

# MORTON RANCH HIGH SCHOOL

## Theatre Department

2018-2019  
MTC Handbook



**DEPARTMENT WEBSITE:** [www.mavericktheatrecompany.org](http://www.mavericktheatrecompany.org)

**MTC Twitter:** @MRHSMTC

**MTC REMIND:** @MRHSMTC18 to 81010

### WHY THEATRE ARTS?

Theatre courses build on the foundations established in students' real life experiences and is applicable by learning basic theatrical vocabulary, historical and cultural backgrounds of dramatic works and literature, movement on stage, acting techniques, character exploration, the production process, evaluation of theatrical experiences, and all areas technical theatre.

### MISSION STATEMENT

KatyISD Theatre strives to provide unparalleled learning experiences designed to prepare and inspire each student to live an honorable, fulfilling life...to create the future. It is our goal as Morton Ranch Theatre Department members, parents, directors, and a lifelong love for theatre and the fine arts amongst our student and community. Our aim is to elicit creative self-expression, critical thinking, and artistry through our theatre course offerings and mainstage productions as students grow not only as performers, directors, designers, and stage technicians- but as well rounded theatre artists. We seek to understand the value of the arts as humanity's most essential and universal language transcending culture, time, and place. We offer a unique experience by opening gateways for opportunity, both to our students and the community.

***You are always auditioning.***

*21000 Franz Rd.  
Katy, TX 77449  
(281) 237-7800*



**PAC Manager, Head Theatre Director**

**Technical Theatre I, II, III, IV, Maverick Players, and Production**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Mr. BK Goodman

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**Theatre I, II, III, IV, and Production**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Ms. Alexis Gette

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## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **Theatre I**

*\*\*\*Theatre I or Technical Theatre I are a prerequisite for all other theatre courses*

This is an introductory performance course. It incorporates basic acting techniques, the role of the actor in interpreting dramatic literature, the historical evolution of performance styles and dramatic themes, and a general appreciation for Theatre. The student will learn basic movement, body control, mime and pantomime, vocal technique, and the development of character as it relates to differing periods and styles of drama.

#### **Theatre I and all subsequent theatre courses will cover:**

##### *Theatrical vocabulary, elements, conventions, and basic concepts*

- Learners study principles of acting and begin to understand theatrical conventions dealing with time and setting.
- Learners develop essential skills, techniques, and a process of script analysis to create believable characters.
- Learners add techniques in diction and body movements to develop characterizations further.

##### *Historical and cultural backgrounds*

- Students explore dramatizations and scenes from a variety of historical periods and cultures. Specific examples of theatrical productions stimulate understanding of the impact of society on theatre AND theatre's impact on society.

##### *Experiences that develop a broad-based body of knowledge and technical skills*

- Introductory playwriting will enable the student to improvise, write, and rewrite monologues, scenes, and vignettes to convey predetermined intent and meaning.
- Students become their own directors and are accountable for small group presentations of a scene or vignette.
- The director is responsible for incorporating all aspects of a production into a unified whole.

##### *Strategies for evaluating theatre experiences*

- Viewing live and recorded performances and short classroom presentations, students analyze the impact of technical theatre in communicating meaning to an audience.
- By articulating and applying predetermined criteria and using theatrical technology, students reflect on and make judgments about the effectiveness of personal work and the work of others.

### **Theatre II**

Theatre Arts II is designed to train the intermediate level acting student in the fundamentals of acting and to develop an appreciation of theatre. This course intensifies what has been learned within Theatre I. It incorporates specific acting techniques, explores vocal and physical boundaries, and allows students to learn different methodologies in regard to character development. A higher level of analysis and research is required.

This course takes the basic ideals of theatre arts and elevates them to an advanced level.

- Students will have an opportunity to explore many aspects of theatre through improvisations, pantomime, monologues, scene work, musical theatre, and film.
- Students will create believable characters, maintaining the uniqueness of the individual characters while demonstrating the effects of circumstances and relationships with other characters and the environment.
- Students will create scenes, vignettes, and other works that contain dialogues that reveal motivation, plot, and theme.
- Students will conduct ongoing evaluations that tie original intent to the final product, assess the quality and effectiveness of communicating to a third person, and encourage rewrites that establish foundations for future theatrical endeavors.

### **Theatre III/ IV**

Theatre Arts 3/4 is designed to train the advanced level acting student in techniques useful in professional theatre. This course builds upon the foundation established in Theatre Arts 2. Students will develop advanced acting techniques and explore specialized forms of theatre, (i.e., Children's Theatre, Musical Theatre, and Shakespearean Theatre). Students will also study and perform scenes from a variety of theatrical genres.. Emphasis will be on performance, the analysis/evaluation of theatrical literature, and the development of vocal and physical techniques.

- Students will have opportunities to explore creative areas essential in the production of a play, including directing, choreography, costumes, scene breakdown, and analysis.
- Students continue to refine their use of stage movement, pantomime, voice, and diction.
- Students utilize advanced acting techniques that address the subtleties of characterization so that an audience can see their character grow over the course of the play within the plot structure.
- Research continues to be a major part of each new play undertaken and provides direction for creating characterizations and guidance for solving technical challenges.
- Students continue to experience a diverse theatre repertoire. Learners examine parallels in the related fields of musical theatre, film, and television to advance their technical expertise.
- Students will continue their reflection and attention to critique to help themselves as well as other actors grow.

### **Production Theatre II-IV**

Production class is an audition-based course offered to students who have completed their first year in the MRHS theatre classes. This class is for advanced technical and performance theatre students including only 25-30 members.

Production is an upper-level advanced theatre class catered to students who exhibit a high caliber of performance and dedication to learning the craft of theatre. The focus of this class is to growth through the process of the two main competitive components of Texas high school theatre: Texas Thespians and UIL One Act Play.

Therefore, the students in this class will act as performers, designers, technicians, crew, directors, and choreographers in various aspects of production throughout the course of the year in collaboration with program directors. There is no separation between crew and actors - ALL areas will be explored.

