

PMCA Presents Theatre & Kids ... a dramatic combination! July 20 - 31

PMCA Summer 2009 Performing Arts Camps

OUR PHILOSOPHY

It has been almost 25 years since Will and Suzy Liegel first discovered the magical combination of children and the performing arts. Certainly, anyone at any age can appreciate a show or theatrical training, but especially a **KID**. How?

Theatre training encourages children –

...**to learn to take risks** in a positive environment and be willing to try new things. To stretch themselves and expand on what they already know, developing self-confidence all the while!

...**to develop personal discipline**. Learning lines, working on a scene as a team, conquering a difficult mime exercise...These teach children to set goals and to meet them.

...**to develop skills** in observation, concentration, imagination, and creativity. They get in touch with the world around them and can then create a world of their own on stage.

...**to understand that it is possible to work very hard and still have fun the whole time!**

With these ideas in mind, the Liegels with **Theatre & Kids** have designed a summer camp program that has delighted thousands and thousands of young people and their parents.

The program is diverse and rich with lots of enthusiasm, challenges, and plain ol' "camp fun." Every year we gather a great group of campers who have a blast, learn lots and make friends and memories to last a lifetime.

STAFF

Suzy and Will Liegel are the directors of **On Stage & Off** and **Theatre & Kids** and its summer camp program.

Will has performed for over 50 years throughout the United States and has appeared in over 700 theatrical productions. He holds a degree in communication arts and a Masters Degrees in Education and Theology and has taught at Grove City College, Drexel University, Oak Lane Day School and is currently an English teacher and Drama Director here at PMCA. He has directed many shows at elementary or secondary schools, is much in demand as a theatrical consultant and advisor, and produces T&K's children's theatre program throughout the year.

Susan is a certified elementary teacher and has taught children's dance and music for over 20 years. She has designed many children's educational programs, is a popular speaker on child rearing and adoption topics and studied under Robert Hamilton of the Philadelphia Boys Choir. Currently she is a director of music at a local church, co-directs the award-winning Cantabile Children's Choir program and is director of music grades K-12 here at PMCA. Together Will and Suzy "parented" their brood of ten children ages 18 – 32 and now delight in three grandbabies!

All of our accomplished T&K teachers are **FIRST** concerned with our campers as growing children and **THEN** concerned with their growth as performers. Teaching is age-appropriate and personal as well as creative, exciting and diverse. Our head teachers are college students and graduates with hearts for the Lord, and they will be assisted by high school students from the PMCA drama program. Each class will be able to have a full time instructor and aide.

OPENING AND CLOSING SESSIONS

Each day begins and ends with the whole camp gathered together. We begin each morning with aerobics to warm up sleepy bodies and accent rhythm, coordination and team-building. Each day there is a different "behind the scenes" accent (costuming, lighting, makeup, etc.) and campers learn the vocabulary of theatre There's lots of laughter as students share improvs, dress to support our theme, meet guests or win prizes for props, behavior, or courage. Our morning closing session is full of music and kids sharing scenes and songs they've been working on in classes. Amazingly, both older and younger students delight in these varied, challenging, personal times. Both times also feature some **spiritual accents** to go with PMCA's stance, building up kids in the Lord as they study and share the performing arts.

CLASS DIVISIONS

In our skills camp, **dividing the children by age** allows for each group to move at an appropriate pace and to go as far as possible. For example, the youngest children do very little reading and accent storytelling and improvisational pieces. Older campers are able to tackle difficult scenes from major plays. Our experience has been that kids of all backgrounds benefit from the program. If they've had no theatrical classes or experience, our "start from the beginning" approach brings everyone on board right away. If they've had training, the uniqueness of our program challenges them and the accent upon basics retrains, breaks bad habits and stretches everyone.

SUPPLEMENTARY PROGRAMS

The **Theatre & Kids Camp** is a year-round program run under the over-arching title "**On Stage & Off, Inc.**" Campers stay involved with their teachers and peers by attending shows for children done by adults or taking a class at the high school through on-going spring or fall **Saturday Morning Performing Arts Academy**. We also produce four to six full-length plays for young performers, in three graded levels from 3rd grade to college -- **Pirates of Penzance**, **Charlotte's Web**, **Seussical**, **The Wiz**, **You Can't Take it With You**, **Once on this Island**, and **How to Eat Like a Child** -- are just a few of our previous triumphs.

SPECIAL CAMPERS

Our experience has shown that mildly handicapped students benefit greatly from our program and add to the team experience of everyone involved. Physically disabled, educationally challenged, hyperactive and behaviorally disturbed children have all participated in our camp and have done well. Teachers are trained to bring them into a total camp experience and we will gladly discuss a specific situation or problem.

FINANCES

We are aware of the pressures on today's families, so T&K Camp remains one of the best bargains of the summer. Compared to other arts camps in the area, we offer a much more comprehensive program for a much lower price.

\$100 deposit (includes \$25 nonrefundable registration fee)

\$200 / Skills Camp

\$200 /Show Camp

Payments: Balance due by July 13 (Skills) or July 20 (Show).

