

Summer 2020! It's happening!

Dear SSST Parents and Students – Thank you SO MUCH for your patience during this unprecedented time! I know you've all been waiting to hear what our plans are for this summer and believe me when I say we have been waiting every day for news that gave us a solid plan to share with you. We have now heard from Eastern Nazarene College about their Phase 2 plans and from Music Theatre International about their licenses for shows. MTI has delayed their decision-making about shows and streaming licenses to a date that we do not feel comfortable waiting on in order to make our decision about the summer. At this point, we still have not received permission to perform *Peter Pan* or *Mary Poppins* as a live streamed show. Given this and ENC's needs, we have decided to offer our summer program with some significant adjustments, but with an intention to maintain the integrity of our mission to meet each child where they are and provide performance opportunities for EACH child. Our program will run in the Cove Fine Arts Center on the campus of Eastern Nazarene College. No other spaces will be used. *Please read through these new summer offerings and respond to the emailed survey about your participation by Sunday, June 21st.*

SESSION 1: July 6-25, 9am-12pm, 7-13 yrs, *with option of 9-3:30pm (see below)* BROADWAY HITS Revue

Sing, dance, and perform hits from Broadway shows like *Wicked, Sponge Bob Squarepants, Hamilton* – and yes, *Peter Pan*! In compliance with Phase 2 rules, students will be placed in groups no larger than 10, must wear masks, and will rotate between the stage for acting lessons, the dance studio for choreography, and the black box for singing work to practice their group's songs and scenes. Students will begin with a week of audition workshops, receive a cast list, and immediately begin working on their final presentation. The students will perform a streamed broadcast of their show and we will also plan to provide a recording of it for all families. Final performances will take place on Friday, July 25th at 7pm and Saturday, July 26th at 2pm. More details of how performances will run will be released as we know them.

Options within Session 1:

- Week 1: July, 6-10 12:30-3:30pm stay for this extra time during week 1 and get additional workshops, private lessons, Zoom calls with professionals in the field (should bring lunch)
- Week 2, July 13-17 12:30-3:30pm stay for this extra time during week 2 to learn technical skills like costume-building, mask-making, and props creation, and yes, Zoom calls for professionals in theatre (should bring lunch)
- Week 3, July 20-24 12:30-3:30pm stay for extra time during week 3 to work on the set for the show and practice theatre makeup, and help put final touches on the show, from costumes to masks to props (should bring lunch)
- Extended day, available from 3:30-5:30 each week for an additional \$25/week

FEE: Standard 9am-12pm -- \$350

Optional full day weeks -- \$150/week Optional full day all three weeks -- \$700

SESSION 2: July 13-Aug. 1, 1-4pm, 7-13 yrs, *with option of 9:30-4pm (see below)* DISNEY FAVORITES Revue

Sing, dance, and perform hits from Disney musicals like *Princess and the Frog, The Lion King, Tarzan* – and yes, *Mary Poppins*! In compliance with Phase 2 rules, students will be placed in groups no larger than 10, must wear masks, and will rotate between the stage for acting lessons, the dance studio for choreography, and the black box for singing work to practice their group's songs and scenes. Students will begin with a week of audition workshops, receive a cast list, and immediately begin working on their final presentation. The students will perform a streamed broadcast of their show and we will also plan to provide a recording of it for all families. Final performances will take place on Friday, July 31st at 7pm and Saturday, Aug. 1st at 2pm. More details of how performances will run will be released as we know them.

Options within Session 2:

- Week 1: July, 13-17 9:30am-12:30pm arrive early during week 1 and get additional workshops, private lessons, Zoom calls with professionals in the field (should bring lunch)
- Week 2, July 20-24 9:30am-12:30pm arrive early during week 2 to learn technical skills like costume-building, mask-making, and props creation, and yes, Zoom calls for professionals in theatre (should bring lunch)
- Week 3, July 27-31-9:30am-12:30pm arrive early during week 3 to work on the set for the show and practice theatre makeup, and help put final touches on the show, from costumes to masks to props
- Extended day, available from 4-5:30 each week for an additional \$25/week *there will be no extended day on July 24th*

FEE: Standard 1-4pm -- \$350 Optional full day weeks -- \$150/week

Optional full day all three weeks -- \$700

TEEN SESSION: July 13-Aug. 8, 4:30-9:30pm, 13-19 yrs. *Bye Bye, Birdie* (this show is licensed through a different company and we have received permission to stream this live)

We are pleased to offer that we are moving forward with *Bye Bye, Birdie!* This show will run as our normal teen program runs, with an audition workshop the first two days and moving into rehearsals by Wednesday of the first week. Some changes, however, will have to be made as we cannot have groups larger than 10 in one room. We will be innovative in this approach as we think about this show being geared towards a filmic experience instead of a live theatre in-person production. (Think about all the LIVE shows that have aired on television in the past few years). This show will most be filmed and released for a live viewing experience, rather than streamed live due to the COVID restrictions we must stay within. Students will still have the option to leave campus for dinner, but we MUST have written permission for this from parents. Join us for this new theatrical experience!

Here are the things we are doing to ensure a high standard of hygiene and safety. We ask parents and students to follow these standards in compliance with Stage 2 of our given Pandemic Guidelines.

We will be providing staggered drop-off and pickup locations and times. Students will enter through the front door of the Cove Fine Arts Center and will enter be picked up through our backstage door at the back of the building.

We will greet students and staff by taking daily temperature checks with a non-contact thermometer.

All students and staff will be asked to bring and wear masks labeled with their names. We will have some disposable masks available in case of emergency.

We are offering half-day camp options to limit exposure and avoid a large communal lunch.

Students will have snack breaks outside sitting at least six feet apart to allow time to remove masks safely.

Hand-washing breaks will be taken, and hand sanitizer stations will be set up outside of each rehearsal space.

Interns and staff will go around hourly wiping down door handles of shared spaces.

Students will rotate through activities with no more than ten students in a room at a time.

Each rehearsal space will be air conditioned to make mask-breathing more comfortable.

The full building will be cleaned daily.

Please reach out to Allison (<u>allison@southshoreschooloftheatre.com</u>) with any questions or concerns. We are so excited to work with you and your student this summer!

Allison Tucker School Director

Tara Brooke Watkins Executive Director