

YOUNG ACTORS SUMMER INSTITUTE **YASI**

Course Descriptions 2020

Listed by Elective

Below are brief descriptions of the classes being offered at YASI this summer. Courses and curriculum are subject to change. Students will sign up for classes in the order in which they registered.

Please Note: You may only select **ONE** Musical Theater class

ELECTIVE 1 [9:35 – 10:35 AM]

FOR STUDENTS OF **ALL AGES**

SETTING THE SCENE: DESIGN FOR THE STAGE

This class will focus on design in theatre and is great for aspiring artists and directors. Students will create their own set models based on concepts that they have developed for well-known plays. They'll also discuss design elements such as costumes, props, lighting, and sound.

DANCE BASICS

This class is perfect for actors who are hoping to get back to basics or just get started. They will learn the fundamentals of ballet, modern, jazz and hip hop which will help them at dance auditions and while working with choreographers. After learning basic steps and combinations, they will put together a whole routine for the showcase.

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING **5TH – 7TH GRADE**

MUSICAL THEATER

This class is focused on theatrical storytelling through voice and music. Using a three-step process, students will analyze musical text like it is a group scene. They will work to personalize the song and play to the action of the scene. We will create a strong ensemble and the students will have the chance to be a part of two pieces, one of which will be in the final showcase. Bring your enthusiasm, focus, respect, and comfortable clothing that won't inhibit movement. Music selections will be announced on the first day of the class.

AUDITION TECHNIQUES: NEW & IMPROVED!

This class will explore different types of acting auditions, with a special emphasis on the two-monologue theatrical audition and auditioning for the camera. Students will work on auditioning with both monologues and short scenes. They will also learn helpful techniques on how best to present themselves, as well as common pitfalls to avoid. They will get advice on headshots, resumes and self-taping. The class will culminate in a mock audition in which each student presents monologues or a scene and receives feedback. (*These monologues will not be included in the final showcases, but will have a performance during the day for the rest of the program*)

ELECTIVE 1 [9:35 – 10:35 AM] *continued*

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 8TH – 12TH GRADE (INCLUDES GRADUATED SENIORS)

SPECIAL EFFECTS MAKEUP

Learn to create different kinds of stage blood, wounds, bruises, old age makeup and more. This class explores the stage illusions that trick the audience into believing in zombies, stage fights, and fairies.

IMPROV 101: INTRODUCTION TO IMPROVISATION

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.

IMPROV 201: CONTINUING IMPROVISATION

This class is for students who have previously taken Improv 101 or have equivalent experience. In Improv 201, we will build on the foundations of improv and dabble in establishing relationships, long form style and more.

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 10TH – 12TH GRADE (INCLUDES GRADUATED SENIORS)

MUSICAL THEATER

This class is focused on theatrical storytelling through voice and music. Using a three-step process, students will analyze musical text like it is a group scene. They will work to personalize the song and play to the action of the scene. We will create a strong ensemble and the students will have the chance to be a part of two pieces, one of which will be in the final showcase. Bring your enthusiasm, focus, respect, and comfortable clothing that won't inhibit movement. Music selections will be announced on the first day of the class.

YASI SHAKES: PUTTING ON A SHAKESPEARE PLAY!

Students signed up for the YASI Shakes extension week (August 3 – 8) will put on a full Shakespeare production! The YASI elective 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 3. **There is an additional fee for this extra week but scholarships are available.**

ELECTIVE 2 [10:55 – 11:55 AM]

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 5TH – 7TH GRADE

MUSICAL THEATER

This class is focused on theatrical storytelling through voice and music. Using a three-step process, students will analyze musical text like it is a group scene. They will work to personalize the song and play to the action of the scene. We will create a strong ensemble and the students will have the chance to be a part of two pieces, one of which will be in the final showcase. Bring your enthusiasm, focus, respect, and comfortable clothing that won't inhibit movement. Music selections will be announced on the first day of the class.

CLASSICS REVISITED

Have you ever thought of putting timeless tales of the stage in a completely new setting? It's the newest trend in theater — the classics reimagined! In this class, we will work together to

recreate scenes from classic plays — like Shakespeare, Greek Tragedies, Moliere and more — in a whole new light. Bring your wildest imagination and your willingness to try anything crazy.