### **Maverick Players**

Maverick Players is a comprehensive performance based class which provides concrete, proven techniques and lesson plans to make drama accessible to people with disabilities of all ages. The class covers creative drama, improvisational acting, puppetry, theatre production, and creating original scripts, providing specific adaptations for each situation as well as issues such as inclusion, using drama to teach academic subjects, physical accessibility, programmatic accessibility, behavior management, and effective team teaching techniques.

### **Technical Theatre I**

Students focus on developing the basic tools and procedures for creating elements of technical theatre. Technical knowledge of safety procedures and demonstrated safe operation of theatre equipment are central to success in this course. Students will be required to attend or participate in technical work, rehearsals, and/or performances beyond the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. Technical Theatre class will introduce the first year technician to the areas of stagecraft and theatrical production. You will climb ladders, lift things, build, paint, work online, research, work with makeup, and handle very expensive equipment in this class. The theatre elements to which you will be introduced will include, but are not limited to: Stage elements, Stage properties (props) Crews/Assignments Theatre appreciation Costumes/Makeup, Sound Engineering/Recording, Lights and Lighting Design, Fly System/Safety, Box Office/Ticket Sales Stage Management

### **Technical Theatre II**

This course builds upon the skills and knowledge learned in Technical Theatre I. The class incorporates analysis, theory, and practical application. Emphasis will be on advanced design techniques and application. Students will be required to read/analyze plays for technical considerations. Students will be required to attend or participate in technical work, rehearsals, and/or performances beyond the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. Technical Theatre 2 explore all areas of stagecraft and theatrical production. Students will climb ladders, lift things, build, paint, work online, research, work with makeup, and handle very expensive equipment in this class. The theatre elements to which you will be introduced will include, but are not limited to: Stage elements, Stage properties (props) Crews/Assignments Theatre appreciation Costumes/Makeup, Sound Engineering/Recording, Lights and Lighting Design, Fly System/Safety, Box Office/Ticket Sales Stage Management. Students in Technical Theatre 2 will be able to interview as a PAC Manager for the 2017-2018 production year.

### **Technical Theatre III/IV**

This course builds upon the skills and knowledge learned in Technical Theatre II. The class incorporates analysis, theory, and practical application. Emphasis will be on advanced design techniques and application. Students will be required to read/analyze plays for technical considerations. Students will be required to attend or participate in technical work, rehearsals, and/or performances beyond the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. Technical Theatre 3/4 explore all areas of stagecraft and theatrical production. Students will climb ladders, lift things, build, paint, work online, research, work with makeup, and handle very expensive equipment in this class. The theatre elements to which you will be introduced will include, but are not limited to: Stage elements, Stage properties (props) Crews/Assignments Theatre appreciation Costumes/Makeup, Sound Engineering/Recording, Lights and Lighting Design, Fly System/Safety, Box Office/Ticket Sales Stage Management. Students in Technical Theatre 3-4 **must work** as a PAC Manager for 2 fall events and 2 spring events.

# **2018-2019 MRHS Theatre I-IV Curriculum**

## ***Theatre I***

*2nd, 3rd, and 4th Period*

### **Fall Semester**

Introduction to Theatre  
Basis of Acting  
Pantomime  
The Actor's Voice  
Characterization  
Theatre History

### **Spring Semester**

Play Analysis through Playwriting  
Monologues  
Duet Scenes  
Production: Audition, Rehearsal, Analysis, and Critique  
Technical Theatre

## ***Theatre II***

*5th Period*

### **Fall Semester**

Building Creativity  
Pantomime  
Script Analysis  
Performance Unit: Monologues, Duets, & Ensembles  
Accents & Dialects

### **Spring Semester**

Musical Theatre  
Playwriting  
Theatre Production  
Portfolios

## ***Theatre II/III/IV***

*6th Period*

### **Fall Semester**

Building an Ensemble  
Acting Realism  
12 Guideposts  
Script Analysis

### **Spring Semester**

Musical Theatre  
Playwriting  
Directing  
Portfolios

# 2018- 2019 MRHS Technical Theatre I-IV Curriculum

## *Tech Theatre 1 and Advanced Technical Theatre 1 (3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> periods)*

### **Fall Semester**

Facility Tour  
Theatre Safety  
Theatre Terms  
Tool Identify/Safety  
Drafting Unit  
Paint Techniques

### **Spring Semester**

Hair/Make-Up Unit  
Lighting Unit  
Prop Unit  
Production Unit  
Sound Unit  
Costume Unit

## *Technical Theatre II*

### **Fall Semester**

Production Essentials  
Elements of Design  
Implementation of Design Elements  
Theatrical Design  
Lighting Design

### **Spring Semester**

UIL Theatrical Design  
Sound Design  
Scenic Design  
Design Portfolio

## *Technical Theatre III/IV*

### **Fall Semester**

Production Participation  
Production Design  
Thespian IE Entry  
UIL Theatrical Design

UIL One-Act Play  
Design Portfolio  
PAC Manager Training



# THEATRE I-IV REQUIREMENTS

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

- A. College-ruled spiral notebook
- B. Pencil, Pens, Highlighter
- C. 2 Glue Sticks

## CLASS FEES

**\$30/year or \$15/semester**

Fees must be paid by August 31 and January 31

**Why do I need to pay class fees?**

Class materials, script fees, design materials- we are not funded by the district.

## CLASS PERFORMANCE

Every Theatre I-IV class has at least one after-school performance in the spring semester. Participation is mandatory to complete the MRHS theatre arts curriculum.

**Theatre I Performance Date:** April 17, 2018 at 6:00 pm

**Theatre II Performance Date:** April 30, 2018 at 10:00 am and 7:00 pm

## SCRIPT STUDIES

Every Theatre class will study 1 play each six weeks. There will be an assignment due based on these studies which will account for 2 MINOR GRADES (Discussion & PBL Assignment) for each six weeks.

