



AMERICAN STAGE

For Immediate Release

November 22, 2017

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American Stage Education Announces Spring 2018 Teen & Youth Ensemble

**Spring 2018 class schedule for youth and teens
are open for enrollment. Classes run from February 10th-May 5th.**

St. Petersburg, FL –American Stage’s Spring Theatre Education Programming is now open for enrollment for youth and teens. American Stage Education & Outreach is proud to offer theatre programs for youth grades K-2, grades 3-5, grades 6-8, and grades 9-12. Young people are artists and collaborators with an urge to find their voice and express their ideas. Our theatrical process empowers creative, intellectual, and emotional growth, making young people bolder, wiser, and more compassionate on stage and in life. Students explore teamwork and collaboration, develop self-confidence, and improve communication skills and acting technique. Our classes allow students the opportunity to get a truly in-depth experience under the guidance of professional theatre artists, often through the process of creating and producing original theatre. Each class culminates in Final Sharing for family and friends. Ignite your child’s creative voice!

“By exploring acting, playwriting, and musical theatre, young people discover more about themselves and others. Each session is such a fun, freeing, and supportive environment for students to learn and grow. We see them develop communication, problem-solving, creativity, and so much more!”– Tiffany Ford, Director of Education

SPRING CLASSES

American Stage offers exciting Spring Classes for students Grades K-8. **Classrooms are broken down into age groups of Grades K-2, Grades 3-5, and Grades 6-8. All classes take place at American Stage. For full details on sessions, visit americanstage.org/classes**

February 10 through May 5. No class on March 31 due to Spring Break.

ARF! The Musical

Grades K-2

Discover the characters of the Wurstchester Dog Show in this doggone great 20-minute musical adventure! Students will explore their actor’s tools (voice, movement, mind, and imagination), as they become bold, bark-tastic characters. As a musical ensemble, students will learn to collaborate as a fearless, focused, and flexible team to bring the world of ARF! to life.

ARF!

by John Jacobson and John Higgins

A Canine Musical Of Kindness, Courage And Calamity! Doggie Town is a-buzz with excitement. Judges from the famous Wurstchester Dog Show are coming to spot new talent, and everyone is busy rehearsing for the big show. General German Shepherd is drilling on proper etiquette and discipline, the singing Dalmatians are connecting the dots, the Boxers are toning and getting in shape. But why is Rover the mutt so sad? Join the huskies, poodles, pointers and more as they help Rover discover his special talent!

Class Schedule: Saturdays, 10am-12pm at American Stage

Final Sharing May 5 (call time 10am, show time 11am)

Teaching Artist: Katie Berger

Pricing: \$265

February 10 through May 5. No class on March 31 due to Spring Break.

Junior Musical Ensemble: *Dateline Rock & Roll*

Grades 3-5

Rock & roll is here to stay in this mini-musical exploring the historic scenes and songs that shook the world! Journey into the past to learn about the headlines and world-changing moments that inspired our favorite songs. Students will explore their actor's tools (voice, movement, mind, imagination), as they rehearse and perform the short scenes and songs that make up this thrilling and nostalgic musical.

Class Schedule: Saturdays, 10am-12pm at American Stage

Final Sharing May 5 (call time 10am, show time 11am)

Teaching Artist: Molly Healy

Music Director: William Bryant

Pricing: \$270

February 10 through May 5. No class on March 31 due to Spring Break.

ON THE HORIZON Production: *The Internet is Distract -- Oh Look A Kitten!*

Grades 6-8

Join our newest youth ensemble in this hilarious, energetic, one-act comedy on our MainStage. Explore comedic acting with director/actor/teaching artist Sarah Pullman-Atanacio, as ON THE HORIZON produces this fully staged play.

The Internet is Distract – Oh Look A Kitten!

by Ian McWethy

Micah only has twenty minutes to finish her paper on The Great Gatsby. She just needs to check a few facts on the internet first. Unfortunately, the web is a nefariously wacky place where boxing cats, Facebook lurkers, and pig-throwing games threaten to take over Micah's schoolwork, or worse. Will she finish her paper and escape with her life before the school bell rings? A high-octane comedy that explores the rabbit hole of distraction we all go down everytime we go online.

Class Schedule:

Saturdays, 10am-12:30pm (Feb 10-May 5, no March 31)

Wednesday May 2, 5:30pm-8:30pm (dress rehearsal)

Thursday May 3, 5:30pm-8:30pm (dress rehearsal)

Final Performance May 4 (call time 5pm, show time 7pm)

Director: Sarah Pullman-Atanacio

Pricing: \$315

February 10-May 5. No class on March 31 due to Spring Break.

SPARK Musical Ensemble: *The Producers* Intensive

Grades 9-12

Mel Brooks' smash musical comes to life this spring! The ever-popular American Stage in the Park production in 2018 will be THE PRODUCERS. Join our SPARK Ensemble as we explore an abbreviated version of this spectacular, hilarious musical. Young performers will audition for their roles, learn how to collaborate as a large musical ensemble, and work with local professional artists, Alison Burns (director/choreographer), and William Bryant (music director) to elevate their acting, voice, and movement techniqueA

While this experience is a fast-paced "intensive", SPARK Musical Ensemble is a supportive environment open to all level of experience. Our teaching artists believe in working with the strengths and learning goals of each individual to craft a fun and successful collaboration.

Class Schedule: Saturdays, 10am-12pm at American Stage

Final Performance May 4 (call time 4pm, show time 7pm)

Director/Choreographer: Alison Burns

Music Director: William Bryant

Pricing: \$315

Financial Aid applications due January 15th. Call or go online to apply!

americanstage.org/classes, 727-823-1600 ext 204.

For more information visit www.americanstage.org and click the Education & Outreach tab, email education@americanstage.org or contact the education department at 727.823.1600 x204.

AMERICAN STAGE | AS/40

American Stage celebrates **40 Years Strong** this season. Since 1977, American Stage, has contributed to the vitality of Tampa Bay as a regional professional theatre. American Stage's mission is to reinforce the power of live theatre with high quality productions that excite and challenge a diverse audience. Our year-round programming seeks to realize this through our Mainstage season, Spotlight Series, 21st Century Voices: New Play Festival, American Stage in the Park and Improv. American Stage Education's offerings include award-winning Teaching Artist Outreach focused on bringing theatrical arts experiences to under-served populations, helping them to excel onstage & beyond.

We believe that through the telling of dynamic stories, live theatre has the power to unite us in our shared experiences and to deepen our connection to one another through the illumination of diverse perspectives. American Stage artists and stakeholders are responsible for helping a small theatre touring company blossom into a thriving world-class professional theatre providing nearly 70,000 Tampa Bay residents and tourists with accessible, relevant art and arts education annually.

Powerful Stories. Boldly Told.

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