Discovering the Performer in YOU!

Performing Arts

4-H Citizenship Project Overview

So you want to be a performer? Performing arts includes using your body, face and presence as a form of art. In this 4-H project, you will learn about puppetry, clowning, face-painting and creative communication techniques. So come on, break a leg!

Objectives

- Learn more about various types of performing arts and how they are used to communicate and express thoughts, ideas and feelings.
- Practice skills of communication and self-expression.
- Share new skills through acting, movement, voice and speech, characterization, role-playing and other forms of artistic expression.
- Relate skills learned to job and career readiness.

Starting Out

- Read about puppetry origins.
- Learn about types and styles of puppetry.
- Make a simple puppet.
- Interview a puppeteer.
- Read a play or script.
- Attend a play or musical production.
- Participate in role-playing.
- Read about the history of costume design.
- Create a simple costume.
- Learn warmup exercises for body movement and voice.
- Pantomime a song.
- Read about the history of clowning.
- Create a clown character.
- Create a simple face-paint design.
- Read about ventriloquism.

Moving Forward

- Give a dramatic reading, or tell a story.
- Rehearse and act out a scene from a story or play.
- Write a critique of a dramatic production.
- Practice types of movement and body language.
- Practice types of voice projection.
- Practice facial expressions.
- Make a prop for a play or skit.
- Develop a character from an item, prop or photo.
- Apply makeup for a specific character.
- Design a costume for a character or scene.
- Develop a Reader’s Theatre skit from a book or story.
- Read about lighting techniques for stage or film.

Digging Deeper

- Direct club members in a play or skit.
- Create a storyboard for a video or stage production.
- Design a set for a play or skit.
- Develop a costume design theme for a production.
- Write a play or skit.
- Select props for a production.
- Study special effects techniques used in stage or film.
- Coordinate a performing arts workshop for other members.
- Develop a publicity video or sound-bite promoting 4-H.
- Organize a puppetry, clowning or other performing arts troupe.
- Investigate salaries, education and training requirements for at least three performing-arts careers.
Developing Your Character

In Performing Arts we learn about the development of a character. In the 4-H Performing Arts Project you should also learn about developing a good character in yourself. Look at the elements of Character Education below and the ideas for how you can model good character in your project work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trustworthiness</th>
<th>Be creditable and reliable: If you are practicing, make sure you can be counted on to learn your parts and show up for practice.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Respect</td>
<td>Treat others as you would like to be treated. Listen when others are performing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responsibility</td>
<td>Set a good example to others, and have good work habits.</td>
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<td>Fairness</td>
<td>Accept the differences in others, and share equipment and the stage.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caring</td>
<td>Encourage other performers, and express gratitude to people who help you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship</td>
<td>Use your project to serve others by doing some of the activities below.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The Art of Serving Others

- Create and perform a play or skit for special-needs children.
- Donate your face painting skills for a community, school or church event.
- Perform a puppet show for a pre-school class or vacation bible school.
- Make and donate a puppet for an angel tree gift.
- Teach younger 4-H'ers how to make a sock, stick or finger puppet.
- Help a community theatre, school or church with stage decorations and props or costumes.
- Teach a workshop to younger 4-H'ers about some aspect of performing arts.
- Design and display an exhibit encouraging others to enroll in performing arts.
- Develop a puppet show or skit on a social issue, such as distracted driving, bullying or woods arson, to name a few.

Set the Stage for a Career

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actor</th>
<th>Animation Instructor</th>
<th>Dramatic Arts Teacher</th>
<th>Dancer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Producer</td>
<td>Stage Manager</td>
<td>Special Effects Creator</td>
<td>Comedian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Set Designer</td>
<td>Play Writer</td>
<td>Film Editor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clowning</td>
<td>Make-up Artist</td>
<td>Musician</td>
<td>Improvisation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Choreographer</td>
<td>Costume Designer</td>
<td>Singer</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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References: Career information retrieved from: http://careerplanning.about.com/od/occupations/a/perf_arts.htm; National 4-H Cooperative Curriculum System, Inc.; Theatre Arts Series, 4-HCCS BU-08073