**1st Six Weeks** (Due September 10-14)

*The Little Prince* - Rick Cummins

**2nd Six Weeks** (Due October 22-26)

*All My Sons* - Arthur Miller

**3rd Six Weeks** (Due December 10-14)

*Noises Off* - Michael Frayn

**4th Six Weeks** (Due January 28- February 1)

*A Streetcar Named Desire* - Tennessee Williams

**5th Six Weeks** (Due March 25-29)

*Tartuffe* - Moliere

**6th Six Weeks** ( Due May 13-17)

*Ruined* - Lynn Nottage

## PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Theatre I- IV students are required to **attend all** MTC performances as a MAJOR GRADE

## PERFORMANCE DATES

- **Addams Family:** October 11-October 13
- **Book of Everything:** November 29 - 30
- **Trestle at Pope Lick Creek:** January 18 - 19
- **UIL OAP:** March TBA

## CLASSROOM RULES

1. No gum, food, makeup, headphones, or leftover messes.
2. Respect your director & your classmates (by following the Core Values)
3. Leave your cool at the door.
4. Use technology appropriately.
5. ASK. ALWAYS ASK.

### Discipline:

1<sup>st</sup> offense – Warning

2<sup>nd</sup> offense – Parent phone call

3<sup>rd</sup> offense – Discipline Referral

Serious infractions will be dealt with according to the student handbook.

# TECHNICAL THEATRE I-IV REQUIREMENTS

## CLASS FEES

**\$30/year or \$15/semester**

Fees must be paid by August 31st and January 31st

**Why do I need to pay class fees?**

Class materials, script fees, design materials, personal makeup kits, etc.

## CLASS PERFORMANCE

All Technical Theatre Classes will design, build, implement and execute technical requirements for all productions during the class period using materials and supplies provided by MTC.

### **Technical Theatre II/Theatre IV Additional Requirements**

- All Tech II-IV Students will attend a school day field trip. Dates, Fees, and times TBA.
- Technical Theatre II may interview for a PAC Manager Position.

### **Theatre III/IV Additional Requirements**

- All Tech II/IV Students must enter the UIL Theatrical Design contest.
- Technical Theatre III/IV must serve as PAC Managers for 2 fall and 2 spring events.

Technical Theatre I & II students are required to **attend all** MTC performances as a Major Grade.

Technical Theatre III/ IV students are required to **participate in all** MTC performances as cast, crew, or production team as a Major Grade.

## MTC Production Dates

- **Addams Family:** October 11-October 13
- **Book of Everything:** November 29 - 30
- **Trestle at Pope Lick Creek:** January 18 - 19
- **UIL OAP:** March 9th

## SCRIPT STUDIES

Every Theatre class will study 1 play each six weeks. There will be an assignment due based on these studies which will account for 2 MINOR GRADES (Discussion & PBL Assignment) for each six weeks.

**1st Six Weeks** (Due September 10-14)

***The Little Prince*** - Rick Cummins

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***Ruined*** - Lynn Nottage

## Discipline:

1<sup>st</sup> offense – Warning

2<sup>nd</sup> offense – Parent phone call

3<sup>rd</sup> offense – Discipline Referral

Serious infractions will be dealt with according to the student handbook

# PRODUCTION THEATRE REQUIREMENTS

## **What is Production?**

Production is an upper-level advanced theatre class that expects a high caliber of performance and dedication to learning the craft of theatre. The belief is that artists will become more well-rounded and experienced in performance through practice and production. The focus of this class is to growth through the process of the two main competitive components of Texas high school theatre: Texas Thespians and UIL One Act Play.

If at any point a student decides to leave Production Theatre, they will be placed in an academic theatre course or dropped from theatre completely, based on directors' discretion. Any student who drops this course after the start of the year is not eligible for Booster Club scholarships, ITS graduation cords, ability to earn a letter jacket, or ITS Council position.

## **Student Expectations:**

- Adhere to MTC Core Values and Mission Statement, and Exemplify Attitude, Dedication and Ability
- Maintain a 70 or above in all classes.
- Build and uphold positive relationships with all class members and directors.
- Attendance and timeliness to **all rehearsals and events.**
- Tardies, detentions, and referrals are all unacceptable, and may result in removal from Production.

## **REQUIRED MATERIALS**

- A. Your binder, every day!
- B. Pencil, Pens, Highlighter
- C. Dress blacks- full black

## **What are the financial obligations of being in Production?**

- MTC Shirt- \$15
- Production Class Fee- \$35
- Addams Family Fee- \$50
- MTC Theatre Project- \$15
- RenFest Fee- \$20
- Texas Thespian Convention- \$300-\$450
- Personal Makeup Kit- \$18
- Fun Run \$15

## **PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS**

- Host MTC Summer Camp July 30 - August 3
- MTC Theatre Project
- Purchase an MTC Shirt
- Attend Renaissance Festival
- Attend Texas Thespians Convention
- Attend Book of Everything
- Attend Fun Run
- Attend Trestle at Pope Lick Creek (If not cast/crew)
- Host Middle School Tournament
- Participate in all MTC Spirit Night events
- Host the KISD Junior High OAP Festival
- Attend all Theatre I, II, and III/IV class performances

## **PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS**

- Addams Family- Actor, Crew, or House
- Sweet Theatre Performance- Actor or Crew
- Prepare an I.E. Event for Texas Thespians  
*I.E. Pieces include Solo Musical, Group Musical, Individual Acting, Group Acting, and Short Film*
- Audition for Trestle at Pope Lick Creek
- UIL OAP- Actor or Crew
- Evening of Scenes- Actor or Crew

## **MAVERICK PLAYERS REQUIREMENTS**

**CLASS FEES-** There is no class fee for the Maverick Players Class.

### **CLASS PERFORMANCE -**

- Students will demonstrate their knowledge of body positions by performing pantomimes
- Students will demonstrate their knowledge of Inflection by reading Dr. Seuss to each other and to the class
- Students will demonstrate their knowledge of Dr. Seuss and performing by performing a pantomime about Horton Hears a Who, and working on a scene from Horton Hatches the Egg
- Students will demonstrate their knowledge of imagination and performing by participating in numerous activities and one role-play.
- Students will learn how to communicate to each other by creating different role plays dealing with buying and selling.
- Students will learn about how they communicate with their friends by creating a piece of drama about friendship.
- Students will demonstrate their knowledge of feelings and emotion by creating numerous role plays dealing with emotion.
- Students will demonstrate their knowledge of staying safe by participating in class discussion and creating role plays with each other
- Students will demonstrate their ability to make eye contact through numerous exercises
- Students will demonstrate their ability to memorize by participating on numerous exercises and by working on their final performance piece.
- Students will demonstrate their knowledge of improvisation, group work, and memorization to perform several improvisations and to memorize their poem

