

# Theatre Classes

Winter/Spring 2020



Theatre Classes for Children  
Kindergarten through Grade 12



**THE PLAYHOUSE**

# Winter Classes

## Spectrum Stories

**Ages 6-16 • Saturdays, 9:00-10:00 AM, Jan. 4-Feb. 29, 2020 • \$5 per class**

Join us for an exciting day of drama! Come to one session or come to all! Open to any student, Spectrum Stories is a theatre class experience designed for the unique interests and needs of students on the autism spectrum. Through storytelling, creative play, social interaction, and non-verbal communication, your student can work on social skills, flexible thinking, self-expression, empathy for others, and self-confidence. Siblings and friends are welcome as well. Pre-registration online at [dmplayhouse.com](http://dmplayhouse.com) is encouraged but drop-ins are also welcome!

## Winter Break Workshops

### Getting To Know You

**Grades 1-2 • 9:00 AM-4:00 PM Dec. 26-27, 2019, Jan. 2-3, 2020 • \$95 Subscribers/\$105 Non-subscribers for each two-day session**

What's this theatre thing all about anyway? Act out stories, learn a showtune or two, dive into the costume closet, and explore backstage to discover how the magic of theatre is created. This introduction to all things Playhouse is the perfect way to familiarize students with the magical world of theatre.

### Two Day Play

**Grades 3-6 • 9:00 AM-4:00 PM, Dec. 26-27, 2019, Jan. 2-3, 2020 • \$95 Subscribers/\$105 Non-subscribers for each two-day session**

Audition, rehearse, and perform a short play for family and friends, all within two days!

### One Day Workshop: Puppets On Parade

**Grades 1-2 • 9:00 AM-4:00 PM, Dec. 30, 2019 • \$45 Subscribers/\$55 Non-subscribers**

It's a puppet extravaganza! We'll create puppets and use them to tell stories from our imaginations.

### One Day Workshop: Shadow Puppetry

**Grades 4-6 • 9:00 AM-4:00 PM, Dec. 30, 2019 • \$45 Subscribers/\$55 Non-Subscribers**

Learn the basic techniques behind the art of shadow puppetry, the ancient art of storytelling incorporating light and shadow images to tell a story. Students will make their own shadow puppet characters and combine them to create an original story!

### One Day Workshop: Stage Combat & Makeup 101

**Grades 7-12 • 9:00 AM-4:00 PM, Dec. 30, 2019 • \$45 Subscribers/\$55 Non-Subscribers**

In the morning, learn the basics of creating and executing a stage makeup design. In the afternoon, learn the basics of stage combat.

**Students should bring a lunch and a snack to full-day camps.**



Extended care is available for Winter Break camps from 7:30-9:00 AM. The fee is \$6.00 per session per day. This is not a drop-in service; children must be pre-registered. After care is not available.

## What Is Creative Drama?

Most camps for younger students are focused on creative dramatics. Creative drama sparks children's natural abilities to become the characters they hear about in the books they love. These camps are literature-based and designed to foster listening and cooperative skills as well as self-esteem and individual expression. A creative drama class does not "perform" on the final day, however students are given the tools to share each day's story with their families.

### Creative Drama I: Destination Imagination

**Preschool-Kindergarten • Saturdays,  
10:15-11:15 AM, Jan. 4-Mar. 7, 2020 • \$128  
Subscribers/\$138 Non-subscribers**

Each week find a different book to dramatize in the magic trunk along with other special items that we can use to tell the story. Is it a pencil or a giant's toothpick? What else could it be? The sky's the limit when we use our imaginations. Invite a friend or parent to join in the fun on the final class.

### Creative Drama II: Story Quest

**Grades 1-2 • Saturdays, 10:45-11:45 AM,  
Jan. 4-Mar. 7, 2020 • \$128 Subscribers/  
\$138 Non-subscribers**

Each class always starts with a good story, straight off the pages of a book. Where will we go from there? It's up to you! Beginning acting skills, body awareness, self-expression, and literacy skills are reinforced. Students may invite a friend or parent on the last day to join in the fun!

