

- ✓ There are nearly 26,000 K-12 school-based theatre programs throughout the United States.
- ✓ 100% of school administrators agreed that theatre programs strengthen students' creativity skills.
- ✓ Training in acting classes improves language and memory skills.
- ✓ Only 28% of public high schools in high poverty areas offer theatre instruction.
- ✓ Creative drama enhances fluent and flexible thinking in young students.
- ✓ 95% of school administrators believe that theatre experiences improve students overall academic skills.
- ✓ High poverty students with sustained involvement in theatre show substantial improvement in reading proficiency, gains in self-concept and motivation, and higher levels of empathy for others.
- ✓ Middle school students who participate in after-school theatre programs show growth in collaborative behaviour, critical thinking, creative problem-solving, and empathetic behaviour.
- ✓ Only 4% of all public elementary schools offer theatre instruction.
- ✓ 95% of high schools offered theatre-related extra-curricular activities during the 2011-12 school year.
- ✓ 98 % of school administrators believe that theatre programs strengthen student's critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and leadership skills.
- ✓ Only 32% of all public secondary schools offer professional development for theatre educators.