### **MTC PRODUCTION DATES - students are encouraged to attend/participate**

- **Addams Family:** October 11-October 13
- **Book of Everything:** November 29 - 30
- **Trestle at Pope Lick Creek:** January 18 - 19
- **UIL OAP:** March 9th

Maverick Players is a comprehensive performance based class which provides concrete, proven techniques and lesson plans to make drama accessible to people with disabilities of all ages. The class covers creative drama, improvisational acting, puppetry, theatre production, and creating original scripts, providing specific adaptations for each situation as well as issues such as inclusion, using drama to teach academic subjects, physical accessibility, programmatic accessibility, behavior management, and effective team teaching techniques. Maverick Player offers a unique opportunity to learn and perform in a working theatre. We are the first campus in KISD to offer inclusive genuine performing arts. Our flexible entry requirements appreciate that talent and passion cannot always be measured by exam results alone and in our course we believe that everyone should be able to access theatre education. The Maverick Players are fully inclusive with the only 'requirement' being that students can demonstrate previous experience, either within or outside theatre education. All inclusive support and mentoring is provided from within the vastly experienced team of Mr. Goodman and 3rd and 4th year MTC student teachers and KISD teacher aides. Maverick Players will have one on one instruction as well as paired/group instruction. This course is very hands on and will explore all facets of theatre for all ages.

## KATY ISD GRADING POLICY

The grade a student receives in this course is determined by the following weighted percentages:

### **Major 50% (At least 2 per 6 weeks grading period)**

The following activities are examples of criteria which may be assessed as major grades:

- *Designs & Design Portfolios (concept sketches, research, analysis, models, renderings)*
- *Projects*
- *Tests*
- *Performances*
- *Practicals (demonstration of skill- Technical)*
- *Production Attendance*

### **Minor 35% (At least 4 per 6 weeks grading period)**

The following activities are examples of criteria which may be assessed as minor grades:

- *Participation*
- *Weekly Lessons*
- *Journal Entries*
- *In class rehearsals/tasks*
- *Written response work*

### **Other 15% (At least 6 per 6 weeks grading period)**

The following activities are examples of criteria which may be assessed as minor grades:

- *Homework*
- *General classwork Assignments*
- *Quizzes*

### **Make-up Work**

The student is responsible for finding make-up work on the class website or posted in the classroom. The student has 1 day after returning for each day absent. (example, if you are absent for 2 days- you have 2 days to turn the work in.) **Any major grades or work turned in after this deadline is subject to Late Work**

**Procedures.** Any work missed due to a school related absence must be turned in the day of the return for no penalty.

### **Late Work Procedures**

When any non-performance or presentation assignment is missed, the policy is as follows:

- **1 day late- the highest grade the student can receive is a 70%**
- **2 days late- the highest grade a student can receive is a 60%**
- **3 days late- the student will receive a zero.**

### **Missing a Performance or Presentation**

If the student knows ahead of time that they will be absent, the performance or presentation must be completed before the absence. If a performance or presentation is late or unexcused, the student has 1 day to complete the assignment before receiving a Zero. **Any zero on a Major grade must be made up within the following 5 days during an enrichment period. The highest grade received will be 70%.**

## WHAT IS YOUR DIRECTOR'S VISION FOR MTC?

- To create a department of students who are enthusiastic, productive, and committed to the craft of live theatre.
- To create a department where students have a sense of ownership and pride in their work and in their contributions to our school and community.

**We value Attitude, Dedication, and Ability. In that order.**

### CORE VALUES

As part of MTC all students are expected to operate from the following Core Values during class and attendance/participation in after-school activities:

1. **People Matter**
2. **Work Together**
3. **Strive for Excellence**
4. **Be the Person YOU Want to Work With**

These Core Values are non-negotiables in our department. Not following the expectations set out by the directors could lead to parent contact or removal from class/production.

### BASIC RULES OF THE THEATRE DEPARTMENT

1. **Be where you are supposed to be when you are supposed to be there.**
2. **Stay engaged and focused in class.** No makeup, personal items, headphones, food, or work from other classes is allowed during instruction and work time. It's impossible to teach anything to someone who thinks they know everything or are unwilling to learn anything. Jump into each activity 100%, and remember you'll only get out of it what you put into it.
3. **Be prepared.** Bring all necessary materials, including scripts and pencils, every day.
4. **Respect materials and supplies that belong to the department.** This includes props, costumes, and wigs, too! If it isn't yours, and your direct hasn't specifically told you to- **DON'T TOUCH IT**. If you use something- **PUT IT AWAY WHERE IT BELONGS**. We work hard to make sure we take care of our space and our belongings.
5. **No gum on stage or during warm ups, rehearsals, or performances.**
6. **Follow the Core Values.**
7. **You are ALWAYS auditioning!**

Cell Phones & Electronic Devices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ These items are for classroom use ONLY with teacher instruction. We will be using devices for quizzes, tests, and research, recording, and other purposes.</li><li>▪ Cell phones are prohibited during rehearsals and may be held during this process.</li><li>▪ You should never record or take pictures of classmates without permission.</li></ul> #illegal
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## THEATRE DEPARTMENT STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

### Communication

Students are responsible for communicating with directors at all times. Don't rely on friends to tell your directors if something is going on or if you are going to be late. This won't be accepted. Know how to get in touch with your director and your classmates responsibly. Email, Office Phone, Remind, Text- acceptable.

### Language

Your language is a reflection of who you are. School appropriate language is expected at all times. Excessive use of foul language will result in meeting with the directors, and possible referrals or removal from theatre course.

### Dating & PDA

Dating within the department is always a tricky situation. By dating your company members, you put the professional atmosphere of MTC, your own ability to focus, and your willingness to invest in jeopardy. Relationships should not be messy and should not be a topic of conversation during MTC. **PDA and lounging on company members** is completely unacceptable. At no point should you lay-on or cuddle with company members. If dating and relationships with other company members become an issue, you will be required to meet with directors. Touchy feely stuff is: 1. *gross*. 2. makes people very uncomfortable. 3. you shouldn't have time to be doing that anyway. Get up, and be productive.

