Cyrano de Bergerac by Edmond Rostand
English Language Arts, 10th Grade

WHAT'S THE STORY?

Cyrano, the hero of the play, is hopelessly in love with Roxanne, while she is desperately in love with Christian. A swordsman, an actor, and a poet, Cyrano has all of the style and facility with words that Christian lacks but that Roxanne craves. However, Cyrano is held back from pursuing his love by his fear of rejection for his "unusual" physical appearance. Instead, he contrives to "win" Roxanne for Christian, allowing Christian to use his words in his wooing. When Christian dies in battle, Cyrano loses hope of ever revealing his love to Roxanne. Ever the noble spirit, 15 years later, Cyrano approaches his grave, still trying to keep the truth from Roxanne.

CONNECTIONS TO CURRICULUM

The following are some, but not all, of the connections to curriculum for this novel.

- **Unit 1: Environment and Identity**
    - Essential Question: "How do adversity and environment influence an individual's behavior and identity?"
- **Unit 2: Impacting Others**
    - Essential Question: "How does an individual shape his or her environment? How does one influence others?"

KEY STANDARDS ADDRESSED

- Read and comprehend high quality dramas, prose, and poetry of appropriate quantitative and qualitative complexity for grade 10. RL.10.13
- Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text. RL.10.1
- Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development. RL.10.2
- Analyze how complex characters develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme. RL.10.3
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone. RL.10.4
- Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it, and manipulate time create such effects as mystery, tension, or surprise. RL.10.5
- Analyze a particular point of view or cultural experience reflected in a work of literature. RL.10.6
- Analyze and evaluate the representation of a subject or a key scene in multiple mediums-- including media, artistic, and other visual formats. RL.10.7
- Analyze how an author draws on and transforms source material in a specific work. RL.10.9

● Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings. RL.10.12