



Dear Shadow Mountain Drama and North Valley Arts Academy students, parents, and friends,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year. After the strange and unexpected ending to the 2019-2020, we are excited to start this new school year with you.

We acknowledge that this will be a year full of unknowns. As the world and our community deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, the safety of everyone of you is foremost on our minds. We also believe this situation provides opportunity for creative adaptation and ingenuity that all of us, as theatre artists, can use to empower our learning and art form.

We have developed a curriculum and general guidelines for the semester and school year that will hold as close as possible to the learning objectives held during normal, in-class sessions. Flexibility within the coursework, that allows for learning remotely or in-person, has been considered. We strongly believe that even though we may start out the year in a digital format, there is still a tremendous amount of creative growth and work that can be done.

Our drama club activities, from our mainstage shows to Thespian training, will continue with adjustments as necessary. In addition to the actors, we will have full technical crews on each show, including stage management, costume design, set design, etc. Our 2019-20 Drama Club banquet will be rescheduled and held virtually the second week of school. Plans for Thespian new member induction for the 2019-20 school year will be arranged and announced at the beginning of the school year as well.

We are pleased to announce our mainstage shows this year:

**Fall Musical – *[The 1940's Radio Hour](#)* by Walton Jones**

**Spring Play – *[She Kills Monsters](#)* by Qui Nguyen**

The fall musical *The 1940's Radio Hour* allows flexibility in performance venues. This show is well suited to perform in a digital format if needed. We also have the option of performing the spring play *She Kills Monsters* at Shadow's outdoor amphitheater or virtually, if necessary.

In addition to the mainstage shows, we have plans for smaller performances for each of the scheduled drama performance classes. Students in the technical theatre classes will provide the designs and tech support for these performances.

Due to the unique demands of digital theatre performances and rehearsals, all students *currently enrolled in a drama class (performance or technical)* will be eligible to participate in the after school mainstage drama productions this year. We are limiting participation to students enrolled in classes to better maintain the integrity of the shows and help facilitate digital communication within the rehearsal and production process.

In a world full of uncertainty and change, we hope you can find some solace and excitement in continuing (or starting!) your theatre education with us here at the North Valley Arts Academy. We are looking forward to working with you all, and can't wait to see you again in the classroom!

Joe Flowers

Teresa Minarsich