

# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## 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 which they registered.*

***Please note: you may only select one Musical Theater class***

### FIRST ELECTIVE (9:37 AM – 10:37 AM)

#### **STAGE COMBAT**

**For students entering grades 5–7**

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) 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**

**For students entering 8th–12th**

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.

## PLAYWRITING

**For students entering 8th – 12th grade (includes graduated seniors)**

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.

## PLAYMAKING

**For students entering 5th-7th**

Have you ever wanted to create something out of nothing? This class will explore the process of devising an original piece of theatre through games, creative writing, movement, and collaboration. This class will introduce the idea of the devising toolkit for all artists! We will end the class with a performance of the final piece for the rest of camp.

## AUDITION TECHNIQUES

**For students entering 8th – 12th grade (includes graduated seniors)**

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. They will also 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. Students will also get tips for creating a self-tape for film/tv/commercial auditions. *(These monologues will not be included in the final showcases, but will have a performance during the day for the rest of the program)*

## SPECIAL EFFECTS MAKEUP

**For students entering 5th-7th**

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.



## **ELECTIVE 2 (10:59 AM – 11:59 AM)**

### **MOVEMENT AND THE ACTOR**

**For students entering 8th – 12th grade (includes graduated seniors)**

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.*

### **MUSICAL THEATER**

**For students entering 5th–7th**

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### **PLAYWRITING**

**For students entering 5th–7th**

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### **ACTING FOR THE CAMERA**

**For students entering 5th – 7th grade**

In order to build a well-rounded career most actors need to feel confident on the stage as well as in front of a camera, but even experienced stage actors often have trouble making the transition. In this class, students will deliver scenes and monologues to the camera. They will watch the performances and be given helpful critique, resulting in greater ease and a more versatile performer who knows how not only to land the job, but to perform with confidence and sensitivity. Students will also learn tips for creating the best self-tapes.

## **YAS AND...**

**For students entering 8th – 12th grade (includes graduated seniors)**

Improvisation is the craft of building theater spontaneously through collaboration. While humor is not its goal, improvisational theater can be hilariously funny. YAS and... will have the students learning the basics of improvisation like building, making offers and of course, saying “Yes, and...” This class will focus on the basics of improvisation, including accepting and building, establishing point of view, and creating a world to play in. YAS and... will end with a long form performance for the rest of the camp.

## **ART AND ACTIVISM**

**For students entering 8th-12th (includes graduated seniors)**

How has art created change in the world? Can theater be an instrument of political action? How can WE make a difference with our craft? In this class, we will explore innovative and non-traditional strategies and tactics for creating social change. By studying how theater has made a difference socially and politically, discussion, and ACTION, students will devise a piece of theater about an issue that is important to them.

## **SCENE STUDY (12:37 PM – 2:02 PM) ALTERNATING DAYS**

### **SCENE STUDY**

**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 & Saturday nights. Instead, every scene study class will have a daytime performance that is open to family and friends.*



## **SPECIAL ELECTIVE (12:37 PM – 2:02 PM) ALTERNATING DAYS**

### **FINALE**

#### **For students of all ages**

This YASI course focuses 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.

### **TECHNICALLY TRINITY**

#### **For students of all ages**

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. Students will also have the opportunity to work on design projects which will be displayed in the lobbies for our final week of performances.

### **NAP TIME Zzzzz**

#### **For students of all ages**

YASI is a whirlwind of theater, prizes, and glitter, so this class offers students a chance to relax for a while in the middle of the day! This class will also offer the chance for students to read new plays, research specific playwrights and find monologues to use for auditions. This class will have a chance for some optional quiet reading time with materials from Trinity Rep's extensive playscript library, including that of some of the upcoming season's plays. Led by a calming teaching artist, students will sit back, check in, and unwind.



## **ELECTIVE 3 (2:19 PM – 3:21 PM) (MONDAY – THURSDAY ONLY)**

### **MOVEMENT AND THE ACTOR**

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### **DIRECTING**

**For students entering 8th–12th**

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.

## **IMPROV GAMES**

**For students entering 5th – 7th grade**

Students in this class will play 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

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