### Creative Characters: Act it Out!

**Grades 2-3 • Saturdays, 9:15-10:30 AM,  
Jan. 4-Mar. 7, 2020 • \$159 Subscribers/  
\$169 Non-subscribers**

Students continue to transition to a more disciplined approach to theatre arts. While keeping it developmentally appropriate, young actors will begin to use scripted and original material to focus on creating a character and collaborating with others in an ensemble. This is a beginning acting class that will focus on vocal projection and fluency, expressiveness, and body awareness. Parents may attend an informal sharing on the last day of class.

## Des Moines Playhouse & Des Moines Art Center Present: A Night at the (Art) Museum

**Grades 1-2 • Mondays, 4:30-5:45 PM, Feb. 10-  
May 11, 2020 • Feb. 10-Mar. 9 at the Playhouse •  
Mar. 23-30 & Apr. 6-13 at the Art Center • Apr.  
20-May 11 at the Playhouse • \$181 Playhouse  
Subscribers or Art Center Members /\$191 Non-  
subscribers & Non-members**

Spend the first four weeks at the Playhouse getting to know the story and script and auditioning for roles. Spend the next four weeks at the Art Center creating backdrops and props you will need for your performance. Then come back to the Playhouse to rehearse and polish the script based on the book that inspired the popular movies! Parents are invited on the last day of class for an informal sharing.

## Des Moines Playhouse & Des Moines Art Center Present: A Night at the (Art) Museum

**Grades 3-5 • Mondays, 4:30-5:45 PM, Feb. 10-  
May 11, 2020 • Feb. 10-Mar. 9 at the Playhouse •  
Mar. 23-30 & Apr. 6-13 at the Art Center •  
Apr. 20-May 11 at the Playhouse • \$181  
Playhouse Subscribers or Art Center Members /  
\$191 Non-subscribers & Non-members**

Spend the first four weeks at the Playhouse getting to know the story and script and auditioning for roles. Spend the next four weeks at the Art Center creating backdrops and props you will need for your performance. Then come back to the Playhouse to rehearse and polish the script based on the book that inspired the popular movies! Parents are invited on the last day of class for an informal showcase.

## Kids Invent Theatre: Playmakers

**Grades 4-6 • Saturdays, 10:00-11:45 AM,  
Jan. 4-Mar. 7, 2020 • \$191 Subscribers/  
\$201 Non-subscribers**

Put those newly-honed acting skills to work, rehearsing and performing a play. Continue to work on diction, character development, and body awareness while also exploring ensemble building. Perform the play on the final day of class for family and friends! Returning students who have taken this class before are always welcome, as scripts are new each session. This class builds on the fall session's Kids Invent Theatre: Building Blocks, however new students may sign up if they wish.

# Spring Classes

## Spectrum Stories

**Ages 6-16 • Saturdays, 9:00-10:00 AM, Mar. 28-Apr. 25, 2020 • \$5 per class**

Join us for an exciting day of drama! Come to one session or come to all! Open to any student, Spectrum Stories is a theatre class experience designed for the unique interests and needs of students on the autism spectrum. Through storytelling, creative play, social interaction, and non-verbal communication, your student can work on social skills, flexible thinking, self-expression, empathy for others, and self-confidence. Siblings and friends are welcome as well. Pre-registration online at [dmplayhouse.com](http://dmplayhouse.com) is encouraged but drop-ins are also welcome!

## Spring Break Workshops

### Do You Want To Build A Story?

**Grades 1-2 • 9:00 AM-4:00 PM, Mar. 18-20, 2020  
• \$155 Subscribers/\$165 Non-subscribers**

Students will create and explore a realm of snow and ice, where everything is "frozen." We'll act out different stories, including *The Snow Queen*, *Tacky the Penguin*, and others. What will happen to other familiar characters when we transport them to our winter wonderland? We'll defrost with a hot chocolate party at the end of the last day. After all, some stories are worth melting for! Students will also attend the final dress rehearsal of *Frozen Kids* on Friday afternoon.

