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NMH SUMMER SESSION

**2010**  
**Middle School Program**  
**DRAMA MINOR COURSE**

The goal of this course was to develop students' holistic understanding of staging and acting in a play. To accomplish this goal, the course began with a week of exercises focusing on spatial awareness and body movement. The students then spent several days doing improvisational activities to develop important skills such as story-telling, character development, dialogue, and spontaneity. At the end of the second week, they chose a monologue to memorize and deliver to the class, focusing on projection, enunciation, tone of voice, and character motivation.

The final two and a half weeks of the course were spent working on a production of *Alice in Wonderland: The Urban Edition*. The students contributed significantly to the direction of the production; they chose the play, auditioned for parts, developed blocking plans, gathered props, and coached one another on expressiveness and characterization. They then performed the play for the school during the final week of the session.

The class met for 90 minutes, four afternoons a week, for the five-week session.

Instructors: Jessica Bonnem  
University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill

Julia Harnett  
Connecticut College