

UNDERSTANDING BY DESIGN

Unit Cover Page

Unit Title: Playapalooza (Ten-Minute Play Festival)

Grade Level: 10-12

Subject/Topic Area(s): Theatre Arts

Designed By: Will Parker

Time Frame: 9 Weeks

School District: KIPP: San Antonio

School: KIPP: University Prep

School Address and Phone:

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Brief Summary of Unit:

This unit is designed to foster a community of collaborative theatre artists who ask the question: “How do we create stories and bring them to life?” Students analyze plays and characters in the context of Aristotle’s Six Elements of Theatre, the Elements of Plot, and Robert Cohen’s GOTE (Goal, Other, Tactic, Expectation) acting approach. Through using these elements to analyze published plays, they apply the same analytical skills while writing their own individual ten-minute plays. Students learn how to effectively and respectfully give and receive constructive feedback as they conduct peer-critiques of the scripts. The finished plays are read out loud as a class, and a few are selected to be produced. The unit culminates with a ten-minute play festival where students participate on a collaborative team as actors, directors and/or crew members.