



**Missouri State** | DEPARTMENT of  
THEATRE AND DANCE

## **“Dreamland” Study Guide**

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**High School Workshop**  
**November 17, 2022**

## Plot Summary

“Dreamland” (or a musical riff on Shakespeare's Midsummer set during the declassification of Area 51) is exactly what the title says it is, or is it? Who thought it would be a good idea to give a group of high school honor students free rein in a top-secret military base two days before it opens to the public? Will there be aliens? Maybe. A show choir? Definitely. An over-the-top, B-movie-style musical comedy with a score that blends contemporary musical theatre pop with the smooth sounds of the 1950s.



2020 Salina South High School Production (Erin Kata)

Plot summary and photo courtesy of Concord Theatricals ([www.concordtheatricals.com/p/66679/dreamland](http://www.concordtheatricals.com/p/66679/dreamland)).

# The Cast

Melissa Simms .....	Ashlyn Cheek
Colonel Rasmusson.....	Noel Alvarado
Principal Wilson.....	Taryn Huffman
Snyder .....	Justin Turner
Rebecca .....	Shayna Rives
Randy .....	John Horton
Aurora .....	Grace Duncan
Eliot.....	Elijah Nash
Scott .....	Henry Lange
Quinn.....	Lisa Sandoli
Titania .....	Sheridan Mirador
Puck.....	Emma Reed
Cobweb .....	Sue Wiertzema
Peaseblossom .....	Sarah Pendergrass
Moth.....	Abbey Morales
Mustardseed .....	Nicole Rivera

New Dawn Choir and Alien Ensemble:

Claire Anderson, Kaleidoscope Fogg, Charlie Foy, Ana Garcia, Ashlyn Koford, Ryan Nolan, Seth Sims, Sydney White, Charlie Wende, Zach Zielinski

# Theatre Etiquette

Everyone here at Missouri State University and from the Department of Theatre & Dance are so happy that you decided to join us for this special performance. However, to guarantee that everyone in attendance has an enjoyable experience, we have a few ground rules to set. These rules of etiquette are the same rules that you are expected to follow at any live performance.

- 1) Turn off your cell phone.
- 2) Eat your dinner before the show, not DURING it.
- 3) Remain quietly seated and wait until the scene changes to enter/exit.
- 4) If you have to cough, cover your mouth.
- 5) Unwrap cough drops before the show.
- 6) Don't talk during the show.
- 7) Don't sing along.
- 8) Don't feel like you have to dress up.
- 9) Try not to fall asleep.
- 10) Respect the space and comfort of those around you.
- 11) Come clean.
- 12) Stop shrieking, whooping, screaming, and hollering.
- 13) No photos at any time.
- 14) Don't block the view of those sitting behind you.
- 15) The overture is part of the performance. Please cease talking at this point.

# Post Show Pondering

Now that you've seen "Dreamland," think about the different design elements of the show and rate each category. (1 = Poor, Not effective >> 5 = Excellent, Very effective)

Name:

School:

Lighting Design            1            2            3            4            5

Does the lighting effectively convey the mood of the scene and add to the atmosphere of the scene?

Sound Design            1            2            3            4            5

Are the music and sound effects fitting to the scene? Do they effectively communicate the tone of the play?

Scene Design            1            2            3            4            5

Does the set clearly portray the setting of the piece? Do the actors work well in the space?

Costume Design            1            2            3            4            5

Do the costumes and the makeup give insight to who the characters are?

Acting            1            2            3            4            5

Were the actors believable and engaging?

Talk about your favorite part of the design elements or the acting. What did you like the best?  
What did you like the least? Would you tell a friend to come see this production?

# Alignment to Standards

## National Core Arts Standards

TH: Re7.1.I.: a. Respond to what is seen, felt, and heard in a drama/theatre work to develop criteria for artistic choices.

TH: Re8.1.I.: c. Justify personal aesthetics, preferences, and beliefs through participation in and observation of a drama/theatre work.

TH: Re9.1.I.: b. Consider the aesthetics of the production elements in a drama/theatre work.

## Missouri Learning Standards — Theatre

5. Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation.

A. Prepare

c. (HS Proficient-HS Advanced) Demonstrate appropriate audience etiquette for the venue, purpose, and style.

7. Perceive and analyze artistic work.

A. Reflect

a. (HS Proficient) Respond to what is seen, felt, and heard in a drama/theatre work to develop criteria for artistic choices.

8. Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.

A. Interpret

c. (HS Proficient) Justify personal aesthetics, preferences, and beliefs through participation in and observation of a drama/theatre work.

9. Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.

A. Evaluate

b. (HS Proficient) Consider the aesthetics of the production elements in a drama/theatre work.