STAGE COMBAT

This class addresses the basics of stage combat. While emphasizing safety and realism, students will learn techniques for movement, including punches, kicks, falls, and reaction. The moves will then be incorporated into scenes that involve confrontations.

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.

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 8TH – 9TH GRADE

MUSICAL THEATER

This class is focused on theatrical storytelling through voice and music. Using a three-step process, students will analyze musical text like it is a group scene. They will work to personalize the song and play to the action of the scene. We will create a strong ensemble and the students will have the chance to be a part of two pieces, one of which will be in the final showcase. Bring your enthusiasm, focus, respect, and comfortable clothing that won't inhibit movement. Music selections will be announced on the first day of the class.

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 8TH – 12TH GRADE (INCLUDES GRADUATED SENIORS)

MOVEMENT AND THE ACTOR

How do we express feelings and ideas through our bodies as characters? In this class, we will work on freeing and exploring our physical instruments through choreography, improvised movement and "scene work."

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.

ELECTIVE 2 [10:55 – 11:55 AM] *continued*

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 8TH – 12TH GRADE
(INCLUDES GRADUATED SENIORS)

DIRECTING

Students in this class will practice bringing stories to life within a physical space. Students will work each week as either actors or directors, and they will learn about narrative, storytelling, text analysis, and visual composition. Starting with tableaus and eventually staging short scenes from contemporary plays, each student will have an opportunity to both direct and receive constructive feedback on his or her work. This class will develop students' abilities to craft clear and dynamic stories and will encourage them to explore the role of director as both leader and collaborator.

SHAKESPEARE

This class proves that there's no need to fear Shakespeare! We will begin by studying various monologues and deconstructing the language, and then we will move into scene work. By the end of the program, each student will be ready to perform at least one scene and one Shakespearean monologue.

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 10TH – 12TH GRADE
(INCLUDES GRADUATED SENIORS)

ADVANCED IMPROVISATION

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.

SCENE STUDY [12:35 – 2:00 PM] ALTERNATING DAYS

FOR STUDENTS OF ALL AGES

Scene study is at the core of the theatrical process, so it is fundamental for every student of acting, directing, playwriting, and design. For this reason, all YASI students will partake in Scene Study on alternating days. Each instructor will pair off and assign students scenes — from classic, modern, and contemporary plays — to work on over the course of the summer. Starting with table and character work, the scenes will be "workshopped" and the students

will learn how to approach a character and analyze scripts. Different acting techniques will also be explored.

NOTE: Scene study is no longer going to be included in the showcases on Friday and Saturday nights. Instead, every scene study class will have a daytime performance that is open to family and friends.

SPECIAL ELECTIVE [12:35 – 2:00 PM] ALTERNATING DAYS

FOR STUDENTS OF **ALL AGES**

FINALE

Formerly known as Music and Movement, this YASI course will meet every other day to focus on theatrical storytelling through music, movement, and dance. We will create an ensemble and give students the chance to be a part of the finale number for our showcases. Bring your enthusiasm, focus, and respect, as well as comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement.

YAS AND...

YASI's improv troupe — for young performers who love to be spontaneous. YAS and... will have the students learning

the basics of improvisation like building, making offers and of course, saying "Yes, and..." The class will end with a long form performance for the rest of the camp at the showcase.

NOTE: Students will be split into age groups for this elective.

NAP TIME ZZZZZZ

YASI is a whirlwind of theater, prizes, and glitter, so this class offers students a chance to relax for awhile in the middle of the day! Led by a calming teaching artist, students will sit back, check in, and unwind.

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 8TH – 12TH GRADE
(INCLUDES GRADUATED SENIORS)

TECHNICALLY TRINITY

For students more interested in focusing the spotlight than being in it, we have Technically Trinity: a class taught by members of Trinity Rep's production department! Students will visit various areas backstage and learn the "ins and outs" of lights, sound, sets, and more.