### Social Media - Positive on ALL Social Media!

You are expected to be positive about MRHS, MRHS MTC, MRHS Admin/Teachers/Directors/Students AT ALL TIMES on social media. No cyberbullying or bullying of any kind will be tolerated. Negative or aggressive post towards MRHS students or faculty of any kind may cause you to be removed from a production, activity, or privilege associated with the Theatre Department.

### Concession Stand Donations

In the event that you participate in an MRHS MTC Department production, you will be asked to bring concession stand donations. These are sold in order to raise money for scholarships at our concessions during all productions. Company members will be responsible for signing up to bring items for one of the performance nights. Each company member will be asked to bring: 1- 12 pack of soda & 1- dozen of cookies/brownies/cupcakes or may donate a pack of chocolate bars in lieu of baking

**Freshmen- Sprite**  
**Sophomores- Coke**

**Juniors- Diet Coke**  
**Seniors- Dr. Pepper**

### Theatre Facilities

**Facilities include: Green room (1134), Black Box, Hallway, Shop, Loading Dock, PAC, and PAC Lobby**

You are expected to follow all rules in these spaces as you would a normal classroom. As theatre students, it is your job to make sure these spaces are taken care of at all times. See trash or materials left out? Pick it up. See strangers? Ask them to leave. Up to no good? Get out of our hood. Think of it like this: you wouldn't want someone to disrespect your house, so why should you or anyone else disrespect ours? These areas are not available to you whenever you feel like being there. Only be where your director has asked you to be. No students should be in the above listed facilities without permission before, during, or after school (including enrichment). It is important to remember that painting or causing damage in these places is considered vandalism- which is against the law.

**Timeliness** – You are expected to be on time to class, rehearsals, performances and events.

**Casting- There is never a guarantee of casting for anyone in the MRHS Theatre Department.**

Casting decisions are made by the directors based on production specific interviews and auditions. Casting decisions will not be discussed. It is expected that anyone who auditions or interviews for crew is prepared to accept ANY role or position assigned.

**Conflicts** – should be clearly stated on audition forms. No conflicts are accepted for the 2 weeks before a production opens. Students with too many conflicts may not be asked to be involved in a production.

**Emergency Absences including illness** – please call, email, or text the directors as soon as possible.

**Unexcused Absences** – Unexcused absences to rehearsals or events is unacceptable. During rehearsals, **each unexcused absence will result in the loss of ONE thespian point.** Unexcused absences may include any absence not listed on your conflict sheet that is not an emergency. Examples – work, family, trips, school trips, other rehearsals, other meetings, detention, parents not allowing student to attend rehearsal, appointments (non-emergency) voice or dance lessons, and parents removing students from rehearsal or performance early with no previous communication.

## UIL ELIGIBILITY

Senate Bill 1 mandates that students who participate in extracurricular activities such as UIL One Act Play and field trips must receive a grade of no less than 70 in each of their classes. A student will be suspended from participation in ALL extracurricular activities sponsored or sanctioned by the school district for a minimum of 3 calendar weeks after a grade reporting period if any grade is lower than a 70 in any class.

Students who were eligible before the failing grade report will not lose eligibility until 7 calendar days after the end of the grading period. Ineligible students must wait 7 calendar days after the end of the three week evaluation period and/or the grading period to regain eligibility, whichever comes first. All Theatre activities outside of the normal academic day are considered “extensions of the classroom” or “curricular” activities. However, all theatre public performances, all UIL contests and their related activities, and field trips which require performance are considered “extra-curricular” and fall under the Eligibility mandate.

### STUDENTS MUST PASS ALL CLASSES WITH A 70 OR ABOVE!!

#### Rules of Eligibility

- If you fail ANY subject (including theatre) at the end of a six weeks, you are ineligible to be a part of any extra-curricular activities.
- If you are in a show and become ineligible, you will be removed immediately.
- A director cannot keep you after school for rehearsals, and cannot continue to work with you based on an assumption that you’ll eventually bring up your grade.
- Most failures are due, not to a lack of comprehension in a class, but to a lack of effort. Failing a class suggests that you are unwilling to accept responsibility as a student.
- No matter how talented a student is, a director cannot put an entire production at risk by casting a student who is unwilling to meet this minimum requirement.

**For detailed school rules and consequences please refer to the MRHS Student Handbook.**



## Rehearsal Expectations

Rehearsals will be professional and productive. Everyone needs to put in 100% during rehearsals, and outside of rehearsals in order for a production to be excellent. Here are some basic expectations to ensure the process runs smoothly:

1. **You are expected to be at every rehearsal, dress rehearsal, and performance.** Being involved in a show is a COMMITMENT. Conflicts will be considered on a per case basis only.
2. **Be early to rehearsals.** You want to give yourself time to let go of your day and prepare mentally and physically for a focused rehearsal. Feel free to warm up on your own, and be prepared to begin rehearsal exactly on time.
3. **Bring everything you need and dress appropriately.** Bring scripts, pencils, rehearsal shoes/clothes/hair bands, water, and something to take notes in.
4. **Rehearsals are CLOSED to visitors.** Permission may be granted on a case by case basis.
5. **Be a part of the ensemble.** A strong production means everyone has to put in full effort. Don't hold back during read-throughs, warm-ups, blocking, working etc. This is the time to *experiment*.
6. **Casual and excessive talking is not allowed during the rehearsal.**
7. **Stay in the rehearsal space.** If you need to leave the space for any reason, make sure you inform the stage manager as to your whereabouts.
8. **DEADLINES ARE SERIOUS. Be off-book by the required deadline.** Have projects or assignments done when they are due. No excuses.
9. **Only water during rehearsals.** All company members will have the opportunity for snack time before rehearsal starts. Food and drink must stay in the green room during this time. You may not have food delivered to eat or leave during rehearsals after snack time. Only water is allowed in rehearsal spaces.
10. **Use your time productively.** Stay busy. If you need something to do- ASK.
11. **Be helpful.** If you see someone trying to set the stage or clear the stage, jump up and help. If you've offered to bring something from home for a production, BRING IT. Remember, theatre is a collaborative art.
12. **Notes.** Notes are gifts from your directors. You should develop a trust with your director and understand that their job is to be the eyes of the production. Please accept each note with a "thank you" and write it down. Appropriate and respectful behavior is expected during notes sessions.
13. **Trust your directors.** We want you to come to rehearsal with ideas, but it is our job to help you make the right choices for the best show possible. It is *unprofessional* and *unacceptable* to criticize or offer suggestions about a fellow actors' performance or your director's decision *at any time!!* If they ask you to do something, or to stop doing something else- DO IT. Be open minded. When your directors take time to *think* during a rehearsal, it is NOT appropriate to call out suggestions from the stage or audience! The director's decision is final.
14. **Everyone helps set up. Everyone helps strike.** Every student involved in a production is required to help strike the show at the appointed time. If we don't take care of what we have, we won't be able to use it again!!
15. **Cell phone and Recording Devices** – Cell phones will be collected at the beginning of every rehearsal. Use of devices, unless approved by directors, during rehearsal times is completely unacceptable. Filming of any kind is not permitted during classes or rehearsals without approval of the directors and those being filmed.

