

About the Geva Theatre Center Conservatory's Summer Academy 2008

The Geva Theatre Center Conservatory (GTCC) Summer Academy 2008 is a five-week professional theatre training program for 30 selected young actors, ages 12 to 18, who wish to explore, define and develop the actor in themselves. Open to students of all levels of theatre experience, Summer Academy 2008 will provide quality training for the beginning actor, as well as advanced level study for the young actor with previous experience.

Led by Geva's professional artists, who are passionate and skilled in working with young actors, courses will include Acting, Rehearsal/Production, Song Preparation, Singing Ensemble, Monologues, Voice and Diction, Movement and Expansions. In addition, a weekly Master Class led by a guest instructor or speaker will be included.

The theme of this summer's program is musical theatre. The program will culminate in a showcase of the students' work, on Geva's Mainstage, which is open to the public. Students will be granted a certificate of completion from the Summer Academy 2008 program.



Photos from Summer Academy 2007 Showcase by HuthPhoto

"Music expresses that which cannot be put into words
and that which cannot remain silent."

- Victor Hugo

Does it give you goose-bumps? That moment when the melody and the meaning are so perfectly matched? Maybe you remember sitting in an audience somewhere, a little breathless and astonished. At that moment you know you're witnessing something more than beauty, more than talent; you're sharing something true.

So where does that moment come from? Come and study with us this summer. We work exhaustively over the course of an intensive five-week program because we don't think that moment is about chance, luck or some mysterious "star quality." We're here to lead you through rigorous training that will teach you to understand the structure of a song, to penetrate a dramatic text for clues to action, to exercise your body, voice, intellect and imagination, and to investigate who you are as a human and an artist. Including music as one of the actor's many expressive tools, this summer devoted to musical theatre will challenge you to create and communicate in many different ways, but always with dedication and honesty.

The three main tenets of our program are:

- To provide young actors with the benefits of working artists' professional experience
- To provide hands-on, personal instruction to all Academy participants
- To create an environment that encourages young actors to call Geva Theatre Center their artistic home

After the last eleven years of our program, many of our alumni have gone on to pursue their artistic careers at institutions around the country, and some of our alumni have returned to join us as professionals. We can't wait to welcome this year's Academy students to come and share this work, and we hope you'll consider joining us. We're looking forward to all the goose-bumps.