ELECTIVE 3 [2:15 – 3:15 PM]

FOR STUDENTS OF **ALL AGES**

MAGIC TO DO

Magicians are dynamic performers who require great coordination and imagination. Drawing the audience's eye to one thing while completing a trick can be...well...tricky! In this class, students will learn the fundamentals of magic, including some trade secrets, and master a presentation that will leave audiences of all ages baffled. No white rabbits required.

TRINITY SQUARE ENSEMBLE: NEW AND IMPROVED!

As a nod to our original company name, Trinity Square Repertory Theater, this class is a great option for students interested in creating a play based on a children's book. The actors will adapt a beloved children's classic to the stage, rehearse it and perform it as part of our final week of sharing.

ELECTIVE 3 [2:15 – 3:15 PM] continued

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 5TH – 7TH GRADE

SPECIAL EFFECTS MAKEUP

Learn to create different kinds of stage blood, wounds, bruises, old age makeup and more. This class explores the stage illusions that trick the audience into believing in zombies, stage fights, and fairies.

PLAYWRITING

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. Each play will be presented in its entirety during performance week.

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 8TH – 12TH GRADE
(INCLUDES GRADUATED SENIORS)

HIP HOP DANCE

Hip-hop is a universal music and dance medium that has now been integrated into Broadway culture. In this class, students will be exposed to different styles and forms of hip-hop. The class will culminate with a dance 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.

MUSICAL THEATER

This class is focused on theatrical storytelling through voice and music. Using a three-step process, students will analyze musical text like it is a group scene. They will work to personalize the song and play to the action of the scene. We will create a strong ensemble and the students will have the chance to

be a part of two pieces, one of which will be in the final showcase. Bring your enthusiasm, focus, respect, and comfortable clothing that won't inhibit movement. Music selections will be announced on the first day of the class.

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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.

ELECTIVE 4 [3:20 – 4:35 PM] MONDAY–THURSDAY ONLY

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 5TH – 7TH GRADE

DIRECTING

Students in this class will practice bringing stories to life within a physical space. Students will work each week as either actors or directors, and they will learn about narrative, storytelling, text analysis, and visual composition. Starting with tableaus and eventually staging short scenes from contemporary plays, each student will have an opportunity to both direct and receive constructive feedback on his or her work. This class will develop

students' abilities to craft clear and dynamic stories and will encourage them to explore the role of director as both leader and collaborator.

ELECTIVE 4 [3:20 –4:35 PM] MONDAY–THURSDAY ONLY continued

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 5TH – 7TH GRADE

IMPROV GAMES

This will be a series of short-form and long-form improvisation games. While exploring the basics of improv, the class will emphasize acceptance, instinct, and ensemble-building. No materials required: just lots of energy, focus, and trust.

HIP HOP

Hip-hop is a universal music and dance medium that has now been integrated into Broadway culture. In this class, students will be exposed to different styles and forms of hip-hop. The class will culminate with a dance 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.

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 8TH – 12TH GRADE
(INCLUDES GRADUATED SENIORS)

PITCH PERFECT

The human voice is a powerful instrument. In this class, students will learn to harmonize while performing arrangements of beloved songs from all genres. This class will produce beautiful music both a cappella and with accompaniment. While voice will be the primary focus, this group will also emphasize showmanship and storytelling through song. Stretch out those jazz hands!

COMEDY

This class will examine the mechanics of how comedy actually works. Learn why it's "all in the timing" as we delve into this fun and fascinating genre. By writing sketches, stand up routines, playing the truth, investing in comedy's high stakes, and committing to the physical life of a character, students will have the audience rolling in the aisles. The students will create a group scene which will be performed at the showcase.

AUDITION TECHNIQUES: NEW AND IMPROVED!

This class will have three different focuses — the monologue audition, the singing audition and the camera audition. Each week, a different guest instructor will lead the class in the art of auditioning using monologues, songs and film scripts. From headshots to resumes to self-tapes and reels, we will prep the actors for different casting calls. (These performances will not be included in the final showcases, but will have a performance during the day for the rest of the program)

PLAYWRITING

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. Each play will be presented in its entirety during performance week.



Education