

# HSA THEATRE





**HSA Theatre** offers a wide ranging menu of classes led by working professionals. Classes are offered for ages 3 through adult, for all levels of interest, from the curious beginner through the young professional. Our more advanced theatrical work emphasizes performance based training in Musical Theatre, Physical Theatre/Improvisation and Ensemble work. Performance opportunities exist for all students through participation in our main stage season, open classes and special presentations. Reflecting recent technical upgrades in our theatre we will be offering new classes in lighting, scenic and sound design.

The study of theatre and acting provides multi-faceted benefits in improving speech, critical thinking, and confidence in public situations. Whether you are exploring theatre for the first time as a hobby or preparing for professional schools and work, HSA Theatre has something to offer you.

**DIRECTOR**  
**Chesray Dolpha**





# THEATRE CLASSES

## EARLY CHILDHOOD ACTORS

Young children respond with joy and energy to creative play, drama and storytelling. With the encouragement of their instructors they generate imaginative scenarios and learn to interact with others their age, thereby providing group opportunities to develop social and language skills.

- Listening, responding, taking turns and working cooperatively in a group.
- Recognizing, re-creating, identifying, differentiating and sequencing basic dramatic elements.
- Expressing and creating elements of theater through creative play.

### **Puppet Works** *Ages 3-4*

This is an Intro to Puppetry class. Children will enjoy the benefit of exploring fundamentals of acting through storytelling, imagination and creative play.

### **Kings, Queens, Magic and Monsters** *Ages 3-4*

Pre-K actors adventure through the world of William Shakespeare. By exploring the story, characters, themes and language of *THE TEMPEST*, young actors will develop diverse acting skills and build a Shakespearean performance of their own.

### **Creative Play** *Ages 3-5*

Children will be introduced to theatre through creative play. Through play and the use of imagination our little actors will use storytelling as a way to explore music, movement and dramatic structure. Students will use their bodies and voices to develop characters and take their characters through a journey of self-exploration.

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ACTORS

As emergent readers, theater activities provide an opportunity for children to demonstrate physically and vocally their understanding of character, conflict and action. They also become skilled in memorization, allowing them to use scripted materials in activities and performances. Theater develops physical and vocal skills, which encourages confidence and creative thinking.

- Cooperating, planning, and respecting others' opinions.
- Interpreting, comparing, and analyzing works of theater and introductory dramatic literature.
- Personal and artistic choices in creating theater and releasing impulses and language.

### **Improv FUN-damentals** *Ages 5-7*

Students will explore the key elements of both long and short form improvisation. The children will play numerous improv games which will serve to develop and enhance their public-speaking, social and team-building skills. This class will be conducted in a non-judgmental environment where the students will build confidence, make friends and most importantly, have fun!

### **Creative Drama: Broadway and Beyond** *Ages 8-12*

An introduction into the world of Broadway! Get ready to enter into the world of mime, rhythm, sound movement, and improvisation. Popular classic Broadway stories will leave our young actors feeling inspired, creative spontaneous and imaginative!

### **Meisner Acting Techniques** *Ages 8-12*

This audition-based class will focus on a system of exercises developed by Sanford Meisner including: improvisation, repetition, independent activity, and scene work. The technique creates a more specific, skilled, and authentic actor with an organic, spontaneous, and disciplined instrument.



### **Beginning TV: Commercial Acting** *Ages 8-18*

Whether your young actor is interested in commercials, television, big screen, or the Broadway stage, this course provides training, exposure, and quality audition technique classes to prepare students for their first steps into this highly competitive field.

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTORS**

Students at this age are increasingly concerned with meaning and message, both personal and social, and are beginning to think in more independent ways. Rapid emotional and physical changes at this age present both challenges and opportunities for the growth of skills and personal expression in theater. Students are capable of focused work in various techniques and styles of theater, and enjoy the "safe space" that a structured and defined challenge provides.

- Building confidence and a defined sense of self, trust among peers, working independently, and taking risks.
- Exploring different styles of theater and developing personal creative expression.

### **The Company (Pre-Prep)** *Ages 9-12*

The Company is by audition only. This is an ensemble of students who have auditioned and are performance ready. The actors will rehearse and perform in a workshop production. Our Company actors are given the opportunity to display their talents in singing, acting and dance.

### **Intro to Stage Combat** *Ages 11-13*

Techniques for unarmed combat in physical acting class. Stage Combat equips the actor with the techniques required to safely and artfully create the illusion of violence. The emphasis in the first semester is on hand-to-hand combat (falls, rolls, chokes, etc.) and in the second term weapons are introduced. The technique enables the actor to execute fight choreography with a strong theatrical reality applicable to both stage and film.

## **HIGH SCHOOL ACTORS**

### **Acting for Film & TV** *Ages 13-18*

An introduction to acting for television and film is explored. Students will work on camera, learn to quickly memorize scripts, and personally connect to the roles they are playing. Basic audition techniques for the camera will also be covered.