### Performance Academy: Frozen Kids

**Grades 3-8 • 9:00 AM-4:00 PM, Mar. 16-21, 2020  
• \$260 Subscribers/\$270 Non-subscribers**

You'll love this fanciful and heartwarming stage adaptation of the celebrated animated film and Broadway musical. Join Anna, Elsa, Olaf, Sven, and the rest of your favorite characters as they embark on an epic, ice-filled journey of self-discovery, camaraderie, and the real meaning of true love. Adapted for young performers, this musical includes favorite *Frozen* songs such as "Love Is an Open Door," "Do You Want to Build a Snowman?," and "Let It Go," as well as wonderful new songs from the Broadway production. This production of *Frozen Kids* is sure to prove that "some people are worth melting for." Auditions will be held from 4:00-6:00 PM on Friday, Mar. 13, to determine role assignment. All students enrolled must attend auditions. Performances are at 5:00 PM on Friday, Mar. 20, and Sat., Mar. 21 at 1:00 PM. Each student receives 2 complimentary tickets to the performance of his or her choice. Additional tickets may be purchased for \$5 each online at [dmplayhouse.com](http://dmplayhouse.com) beginning Mar. 1. Seating is general admission.

**Students should bring a lunch and a snack to full-day camps.**



Extended care is available for Spring Break camps from 7:30-9:00 AM. The fee is \$6.00 per session per day. This is not a drop-in service; children must be pre-registered. After care is not available.

## Creative Drama: Broadway Lullabies

**PreK-Kindergarten (children must be kindergarten eligible in Fall 2020) • Saturdays, 10:15-11:15 AM, Mar. 28-May 16, 2020 • \$128 Subscribers/\$138 Non-subscribers**

Explore storytelling through singing and movement in this fun, creative introduction to musical theatre. Parents can come sing and dance with us on the final day of class!

## Creative Drama: Broadway Babies

**Grades 1-2 • Saturdays, 10:30-11:30 AM, Mar. 28-May 16, 2020\* • \$128 Subscribers/\$138 Non-subscribers**

Children explore singing and movement in this fun, creative, explorative class centered around musical theatre. Participate in our spring musical revue showcase for family and friends on the final day.

## Creative Characters: Broadway Bound

**Grades 3-4 • Saturdays, 9:45-11:45 AM, Mar. 28-May 16, 2020\* • \$171 Subscribers/\$180 Non-subscribers**

Learn musical theatre show tunes and add basic choreography in a fun yet professional atmosphere. Participate in our spring musical revue showcase for family and friends on the final day.

## Kids Invent Theatre: Broadway Stars

**Grades 5-7 • Saturdays, 9:30 AM-12:00 PM, Mar. 28-May 16, 2020\* • \$195 Subscribers/\$205 Non-subscribers**

Love to sing, dance and act? This is the class for you! Learn musical theatre show tunes and scenes that come alive with choreography and acting technique. Participate in our spring musical revue for family and friends on the final day.

**\*Showcase: 11:00 AM on Saturday, May 16, in the Kate Goldman Children's Theatre**

## What Is Performance Academy?

In Performance Academy, actors are taken through a more disciplined process: auditioning, rehearsing, and performing a play to learn how to polish skills in a dynamic, challenging environment.



# Seeing a show benefits your child's theatre education.

That's why for each class registration, your student will receive one FREE student guest pass good for admission to any 2019-20 Kate Goldman Children's Theatre show!

Your student's ticket is good for the upcoming shows below.



**JAN. 3 - 19, 2020**

**Adventures this big don't grow on trees!** A magical peach! An imprisoned boy! Giant talking insects! Recently orphaned James Trotter escapes his cruel and repulsive aunts in a giant peach with some peculiar occupants, sailing halfway across the world, encountering danger and excitement every step of the way. High adventure for the whole family!