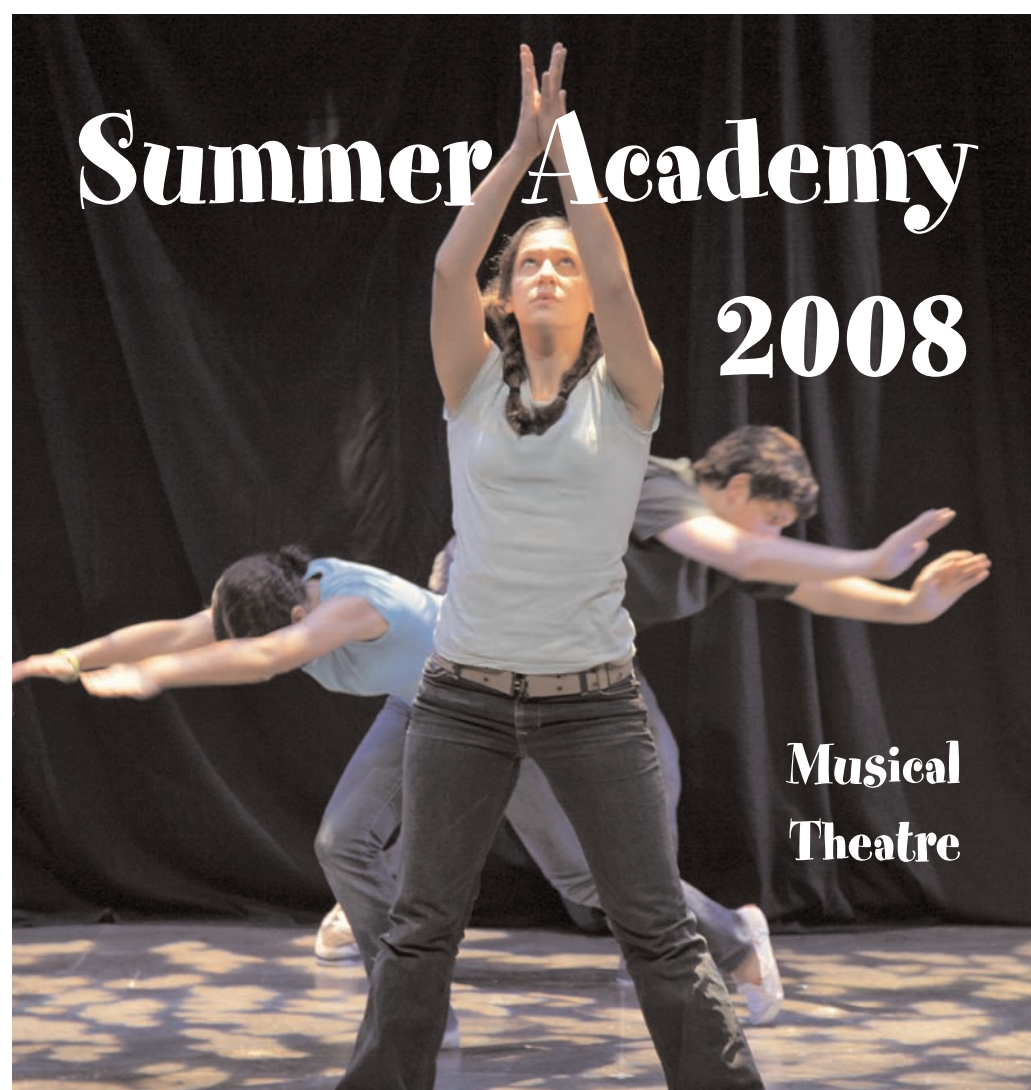
Sincerely,

Skip Greer
Director of Education
Artist in Residence

Kathryn Moroney
Associate Director of Education

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The Geva Theatre Center Conservatory's



Summer Academy
2008

Musical
Theatre



75 Woodbury Boulevard
Rochester, New York 14607

Please Post
in your classroom, theatre or library



Fun * Training * Performance

July 8 - August 9, 2008



Course Descriptions



Acting

This class will investigate techniques of acting through both scenework and monologues, including use of objectives, obstacles and physical characterization in unlocking the actor's creative potential.

Movement

This course will introduce students to the Laban method, a formal system for observing, understanding and analyzing movement. Through the use of structured movement improvisations, discussion and videotapes, we will increase movement awareness of self and others, and then use that awareness as we create a full character description.

Monologues

In this class you will learn ways of presenting yourself well in a monologue audition situation as well as developing rehearsal techniques. Where do you look for the clues that lead you from the page to the stage? How can you best make informed, individual artistic decisions based on the text? Students will leave with the beginnings of their own analytical process, and a polished monologue suitable for use in future auditions.

Song Preparation

What makes a song a musical theatre song? We will explore a clear method of preparing a musical theatre song for both audition and performance. We will look at the physical life of the song, issues of phrasing, focus, the progression of the lyric, how best to cut your song down to the necessary length for an audition, and how to handle your encounter with the accompanist.

Voice and Diction

This class will cover breath control, projection and resonance, as well as warming up and cooling off skills, as they apply to the acting of text.

Singing Ensemble

The concepts of integrated ensemble, artistic discipline and physical commitment to making sound are all central to the practice of theatre. In this class we will explore these concepts within the context of choral singing in various forms.

Expansions

In Expansions we will use theatre games, icebreakers, expanded use of space exercises, concentration techniques and ensemble work to encourage ourselves to explore, define and break through our personal boundaries as theatre artists.



Rehearsal/Production

Afternoons will be spent working on the final showcase production, providing students the opportunity to apply knowledge acquired in the other courses. The summer will culminate with the students' performance on the Mainstage with the full technical support of Geva's sound, lighting and production staffs.

Master Class

Though the Summer Academy is acting-based, it is our intent to provide the most thorough theatre education possible. We aim to broaden the young actor's perspective by offering a Friday afternoon class that may include (but not be limited to) playwriting, production, stage management and stage direction.

Enrollment



Schedule

Classes

July 8 - August 8

Showcase Performance

Saturday, August 9

Weekly Class Schedule

Monday - Friday 8:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Morning Drop-off: 8:15 - 8:45 a.m.
Afternoon Pick-up: 4:30 - 5:15 p.m.



Audition Schedule

Thursday, March 27th 3- 6 p.m.
Friday, March 28th 3 - 6 p.m.
Saturday, March 29th 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Selections for admission will be announced by April 25th.

All auditions will be held at Geva Theatre Center, and attended by Geva education staff and faculty. An audition consists of a one-minute monologue (classical or contemporary) and 32 bars of a song. An interview will follow. Please bring a picture and a resumé. Enrollment is limited to 30 students, thereby assuring that each student will receive highly personalized training specifically geared to their experience level. Students from previous Academies are welcome and are encouraged to audition again. Up to 10 returnees* will be accepted into the Academy.



Program Cost

\$850 - Full and partial scholarships are available.

Thirty young actors, ages 12 to 18, will be selected to participate in Summer Academy 2008. Admission is by audition and interview only.



Auditions may be scheduled after February 26th by calling (585) 232-1366, ext. 3035.

*Each student may attend a maximum of three GTCC Summer Academy sessions.