

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

---

*Below are brief descriptions of the classes being offered at YASI this summer. Courses and curriculum are subject to change*

### **FIRST ELECTIVE 1 (9:25am – 10:25am)**

---

#### **MOVEMENT AND THE ACTOR**

##### **Grades: Middle & High School**

In this class, we will work on freeing and exploring our physical instruments through more challenging choreography and more intensive partnering and “scene work”. We will also explore rhythm a little more in depth and students will learn how to improvise. How do our characters perform? How do we express feelings and ideas through our bodies as ourselves versus as other characters?

*NOTE: Comfortable clothes (absolutely no jeans or restrictive clothing) must be worn for this class. If students are not wearing the proper clothing, they may not be able to participate.*

#### **IMPROV 101: Introduction to Improvisation**

##### **Grades: Middle & High School**

Improvisation is the craft of building theater spontaneously through collaboration. While humor is not its goal, improvisational theater can be hilariously funny. This class will focus on the basics of improvisation, including accepting and building, establishing point of view, and creating a world to play in.

#### **THE PLAY’S THE THING or YASI SHAKES: Putting on a Shakespeare Play!**

##### **Grades: High School (Middle School are invited to extension week)**

This summer, YASI is adding an extension week (August 2 -6) where high school students will put on a Shakespeare production with associate artistic director Tyler Dobrowsky! High school and middle school students are invited for the extension week, but the YASI elective is for high school students only. This class will lay the groundwork for the production; the class will work on casting, table work, developing a concept, and blocking during this elective period, so they’ll be able to hit the ground running on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

*NOTE: Students cannot sign up for this class if they are not signed up for the extension week. Contact [education@trinityrep.com](mailto:education@trinityrep.com) with additional questions. Middle School students who sign on for YASI SHAKES will join only for the extension week.*

#### **NAMASTE: Yoga, Stretching and Meditation**

##### **Grades: All Ages**

This class will focus on yoga and the importance of healthy living. We will begin with the basic yoga poses and sun salutations, and work towards more challenging balancing poses and Ashtanga flow. Each day we will take some time to discuss and experience ways to live a more happy, healthy, and positive life.

*NOTE: All students MUST be wearing comfortable, non-restrictive clothing as they enter the class in the interest of time. Yoga mats will be provided, but students may bring their own.*

## **HOW ART THOU?: Drawing and Painting**

### **Grades: Elementary**

Students will learn the basic elements of two-dimensional design, including perspective, balance, color and shading techniques.

## **ACTING THE SONG**

### **Grades: Elementary**

This class is focused on theatrical storytelling through music, movement & dance. We will create a sense of ensemble and give students the chance to be a part of three pieces to perform in the final showcase. Bring your enthusiasm, your focus, respect & comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement. Music selections will be announced on the first day of the program.

## **ELECTIVE 2 (10:40 – 11:40am)**

---

## **ADVANCED IMPROVISATION**

### **Grades: High School**

This class is for advanced improv students. Students will master the art of long-form improvisation, while honing their skills as scene-builders. Permission from instructor is required. Please contact Trinity's education staff at [education@trinityrep.com](mailto:education@trinityrep.com).

## **MOVEMENT AND THE ACTOR**

### **Grades: Elementary**

In Elementary Movement and Acting, we will focus on how to use the body to express point of view. We will employ the devices of Lyricism and Rhythm and compose an end performance including the material we create in the class in addition to movement exercises we use.

*NOTE: Comfortable clothes (absolutely no jeans or restrictive clothing) must be worn for this class. If students are not wearing the proper clothing, they may not be able to participate.*

## **THE PEN IS MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD: The Art of Playwriting**

### **Middle and High School**

Students will participate in a workshop-style setting, using in-class and take-home exercises to spark the creative impulse and loosen the imagination while learning the fundamentals of dramatic writing. In addition, we will learn how to work collaboratively as a group, how to give constructive feedback, and use more physical acting and directing exercises to help "get inside" the plays. It will be a fun and safe place to learn not just the nuts and bolts of structure, but to find and develop a personal style, open up the imagination, and find the excitement and fun in playwriting that will have young writers returning to their notebooks (or laptops) for years to come.

## **SHAKESPEARE FOR BEGINNERS**

### **Grades: Elementary**

The class is a gentle introduction to the work and language of William Shakespeare. Students will learn about Shakespeare, the man, as well as his time period. They will also perform scenes from famous Shakespeare works, both the tragedies and the comedies

## **MASK MAKING & SCULPTURE**

### **Grades: Elementary and Middle**

Students will learn the basics of 3-dimensional design while creating masks, puppets and other sculptural forms.

## **ACTING THE SONG**

### **Grades: Middle School**

This is an elective class that will deeply explore the art of extending theatrical expression through music. Like a musical 'scene study' class, we will work on solos (monologues) & larger ensemble numbers (scenes). Selected work from this class will be in the final performance.