\*\* As directors, we have the right to remove any student from a show due to lack of commitment or professionalism.

### Strong Suggestions

1. Keep up with your academic classes.
2. Keep parents informed about your rehearsal schedule and commitments.
3. Inform teachers, classmates, family, and friends when you're in a show! The whole purpose of live theatre is to share our hard efforts with an audience. We want to gain and maintain the support and respect of our school and community!

## **MTC: Maverick Theatre Company**

Maverick Theatre Company is the name of our drama club, which governs all the extracurricular activities of MRHS' theatre program, including the International Thespian Society. Its primary purpose is to provide students with opportunities to further their knowledge and understanding of the theatrical arts through academic research and practice, as well as practical production work. Furthermore, MTC wishes to work cooperatively with and give back to the surrounding community by providing quality arts programming.

MTC is a student driven, parent/community supported organization which is responsible for all social and fundraising events for the department. Do you have to join the company? No, but it sure would be a shame for you not to. You can only do so much in class. In the MTC you can do and learn even more. Plus, it's loads of fun. MTC costs NOTHING! However, we do require MTC members to buy an MTC shirt to be in the yearbook photo, for ushering and volunteering events, and to rep MTC pride :)

MTC members wishing

*To see what MTC is up to, check out the calendar on the website or **Twitter @MRHSMTC***

### **What can MTC do for you?**

- Rehearsal and performance snack time
- Every event allows you to earn Thespian points!
- In-Class Concessions
- Opportunities to attend Broadway in Houston
- Special workshops and guest speakers
- BIG/LITTLE Program
- Parties/Socials/Spirit Nights: Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Banquet
- Underclassmen Summer Camp Scholarships
- Senior Scholarships (all students in theatre 3 years or more)

### **MTC Council of 5**

MTC Council consists of 5 upperclassmen officers, elected by members of MTC. These individuals are student leaders responsible for the planning and implementation of department expectations. The MTC Council of 5 is responsible for leading Thespian Troupe 6861.

***President - Sarah Specksgoor***

***Vice President- Peyton Leonard***

***Secretary- Amado Velasco***

***Historian- Tanner Griffin***

***Theatre Advocacy Chair- Tyson Fullmer***

### **Class Representatives**

Class representatives for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will be nominated and selected during the fall semester. While these students are not on the council, they will hold a position of leadership in the department and act as a "voice" for the MTC student body. Class representatives may be required to attend morning officer meetings or be asked to assist in leading specific MTC events.

## **International Thespian Society**

The International Thespian Society (ITS) also falls under the umbrella of Maverick Theatre Company. ITS is an international organization dedicated to young people who are interested in theatre. (See [www.EDTA.org](http://www.EDTA.org) for more information). MTC is Troupe 6861, and we consider Thespians to be important to our program. You must earn a minimum of 10 “Thespian points” by participating in plays and theatre-related activities in order to be inducted. Students are inducted at the end of spring semester each year at a special ceremony, with further recognition at the end-of-year banquet. Being an inducted and active member of Troupe 6861 gives you voting privileges for end of the year awards, council, and other MTC events.

### **Thespian Points for 2018-2019**

**Point system currently following .1 points/1 hour of service.  
For estimated calculation, stay tuned :)**

### **Lettering in Theatre**

**The KISD Letterman Jacket Policy for Theatre is currently under District Review.**

### **Texas Thespian Convention**

MTC is Troup 6861, and we consider Thespians to be important to our program because it gives us the opportunity to enrich our knowledge and love for theatre with outstanding shows and workshops. In addition to offering us great learning opportunities it gives us the opportunity to compete against other schools in Individual Events , or IE’S. The top scorers of these events qualify for Nationals which is basically an even bigger Texas Thespian Convention, but with people from all over the United States.

- Thespian Convention is November 14-18, 2018 at the Gaylord Texan Hotel in Grapevine, TX.
- Only students enrolled in a theatre or technical theatre are eligible to attend.
- All students who attend with Troupe 6861 must compete in an IE technical or performance event.
- All students who attend with Troupe 6861 must be in good standing with the Theatre Department and their grade level MRHS AP office.
- Thespian Convention costs between \$350 - \$450 depending on the registered events, hotel fees, and college audition enrollment. A true cost will be given to students attending in September.
- Registration is open from September 10-October 19. All attendees are financially responsible for paying their registration deposits and following the payment plan to complete payments by November 14. If a student registers, they must be academically eligible during the time of the trip.

