



Bacchus Marsh  
Grammar

May 2023

**Drama I Moth Professional Performance Excursion**

Dear Parents /Guardians,

As part of BMG's Drama I course, your child is required to attend a Professional Theatre Performance. We have been fortunate enough to secure tickets to 'Moth' which is on the 2023 VCE Drama Playlist, giving the students an insight into what VCE Drama is all about.

- Date:** **Wednesday 24 May 2023**  
**Time:** 9.00am – 3.00pm  
**Location:** Theatre Works, St Kilda, corner of 14 Acland St, St Leonards Ave, St Kilda  
**Uniform:** Students are required to wear Full School Uniform.  
**Transport:** Students will be transported to and from the venue by bus  
**Food:** Students will also need to bring their own lunch and water bottle, or alternatively, can bring money and will have the opportunity to purchase lunch with a supervising teacher on *Acland Street*, then gather at *O'Donnell's Gardens*  
**Performance:** Moth – by Declan Greene - Commences at 11am. Post show students will participate in performance debrief. Please see below for description of the Performance.

**Description:** *Moth is ultimately a story about hope, the potential healing power of friendship and the sense of belonging friendship can bring. At the start of the play, Claryssa and Sebastian are at the bottom of the high school social ranking. They find self-preservation in their constant insults to each other and imitations of the school bully. When Sebastian is singled out and the bullying culminates in a humiliating and devastating event, Claryssa abandons him, and his mental health deteriorates. No longer able to tell the difference between reality and fantasy, Sebastian's only friend, family and authority figures become further separated from him. Seeking connection elsewhere, Sebastian believes the moth in the jar is talking to him.*

*The final tableau of the play where the police confront Sebastian is a moment occurring in both reality and imagination, in both the past and the present, when Claryssa asks Sebastian's forgiveness. Claryssa wishes she could have been a better friend to Sebastian, wishing it wasn't too late and that she could have helped him. In the final moments of the play, she asks for his forgiveness. Ultimately hopeful, the play reflects that young people have the potential to rise above the challenges of their reality by imagining a world in which they have control of their narrative.*

*Moth includes the transformation of character, transformation of space, caricature, symbolism, the surreal, pathos, conflict, co-existing times/realities and disjointed time. Changes in character point of view are essential elements to the world of the play and are a crucial driver of the action. Performers changing their body shape and scale, inner and outer rhythms, status and also vocal qualities will aid in the clarity of character shifts and signify dramatic shifts in performance styles. Moth was previously selected to the VCE Playlist in 2012.*

***Moth references violence and bullying. It also includes references to mental illness through Sebastian's belief that the moth is speaking to him. The play includes coarse language, especially between the two main characters who tease each other mercilessly and satirise the adults in their world. There are references to religious zeal.***



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Please note that this is a compulsory excursion. Students will be required to complete a Performance Analysis as part of Drama I Course Assessments.

If you have any queries in relation to this excursion, please contact Ms Elyse Zahra on 5366 4800.

*\*\*All students attending are required to have their Student ID card for logging on/off the bus\*\**

*\*\*It is recommended that all students 8 years and over wear a fitted face mask whilst travelling on public transport (this includes to and from school, excursions, and camps) unless they have a medical exemption\*\**

Please complete the permission slip by **Wednesday 17 May 2023.**

Yours sincerely,

Elyse Zahra  
Drama Teacher  
[zahrae@bmg.vic.edu.au](mailto:zahrae@bmg.vic.edu.au)

Kevin Richardson  
Senior Deputy Principal



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**Drama I Moth Professional Performance Excursion - Permission Form**

I hereby give permission for my child \_\_\_\_\_ of Year \_\_\_\_\_ to travel to the *Moth by Declan Greene* to be held at Theatre Works on **Wednesday 24 May 2023.**

*I agree to the following:*

- ☐ *In the event of illness or accident, and where it is impractical to communicate with me, I authorise my child receiving such medical or surgical treatment as may be deemed necessary. I accept responsibility for payment of any expenses thus incurred.*
- ☐ *Photos will be taken at this event and utilized for school publications (i.e. Year Book, newsletter) and on select occasions used for website content and social media.*

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date / /2022

Please complete the permission slip by **Wednesday 17 May 2023.**