## **SCENE STUDY/MUSIC & MOVEMENT (12:05-1:45 PM)**

---

### **SCENE STUDY**

All students will partake in Scene Study on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Each instructor will pair off and assign students scenes to work on over the course of the summer. Scenes from classic, modern, and contemporary plays will be selected and assigned. Starting with table and character work, the scenes will be “workshopped” and the students will learn how to approach a character and analyze scripts. Time will also be granted exploring different acting techniques. The class will culminate in a showcase during performance week, and various scenes will be selected for the final performances.

### **MUSIC & MOVEMENT**

This is an all-camp course will meet every Tuesday and Thursday, and focus on theatrical storytelling through music, movement & dance. We will create a sense of ensemble and give campers the chance to be a part of one big number for our final show. Bring your enthusiasm, your focus, respect and comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement.

## **ELECTIVE 3 (1:50 – 2:55pm)**

---

### **SPOKEN WORD**

#### **Grades: Middle & High School**

Bring your poetry to life in a fun and supportive environment. You don't need to be an experienced poet to take this class! We will try out different styles of poetry and find creative ways to perform our own words and speak about our own experiences.

## **ACTING THE SONG**

### **Grades: High School**

This is an elective class that will deeply explore the art of extending theatrical expression through music. Like a musical 'scene study' class, we will work on solos (monologues) & larger ensemble numbers (scenes). Selected work from this class will be in the final performance.

## **DIRECTING**

### **Grades: Middle & High School**

This class will explore the dynamics of telling a story in space. Students will work each week as either actors or directors, learning about narrative, story-telling, text analysis, and visual composition. Starting with tableaux, and moving toward staging short scenes from contemporary plays, each student will have an opportunity to direct, and will then receive critique and feedback on his or her work. This class will develop students' ability to craft a story as clearly and dynamically as possible, and will encourage them to explore the role of director as both leader and collaborator.

## **ADVANCED SHAKESPEARE**

### **Grades: High School**

This is a scene study class dedicated to exploring the works of William Shakespeare. Students will learn how to make sense of Shakespeare's language and to bring to life the raucous humor, deep tragedy, and intense vitality inherent in the writing.

## **PLAYWRITING**

### **Grades: Elementary**

Students will learn the basics of playwriting by writing their own short play. They will decide on a story and a theme, create their own characters, and write scenes and monologues to build on their ideas. The play will be presented in its entirety during performance week.

## **THEATRICAL DESIGN**

### **Grades: Middle & High School**

This class will focus on design in theatre with an emphasis on set and costume design.

## **ELECTIVE 4 (3:07 – 4:15pm)**

## **AUDITION TECHNIQUES**

### **Grades: Middle and High School**

This class will explore different types of acting auditions, with a special emphasis on the two-monologue theatrical audition. Students will work on auditioning with both monologues and short scenes, and will learn helpful techniques on how best to present themselves, as well as common pitfalls to avoid. The class will culminate in a mock audition in which each student presents two monologues and receives feedback.

## **SHAKESPEARE**

### **Grades: Middle School**

Students will gain a greater understanding of Shakespeare's works and language. We will begin by studying various monologues and sonnets, and then move into scene work. Each student will be ready to perform at least one scene and one Shakespearian monologue, and some of those scenes will be selected for the final showcase.

## **MAKE YOUR OWN MOVIE**

### **Grades: Middle and High School**

Students in the Movies class will learn a bit about the history of film as well as cinematography, in addition to creating a commercial, a three minute music video as well as a ten minute original piece.

## **ROCK BAND**

### **Grades: Middle and High School**

Interested in pursuing a career in music? Just interested in writing and developing a few songs? Students will work to create pieces of poetry and song-writing into musical performance pieces. Students who can play an instrument (guitar, bass, drums) are highly encouraged to join.

*NOTE: While we do enjoy the popular video game Rock Band, there will be none of that in this class. We prefer real instruments.*

## **NAP TIME**

### **Grades: All Ages**

This class aims to be a stress-reducing period of relaxation and introspection for students of all ages. Actors (both young and old) struggle with anxiety and self-doubt – this class helps students gain control over their fears in order to fully realize their potential as actors, performers and artists. Expect milk and cookies.

## **GREEKS AND KABUKI AND STANISLAVSKI, OH MY!**

### **Grades: Middle & High School**

This crash course in theater history goes through the many different eras of theater around the world, but remains active and fun. Students won't just hear about ancient Greek theater, they will *perform* ancient Greek theater. And that's just the first class!

## **IMPROV GAMES**

### **Grades: Elementary**

This will be a series of short-form and long-form improvisation games. Exploring the basics of improv, the class will emphasize acceptance, instinct, and ensemble-building. No materials required—just lots of energy, focus, and trust. Students must be prepared to turn into a tree, move through a swimming pool of goo, and talk about the merits of bubble wrap at a moment's notice.

## **MOVE YOUR FEET: Hip Hop Dance**

### **All Ages**

Hip-Hop is a music and dance medium that is often misinterpreted and misunderstood. In this class students will be exposed to different styles and forms of hip-hop and the class will end in a culminating performance.

*NOTE: Comfortable clothes (absolutely no jeans or restrictive clothing) and sneakers must be worn for this class (knee pads may also be required). If students are not wearing the proper clothing, they may not be able to participate in class.*