### **Production Techniques** *Ages 13-18*

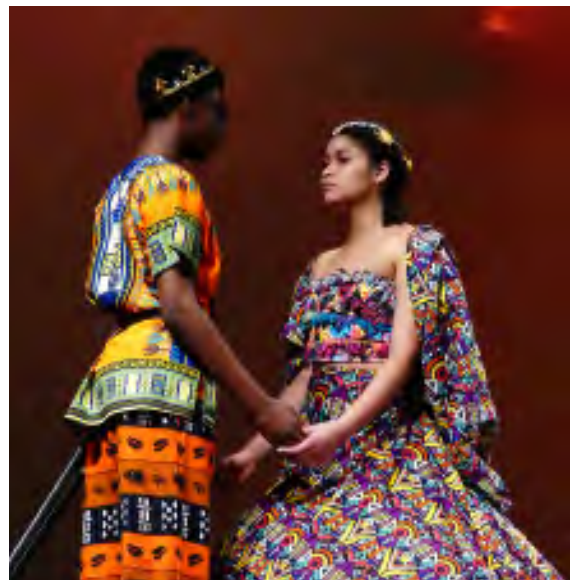
The course is an exploration of dramatic literature of the stage. Informed by the study of playwriting, screenwriting, poetry, and theatre practice, participants will develop and refine their own creative writing processes with the ultimate goal of authoring and producing a 7-10 minute work.

### **Dramatic Storytelling: Plays & Screenplays** *Ages 13-18*

The course is an exploration of dramatic literature of the stage. Informed by the study of playwriting, screenwriting, poetry, and theatre practice, participants will develop and refine their own creative writing processes with the ultimate goal of authoring and producing a 7 to 10-minute work.

### **Classical Theatre** *Ages 13-18*

This class is designed to give students training in a variety of acting and performance techniques for the classic stage, and to mobilize those skills towards the interpretation and workshopping of a Shakespeare play.



**Making Movies: Intro to Film and Video** *Ages 11-18*

Do you have a great idea for a movie or just want to learn how movies are made? Learn to write, direct, film and edit videos in this introduction to movie making. Cameras and filming equipment provided during class hours.

**Vocal Techniques for Actors** *Ages 13-18*

The voice is one of the most important tools for actors. This class introduces technique to explore the physical actions of speech, building skills in articulation and pronunciation for clarity and ease of expression.

**Physical Theater** *Ages 13-18*

Investigation of the actor's body in space through mime and other physical theatre techniques. This course uses mime and specific relaxation exercises, developing an ability to adapt physical movement to any character requirement. Goals are to achieve an understanding of underlying relationships of carriage, gesture and spatial relationships, and to develop strength, endurance, limberness and articulation of the spine.

**Speaking Voice for the Stage** *Ages 13-18*

This ensemble class examines the principles and practice of freeing the natural voice. Through exploration of resonance, vocal freedom, and articulation techniques, students will discover the natural breath, releasing vibrations of sound



**THEATRE PRIVATE COACHING**

Available for children through adults, private coaching is designed to meet the individual needs of performers who are preparing for specific roles/auditions, preparing to audition for specialized performance arts high schools or universities, or working on specific issues of technique, speech and concentration.

Private Coaching Per Session

- 30 minutes - \$45
- 45 minutes - \$60
- 60 minutes - \$75



# THEATRE CLASS SCHEDULE

AGE GROUP	DAY	CLASS	TIME
Ages 3 - 4	Saturday	PuppetWorks	9:00 am - 9:45 am
Ages 3 - 4	Saturday	Creative Play	9:00 am - 9:45 am
Ages 3 - 4	Saturday	Kings, Queens, Magic and Monsters	10:00 am - 10:45 am
Ages 5 - 7	Saturday	Improv FUN-damentals	9:00 am - 10:00 am
Ages 8 - 12	Saturday	Creative Drama: Broadway & Beyond	10:00 am - 11:00 am
Ages 8 - 12	Thursday	Meisner Acting Techniques	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Ages 8 - 18	Friday	Beginning TV: Commerical Acting	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Ages 9 - 12	Saturday	The Company (Pre-Prep)	11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Ages 11 - 13	Saturday	Intro to Stage Combat	2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Ages 13 - 18	Saturday	Acting for Film & TV	4:00 pm - 5:30 pm
Ages 13 - 18	Saturday	Production Techniques	12:00 pm - 1:30 pm
Ages 13 - 18	Saturday	Dramatic Storytelling: Plays & Screenplays	1:00 pm - 2:30 pm
Ages 13 - 18	Saturday	Physical Theater	2:30pm - 4pm
Ages 11 - 18	Saturday	Making Movies: Intro to Film & Video	4:00 pm - 5:30 pm
Ages 13 - 18	Wednesday	Vocal Techniques for Actors	5:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Ages 13 - 18	Tuesday	Classical Theater	4:30 pm - 6 pm
Ages 13 - 18	Tuesday	Speaking Voice for the Stage	6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Apprentice Ensemble and Alliance Company are by assessment only. Questions regarding assessment should be directed to Chesray Dolpha, Director of Theatre, at [apreisser@hsanyc.org](mailto:apreisser@hsanyc.org) or (212) 926-4100 ext. 338.

PLEASE NOTE: Schedule is subject to change. Please visit [www.HSANyc.org](http://www.HSANyc.org) for the most up-to-date information.