SKILLS CAMP

July 20-July 24

MORNING CLASSES

The camp is divided into three age groups which move through a series of carefully designed group camp activities and three 40-minute classes in music, drama, and dance.

Dance – Jazz, hip-hop, ballet, creative motion, choreography, working with dance props and basic musical comedy steps challenge the novice and reinforce the experienced.

Drama – Improvisation, storytelling, voice production and projection, concentration, imagination drills, script reading, blocking, prop usage and comic timing combine for these exciting sessions.

Music – Rhythm, warm-ups, note reading, beat patterns, part-singing, vocal production, pitch matching, musical history, and great songs from great shows make music come alive!

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS

Campers get to choose from **6 electives** to accent their interests and abilities. Taught by specially provided leaders, workshops and classes may include puppetry, show choir, costuming, dance styles, mask making, video production and more. A list will be sent out closer to camp's start with details.

SKILLS CAMP DAILY SCHEDULE

9AM to 4PM daily

- 8:45 – 9:00** Campers arrive. **(Please not before 8:45 a.m.)**
- 9:00 – 9:30** **OVERTURE** (opening session including daily topic, aerobics, singing)
- 9:30 – 10:10** **ACT ONE** (Drama, Music, OR Dance)
- 10:10 – 10:50** **INTERMISSION** (snack time; snacks vary daily. Then group sessions with whole camp meeting together for videos, guest presentations, demonstrations)
- 10:50 – 11:30** **ACT TWO** (Drama, Music, OR Dance)
- 11:30 – 12:10** **ACT THREE** (Drama, Music, OR Dance)
- 12:10 – 12:30** **FINALE** (closing session, sharing a day's activities, wrap up)
- 12:30 – 1:10** **Lunch** – Campers will need to carry their own lunch to camp.
- 1:10 – 1:40** **Recreation** – Organized recreation and supervised free time. Aides and staff will provide creative and enthusiastic fun and games.
- 1:40 – 2:40** **Workshop I** Each camper will be able to choose two workshop electives from 6 offerings
- 2:40 – 2:50** **Snack Time** – Campers provide their own
- 2:50 – 3:50** **Workshop II**
- 3:50 -- 4:00** **Closing** – a final meeting to finish the day
- 4:00 – 4:15** **Departure (Please, not after 4:30 p.m.)**

DEMONSTRATION PERFORMANCE

Campers are invited to stay through between the day camp and our evening performance. Family and friends come at **7PM on Friday** to see the entire camp demonstrate some of the basics necessary to become a fine performer as they perform scenes, songs and dances in the auditorium. Refreshments are served and anyone may attend at no charge.

(Theatre & Kids P.O. Box 1485
(web: www.theatrandkids.com)

SHOW CAMP

July 27-31

SHOW CAMPS

In addition to our skills camp, T&K will also be running a show camp. In just one well-planned and exciting week (9AM to 4PM), three dozen young performers learn an entire Broadway musical and present it in Hamel Auditorium to friends, family and the public. T&K's past show camps have included musicals like **Music Man**, **Dear Edwina** and **Bye Bye Birdie** and the final product is always polished and professional. The show will be the famous tale of **Pinnocchio** with full sets, costumes, & dances.

CASTING

Everyone who signs up for show camp will be a part of the performance, from the leading roles to the ensemble. On the first morning of camp the campers get a chance to sing and read for us, and we will assign them to roles according to their abilities. We always work to ensure that everyone gets almost equal stage time. Even those with small roles will spend large amounts of time performing, and every actor truly is important!

SHOW CAMP DAILY SCHEDULE

9AM to 4PM daily

- 8:45 – 9:00** Campers arrive. **(Please not before 8:45 a.m.)**
- 9:00 – 9:30** **OVERTURE** (opening session including aerobics, singing)
- 9:30 – 10:30** **MUSIC REHEARSAL**
- 10:30 – 10:40** **SNACK** (snacks vary daily.)
- 10:40 – 12:10** **CHOREOGRAPHY and BLOCKING**
- 12:10 – 12:30** **FINALE** (closing session, sharing the day's activities, wrap up)
- 12:30 – 1:10** **Lunch** – Campers will need to carry their own lunch to camp.
- 1:10 – 1:35** **Recreation** – Organized recreation and supervised free time. Aides and staff will provide creative and enthusiastic fun and games.
- 1:35 – 3:05** **CHOREOGRAPHY and BLOCKING**
- 3:05 – 3:15** **Snack Time** (Campers must provide this snack)
- 3:15 – 4:00** **BLOCKING or THEATRE CRAFTS**
- 4:00 – 4:15** **Departure (Please, not after 4:30 p.m.)**

PERFORMANCE

Campers are invited to stay through between the day camp and our evening performance. At **7PM on Friday** they will delight the audience with a full version of a Broadway-style musical, complete with set, props, costumes, and a perfect performance (we provide everything!). It is sure to WOW friends and family alike.

AN IMPORTANT NOTE:

As this is our first year running a theatre camp at PMCA, we are unsure of the amount of campers that will register. Please understand that if we do not receive enough registrations by May 31st, we may not run the camp. We will make every effort to contact you immediately if such is the case. We pray God's blessing on our registration and hope you will join us for what promises to be a fun and uplifting experience.

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