6)