Instructional Unit Title: Ensemble Building Extended Pathway

Drama and Theatre Arts High School

The teacher may introduce collaboration opportunities so that students can understand how ensembles rely on teamwork.



The teacher may test collaboration in a performance format so that students can understand how ensembles persevere as a team.



The teacher may facilitate a group improvisation scene so that students can experience the importance of character development within a scene.

The teacher may facilitate a pitch meeting so that students can receive feedback and audience buy-in from their peers.



The teacher may guide the class in summarizing a well-known plot so that students can differentiate the major and minor components of a storyline.



The teacher may encourage character and environment development within an improvised scene so that students can understand the relationship between characterization and environmental influences.



The teacher may provide the class with playwriting support so that students can develop and write their scripts.



The teacher may oversee the rehearsal of the scripts so that students can critically respond to their original work in a performance setting.

PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT: You are auditioning for a local community improvisation troupe. The auditions will consist of enacting a scripted work/scene as written, and then the judges will ask you to repeat the scene changing specific elements such as props, environment, and character motivation. The audition sheet delineates that all actors will be rated based on their ability to work within an ensemble, such as collaboration, when to lead and follow, listening, and encouraging. The last line of the audition sheet states: "Divas need not apply. Leave your ego at the door."

This unit was authored by a team of Colorado educators. The unit is intended to support teachers, schools, and districts as they make their own local decisions around the best instructional plans and practices for all students. To see the entire instructional unit sample with possible learning experiences, resources, differentiation, and assessments visit http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/instructionalunitsamples.