**FEB. 21 - MAR. 8 2020**

**Do you believe in fairies? Because they believe in you!** Of all the stories told about Neverland, Tinker Bell's has gone untold. Until now. Witness the origin of one of the most famous fairies in literature, from her first encounters with cherished children's characters like Peter Pan, Captain Hook, and Wendy Darling, to her triumph at the Battle for Neverland.



**APR. 24 - MAY 17, 2020**

**Rules are made to be broken.** Her father is a pirate captain. Her mother is an angel. She does her own thing. Pippi Longstocking will always come out on top no matter who she's up against, whether the head of the Child Welfare Board, naughty burglars, or thieves with an eye on her pirate gold.

\*Good for one student admission to the Kate Goldman Children's Theatre. Eligible titles are *James and the Giant Peach*, *Tinker Bell*, and *Pippi Longstocking*. Subject to availability. Must be accompanied by a ticketed adult. Guest passes will be distributed at the final class session. Complimentary seats cannot be reserved online. Call the Des Moines Community Playhouse ticket office at 515.277.6261 to reserve your seats.

## Education Policies

- An email address is required for class confirmation and other class correspondence.
- Any requests for changes or refunds must be made one week prior to the first class meeting. You will receive a full refund minus a \$25 processing fee. There will be no refunds after this point, but a credit may be made toward tuition of a future class within a year of the cancellation. No exceptions.
- "Subscribers" refers to those with season tickets for either the Mainstage or Kate Goldman Children's Theatre. "Non-subscribers" are those without season tickets. For more information on season subscriptions, contact The Playhouse ticket office at 515-277-6261.

## Weather Cancellations

If the Des Moines Public Schools cancel school because of the weather, The Playhouse will cancel classes. If possible, we will try to make up the class.

## Discipline

Some students find that theatre classroom and performance etiquette is too demanding for them. Our disciplinary policy is as follows:

- To clearly state the rules and expectations up front
- To give the student an opportunity to correct behavior
- To give a reasonable time-out within the classroom

If those steps are not successful, the student will be brought to the education director who will decide if a call home is warranted. If teachers and the director are not successful negotiating improvement, parents will be asked in for a conference. Only as a final step would a student be asked to leave class permanently.

Please note that physical violence or threats will not be tolerated and may be reason for immediate dismissal from class.

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## Need-Based Scholarships Available From Jeanne Hopson Angel Endowment Fund

Education scholarships are provided through the Jeanne Hopson Angel Endowment Fund, named for long-time Des Moines Community Playhouse teacher, director, and performer. In her memory, the Hopson family established a fund to ensure that any student who wants to enroll for classes in our education department may do so, regardless of financial considerations. Assistance ranges from 10-100% and varies according with stated need.

- Fill out the first two parts of the **class registration form** at [dmplayhouse.com](http://dmplayhouse.com)
- Fill out the **scholarship form** at [dmplayhouse.com](http://dmplayhouse.com)



You may also send the class registration and form to Robin Heldt Spahr, Education Director, Des Moines Playhouse, 831 42nd St., Des Moines, IA 50312, or email to [rspahr@dmplayhouse.com](mailto:rspahr@dmplayhouse.com).

There will be a response to your request within two weeks of application. Call Robin at 515-974-5365, or email with any questions.

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The Playhouse, local newspapers and TV stations will occasionally document or feature Playhouse classes in film and new stories. If you do not want your child photographed, please notify The Playhouse in writing.

Low enrollment: The Playhouse reserves the right to cancel classes due to insufficient enrollment. If a class or workshop is cancelled due to low enrollment, a full refund will be issued.

This is not a public schools publication and is being provided as a courtesy to inform you of other community activities and opportunities available.

For each class registration,  
your student will receive  
one **FREE** student guest  
pass good for admission to  
any 2019-20 Kate Goldman  
Children's Theatre show!

**REETICKET**  
TO THE KATE GOLDMAN  
CHILDREN'S THEATRE!

**TO REGISTER:**  
[DMPlayhouse.com](http://DMPlayhouse.com)

*Allyson Martens and Douglas Cochran, Elephant & Piggles Were in a Play! 2017-18 Season*



**DM PLAYHOUSE**

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