## MTC DEPARTMENT CALENDAR 2018-2019

### July/August

July 30 - August 4	MTC Summer Camp	8:00 am - 4:30 pm
August 20	Addams Family Rehearsals Begin	3:00 pm
August 25	Addams Family Choreography Day	9:00 am - 4:00 pm
August 31	MTC Theatre Project!!!	3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

#### *Also this month:*

- Class Fees Due August 31
- AF Production Fees Due August 25
- PAC Manager Enrollment & Training

### September

September 1	MTC Theatre Project!!!	5:00 am- 2:00 pm
September 1	MTC Theatre Project Performances	2:00 pm
September 3	Labor Day: No School	
September 8	ACT Testing date for MTC Juniors/Seniors	
September 13	MTC Family Night	6:00 pm
September 20 - 21	Book of Everything Auditions	3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
September 24	UIL Eligibility Grade Check	
September 26	Les Miserables @ Hobby Center	7:30 pm

#### *Also this month:*

- Les Mis Ticket \$ due September 5
- MTC Usher Training
- Donations/Endorsements for Addams Silent Auction

### October

October 6	Addams Family Tech	10:00 am - 4:00 pm
October 7	Addams Family Tech Day 2	10:00 am - 4:00 pm
October 8	KISD Half Day: Addams Family Dress	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
October 10	PSAT - Schoolwide! Woo Hoo, break legs!	
October 11	Addams Family Opening Day/Night	10:00 am & 7:00 pm
October 12- 13	Addams Family with Silent Auction	7:00 pm
October 13	Jr Texas Thespians (Hosting)	All-Day
October 15	Book of Everything Rehearsals Begin	3:00 pm
October 18	Sweet Theatre Auditions	3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
October 27	ACT Testing date for MTC Juniors/Seniors	
October 27	Halloween Party & Spirit Night @ Marco's	6:00 pm

#### *Also this month:*

- Texas Thespian Registration & Deposit due October 13 (STO Application deadline)

## **November**

November 2	Homecoming @Legacy Stadium	6:30 pm
November 3	SAT Testing date for MTC Juniors/Seniors	
November 5	UIL Eligibility Grade Check	
November 6	TX Renaissance Festival- Production	School Day
November 8	Sweet Theatre Tech Rehearsal	3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
November 9	Harry Potter Sweet Theatre	7:00 pm
November 14 – 18	Texas Thespians Convention	DFW- Gaylord Texan
November 29 - 30	Book of Everything	7:00 pm

## **December**

December 1	SAT Testing date for MTC Juniors/Seniors	
December 5	Trestle at Pope Lick Creek Rehearsals Begin	3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
December 8	MTC Fun Run	10:00 am
December 14 - 15	Fine Arts Extravaganza	7:00 pm
December 17	UIL OAP Auditions	

### ***Also this month:***

- MTC Christmas Party
- Book of Mormon Ticket \$ due December 10

## **SEMESTER BREAK BE SAFE SEE Y'ALL NEXT YEAR**

## **January**

January 8	Spring Semester Starts! (& Spring Grade Check)	
January 12	Trestle at Pope Lick Creek Rehearsal	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
January 16	Book of Mormon @ Hobby Center	7:30 pm
January 18-19	Trestle at Pope Lick Creek	7:00 pm
January 21	MLK Day: No School for Students	
January 30	Waitress @ Hobby Center	7:30 pm

### ***Also this month:***

- Class Fees due January 31
- Waitress Ticket \$ due January 7

## **February**

February 4	UIL OAP After-School Rehearsals Begin	Class - 4:00 pm
February 5-6	One Act Play Clinic (Hosting)	
<i>February 7</i>	<i>UIL Theatrical Design Entries Due</i>	
February 9	ACT Testing date for MTC Juniors/Seniors	
February 12	MTC Valentine's Party @ Marco's	6:00 pm
February 16	MRHS MTC MS Tournament	8:00 am - 8:00 pm

February 18	Presidents' Day: No School for Students	
February 19	UIL Eligibility Grade Check	
February 21	UIL OAP Clinic @ Barber's Hill	1:00 pm - 8:00 pm
February 23	PSIA OAP Festival	8:00 am - 8:00 pm

### **March**

March 8-9	UIL OAP District (Hosting)	8:00 am - 10:00 pm
March 22-23	UIL Bi-District Onsite & Contest (Hosting)	8:00 am - 10:00 pm
March 29-30	UIL OAP Area	San Jacinto College

***Also this month:***

- Summer Scholarship Deadline

### **April**

April 8	UIL Eligibility Grade Check	
<i>April 12</i>	<i>Thespian Points Due for Spring Induction</i>	
April 12-13	UIL Regional Contest	San Jacinto College
April 17	Theatre 1 Performances	6:00 pm
April 27	Middle School One Act Play (Hosting)	8:00 am - 10:00 pm
April 27	Prom	7:00 pm
April 30	Theatre 2 Performance	10:00 am/ 7:00 pm

***Also this month:***

- UIL OAP State Meet
- Evening of Scenes (TBD)

### **May**

May 4	SAT Testing date for MTC Juniors/Seniors	
May 10	MTC Banquet	6:30 pm
May 13-14	Fall Performance Auditions	3:00 pm – 6:00 pm

***Also this month:***

- Production 2019-2020 Auditions
- Council 2019-2020 Elections

**What is not on the calendar that I should also expect to be happening during the school year?**

- MRHS school-wide events
- MTC Meetings/socials
- Booster Club Meetings for Parents

\*\*\* All calendar dates, events, and times are subject to change. Stay informed about MTC events by checking out the website [www.mavericktheatrecompany.org](http://www.mavericktheatrecompany.org) and via Director newsletters or Booster emails :)

## MTC Anticipatory Fee List

<u>WHAT</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>WHEN TO PAY</u>
Addams Family Production Fee	\$50	<i>August 25</i>
Book of Everything Production Fee	\$20	<i>October 22</i>
Production Class Fee	\$35	<i>August 31</i>
Class Fees Theatre 1-4	\$30/year or \$15/semester	<i>August 31</i>
Class Fees Tech Theatre 1-4	\$30/year or \$15/semester	<i>August 31</i>
MTC Club Membership	\$10	<i>Beginning August 25</i>
Personal Makeup Kit	\$18	<i>September 4</i>
MTC Shirt	\$15	<i>September 15</i>
MTC Theatre Project	\$15	<i>August 30</i>
RenFest	\$20	<i>Octoberish</i>
Thespian Convention	approx. \$450	<i>October 13ish</i>
Fun Run	\$15 per entry	<i>December 3</i>
Addams Family Ticket	\$10 - \$13	<i>October</i>
Sweet Theatre Ticket	\$10	<i>November 9</i>
Book of Everything Ticket	\$5 - \$10	<i>November</i>
Trestle at Pope Lick Creek	\$5 - \$10	<i>January</i>
One Act Play Ticket	\$10	<i>March-April</i>
Evening of Scenes Ticket	\$5	<i>April/May</i>
HOBBY- Les Mis Ticket	\$45	<i>September 5</i>
HOBBY- Book of Mormon Ticket	\$64	<i>December 10</i>
HOBBY- Waitress Ticket	\$40	<i>January 7</i>
Thespian Induction	\$35	<i>April 15</i>
Banquet	\$25 per person	<i>May 3</i>

No fees are paid directly to directors. Students will use a department deposit envelope, which they will learn to fill out in class. All fees are recorded by the department and received/deposited by MRHS TAB Treasurer.

