2019-2020 Young Artist Training Program
Dear Parent and Young Artist,

Welcome to a new and exciting year with the Young Artist Training Program, the educational outreach of our nonprofit, professional theatre company! Our educational program is unique in many ways.

- **A Good Fit:** We interview and audition every child to determine if they are well suited for this program. We only accept children that we feel will **grow and thrive** in our programs. We make recommendations of alternative programs to students to whom our program is not well-suited. It must be a match from both student and teachers.
- **Standards:** We hold extremely high standards and expectations for our students. Students are evaluated twice annually to help aid them in their studies and help them to reach their goals. We **keep students individually challenged** at every level, whether a first or tenth year student, and we constantly evaluate our program for the best possible results.
- **Experienced, Talented Faculty:** We bring in the best, highly qualified, caring, working professional instructors, to work with our talented students. We believe that faculty should only teach what they can also do as a profession. Our faculty & guest artists are not only great artists, but also talented teachers that are passionate about educating the next generation. Our faculty are **highly experienced** in coaching young professionals that waste no time in identifying the best course of action for each and every student.
- **Professional Environment:** We believe the best way to train young artists to be professional is by treating them like professionals. We do this in our class work, rehearsals and performances. We expect our students to be responsible, arrive on time, be prepared for every class, completing at home practicing on a regular basis, and treating others with professional courtesy and **respect.** We invest in our students and we expect them to return the same respect.
- **Small by choice:** After nearly three decades of training young professionals we know that a smaller program provides more exceptional, individualized, custom, unique training than a large one. Our Educational Director personally oversees the training of each student. We know our students. We know how they learn, and who they are. Our small student base & integrated curriculum increases the pace and speed at which our classes can move and **our students see serious results.** Our students are also able to mentor and learn from one another. Quality over quantity is our goal. We want to best serve our students!
- **Financial Assistance:** The cost of tuition should not discourage anyone from applying to our program. Limited financial aid is available to qualified students with applications reviewed annually by the Board of Directors. We are a non-profit, 501 (c) 3 IRS recognized charitable organization.

Our program is honored to have drawn people from around the Metroplex seeing the highest standard of performing arts training! Each year, we are renew our commitment to uphold these goals and standards. We take the responsibility of giving your child the best performing arts training seriously. YATP students & alumni are well respected in the industry and we are proud to continue our 28+ year tradition with the next generation of performers. **Please read the enclosed information carefully and keep it for your future reference. It is important for the success of your child and our program for parents to familiarize themselves with this information.**

Best regards,

Stephanie Riggs, Educational & Artistic Director

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 271483, Flower Mound, TX 75027-1483
Physical Address: MCL Grand Theater, 100 North Charles Street, Lewisville, TX 75057
Email: info@ourproductions.org Ph: 972-724-2147 Online: www.ourproductions.org
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Attachments (To download from website, complete and return.):
1) Enrollment Application
2) Tuition Payment Form
3) Student Performer/Attendance Contract and YATP Calendar of Events
(Keep the calendar for your records.)

The Young Artist Training program is an educational outreach of Our Productions Theatre Co., a professional theatre company founded in 1993. We are a nonprofit, 501 (c ) 3 IRS recognized charity, celebrating more than 27 years entertaining and educating our community!

Mission:
To develop cultural growth in North Texas by challenging audiences through presentation of new, diverse, and classic theatrical productions for both adults and children; raising awareness of important issues through performance; fostering the educational development of future artists; and preserving the heritage of theatrical performances for both current and future generations.
Young Artist Training Program
New Student Admissions/Audition Information

For Potential Students & New Families:
We are honored to have you inquire about our programs. Please take a few minutes to read the enclosed information before you consider our program. It will help answer many of your questions, and let you know detailed information on our intensive training program that is unique to other area options in many ways. This page will let you know about the admissions process, what to expect, what we are looking for, and how to prepare for your auditions. We can’t wait to meet you in person and look forward to your audition!

New students are admitted on a space available basis each year as determined by the Educational Director. Enrollment is not rolling, and students enroll each summer for the entire school year. YATP typically has approximately 3-6 openings each year based on attrition. We work hard to maintain a balance of ages (Elementary, Middle School, and High School students). We keep the program small by design, and cannot predict from year to year the number of openings in any age group. If you are accepted, but waitlisted one year, please resubmit for audition the following year as space in your age group may become available.

Students desiring to audition need not have any previous experience.

1) Students through rising 10th graders may audition in our annual open enrollment summer camp held annually in June. Students will be assessed by the Educational Director during the camp, and will also get a taste of what being a YATP student is like. If any openings remain following camp, students may schedule a private audition on a case by case basis. This is rare, so please mark your calendars to attend the summer camp. Your child will want to have worked the week of camp to experience our program as well. It is essential to understanding the culture, expectations and community of our program.

2) Students entering 10th grade or higher must schedule a private audition. Please be advised that starting in our program in high school is extremely challenging. It is not possible to push five years of training into a two or three year period. The key to great college preparation is to start early, be diligent, and train hard over a number of years.

YATP establishes a long term, mentorship style relationship with our students. Students normally train with us from 5-10 years, or until graduation.

To make sure to receive the most up to date information on auditions, please make sure to subscribe to our E Newsletter, at www.ourproductions.org, click “Enter Flower Mound/Lewisville” and then “Contact”.