To turn in a fee, students should bring Cash or Checks made out to:

**Morton Ranch High School Theatre Arts Booster (MRHS TAB)**

### MRHS Performance Ticket Sales

MTC is going green! All tickets can be purchased online using a credit or debit card at:

Hereherehere

Or purchased at the MRHS Performing Arts Center the day of performance.

## **Parent Involvement: MRHS Theatre Arts Booster Club**

The Morton Ranch High School Theatre Arts Booster Club (MRHS TAB) has been established by parents who wish to support the activities of the Maverick Theatre either financially or by volunteering their time. The Booster Club helps by supporting our organization through fundraising, organizing and running events, and providing our students with scholarship opportunities. The Boosters work hand in hand with the directors in reaching program goals set by the directors. The benefits are working with the director who works closely each day with your child. Involved parents are more informed, develop a better understanding of the philosophy of the directors and have a better appreciation of the benefits their child receives by being a part of the Maverick Theatre troupe. Involved parents receive information at the monthly meetings from the director which supports their students. Boosters work together on several fundraising projects for the Maverick Theatre troupe which is essential to the success of the theatre program. Booster member efforts in raising funds are essential to the maintenance and growth of the program. The MRTAB is a 501 (c) 3 organization and is regulated by the Bylaws and Operating Code of the organization.

### **2018-2019 Booster Club Executives- The Purple Shirts**

**President** – Kim Specksgoor  
**Vice-President** – Paige Leonard  
**Secretary** – Debbie Cornell  
**Treasurer** – Allison Griffin

#### **Chair positions needed for next year includes:**

##### **Marketing/Advertising** - Mary Alaniz

In charge of getting Theatre information to the media; (Katy Times, Houston Chronicle, Create a Booster Facebook page, etc.)

##### **Special Events** - Needed

Organizes committee for special events decorations

##### **Fundraising** - Needed

Organizes committee for to organize fundraising events

##### **Scholarship/Concessions** – Needed

Organizes a committee to run the concessions stand throughout the year for scholarship funds.

You do not have to be a chair position to participate in Booster Club! MRHS TAB is always in need of volunteers for time, resources, donations, UIL chaperoning and networking opportunities.

**Meet the Booster Club & Directors**  
**September 13, 2018 @ 6:00 pm, MRH Black Box Theatre**

#### **BOOSTER CLUB MEETING SCHEDULE**

- All meetings will be at 6:00 pm unless otherwise noted. Any location/time changes will be sent out by Mrs. Specksgoor and Mrs. Cornell in advance.

Contact Kim Specksgoor @ [KimberlyKSpecksgoor@KATYISD.ORG](mailto:KimberlyKSpecksgoor@KATYISD.ORG) for more information!





Dear Parents and Students:

We are delighted that you have chosen to become involved in theatre at Morton Ranch High School. There are many opportunities for participation in MTC Drama throughout the year. Whether you participate in extracurricular activities or not, you are a vital part of our theatre program. Being a student at MTC Drama involves and incurs certain expectations and responsibilities. In order to assure that our students know what is expected of them, we have included a brief course description that outlines what students and parents can expect from the department. Parents should feel free to contact us at any time if they know they have a question or concern. Please read the attached information and sign and date the acknowledgement statement below.

Sincerely,  
**BK Goodman & Alexis Gette**  
Morton Ranch High School  
Theatre Department

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We have read and understand the class rules, grading guidelines, and required attendance of live theatre performances for theatre students at Morton Ranch High School.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Print name of Parent/Guardian: (print) \_\_\_\_\_ Relation to Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Daytime Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

I Prefer: PHONE CALL EMAIL TEXTS

PLEASE CIRCLE:

Are you interested in chaperoning, volunteering, joining Booster club, or other parent opportunities this semester? YES NO

Special Circumstances:

If your student is not allowed to participate in holiday events, discuss/participate in/or watch religious or political material - please indicate below :)

# Morton Ranch High School Theatre Arts Library Contract



It is a requirement of all theatre arts classes to read scripts of plays to research scenes, prepare monologues and performances, and period research. Morton Ranch High School Theatre Arts is establishing an extensive library of scripts located in the Theatre Office. These scripts range from classic period pieces to current Broadway productions. Most are recognized for their literary merit and have been selected for various reasons. Scripts include Pulitzer Prize winners, Tony Award nominees and winners, as well as scripts that have been freely adapted across the state for the UIL One-Act Play competition.

These scripts have not been edited or censored in content for reading purposes. Some of the scripts contain explicit language or mature themes. This is not exclusive to modern material. Although the language is more archaic, Greek, Roman, Elizabethan, and Restoration Comedies, as well as the Biblical Medieval Pageant Plays, all dealt with very mature and often controversial concepts. For performance purposes, scripts must be edited to conform to Morton Ranch Policy and be appropriate for teenage audiences. Students or Parents/Guardians of students who do not wish for their student to be exposed to this content simply need to indicate as such below, and the student will be given appropriate literature without penalty.

All scripts checked out become the responsibility of the student. Students are responsible for returning the scripts intact and unmarked. Should a student not return the original script checked out, that student is responsible for replacing the script. Scripts average \$8.00 each, but depending on the volume, the cost can go as high as \$50.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to call Alexis Gette or BK Goodman.

**PLEASE INDICATE YOUR STUDENTS' LIBRARY CHECK OUT STATUS:**

\_\_\_\_\_ May read and check out any script that is in the MRHS Theatre Arts Library.

\_\_\_\_\_ May ***NOT*** read or check out explicit, mature-themed scripts.

STUDENT: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**This form must be on file before a student may check out any script or read required texts in class.**