Audition Requirements for Individual Auditions
Elementary Students (2nd – 5th Grades)/Middle School/Intermediate Students (6th – 8th Grades)
Camp participation - Students will be assessed over several days in the summer camp. If attending an individual audition students will prepare one 16 bar song selection, be ready to vocalize with faculty and should prepare a short (less than one minute) memorized monologue. They will perform their pieces and then be given direction by the faculty in a mini-workshop session.

High School/Advanced & College Prep Students (9th – 12th Grades)
Camp participation - Prepare two contrasting 16-bar songs and bring a current headshot(photo) & resume(if available). Bring sheet music in the appropriate key, and be prepared to sing both with piano and a cappella. Candidates should also prepare a short (less than one minute) monologue. They will perform their selections and then be given direction by the faculty in a mini-workshop session. They may be asked to participate in an improvisation exercise and participate in cold readings as well.

We hope that the audition process itself is a fun, learning experience! Our summer campers work hard, learn much, and are proud of what they accomplish at the end of the week. It is the absolute best way to see if the program is right for you and if you are the right fit for the program. Training and mentorship is a team journey!

If the faculty feels that our program is well suited for the candidate, and an opening is available, the student will be admitted into the program. It is highly recommended that prospective students attend a live YATP youth performance before auditioning, to understand the goals and standards of the program as well as participate in our summer camp. If the program is not a good match for an individual student, suggestions will be made on other programs in the area that might be a better fit. Notices for audition openings are sent via email to our E Newsletter members. To subscribe to the free, online playbill of the theatre, visit ourproductionstheatreco.org, click ‘Contact’ and enter your information.

We look forward to meeting you at the theatre!
Young Artist Training Program

Syllabus

New Students admitted by audition—Please see Admissions/Audition Information.
We train students to work in the professional performing arts. Our program accepts only a small number of new students annually. Most students train for 5-10 years, or until graduation. The program requires preparation for each student & custom curriculum, therefore; late or rolling enrollments are not accepted. Students enrolled commit for an entire school year. Our classes are held in mixed aged groups, with elementary/middle and high school students separating for independent study as needed during the fall term, and coming together for the production spring term. As most professional settings call for a wide variety of characters, ages, and types, mixing of ages is a prime component of YATP training. Mentoring is also an enormous part of our teaching philosophy, patterned up younger and older students many times during the year. During pre-production weeks, student schedules are determined by the director.

YATP Musical Theatre Conservatory - Unique & Outstanding Training with Experienced Professionals
Our Program focuses on advancement of musical theatre techniques & skills, along with required audition skills in the fall, and culminates in the preparation of a musical theatre production in the spring with a professional team of directors and designers. Skills include proper vocal technique, vocal styles, sight-reading skills, music theory work, musical theatre dance skills, acting skills, acting through a song, character development, audition preparation techniques and audition book building. The focus is on training young performers with a solid foundation of technical skills needed to book roles and if desired, gain admittance to an outstanding university program. (It is essential that all MTH students also be enrolled in outside additional, regular dance courses.)

Schedule:
Our classes meet on Saturdays. **Please see YATP Calendar for specific schedule for each week and to determine “short” or “long” schedule days.
Fall Term: 1st-8th Grade Students Short schedule: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., Long schedule: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
College Prep. Students (High School/8th Grade Audits) Short schedule: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Long: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Spring Term: Students typically meet 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. or 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., and schedules are emailed weekly.
*Students enroll for the entire school year. This includes approximately 20-24 regular weekly meetings plus days of extended rehearsals, tech days & performances to equal between 100 to 120+ hours of instruction annually.
**Please note that regular attendance is mandatory for all classes. This is very crucial for keeping up with the class work. YATP’s attendance policy will allow no more than 2 absences from regular classes per term. On the 3rd absence, faculty may drop the student from the class or the performance as to not hold back the other class members. A student missing more than 30 minutes of class will be counted absent for that day. College/University audition days and mandatory school events (for a grade) are considered excused absences; however, performance roles and assignments will be adjusted accordingly for the benefit of the group. Please check the ‘Performer/Attendance Contract’ and the ‘YATP Calendar of Events’ for a list of mandatory tech rehearsals and production performances prior to enrolling in a class. Students may be dropped at faculty discretion due to absences that cause undue stress on other students or that cause the student in question to be unprepared for class. A dropped student does not receive a tuition refund. Graduating Seniors are responsible for tuition for the entire year, even if spring term is not completed due to the enormous amount of front loading of the Senior year instruction and coaching.

A Student Boot Camp/Parents meeting will be held the first Saturday meeting of the year. Boot camp will encompass detailed instruction on what to expect in class and an introduction to technical exercises to be added to the student’s practice routine. Boot Camp is our fun way to get in gear for the year ahead and make sure parents and students have all of the information they need!

Private Lessons
Private vocal coaching is available from Stephanie Riggs, Educational Director, to students currently enrolled in the Young Artist Training Program. If you are interested in PRIVATE COACHING, please contact the office to be placed on the waiting/stand-by list or for further information. You must be a current YATP student to be on the stand-by/waiting list for private tutoring/coaching with Ms. Riggs at MCL Grand.
Young Artist Training Program

Tuition & Fees 2019-2020

Enrollment is for a one year period (August/Fall to April/Spring), and may be paid in two, four or ten equal payments annually in addition to their Initial Registration/Enrollment Fee. The 2, 4, or 10 payments (family chosen) may be paid via credit card auto-draft or self-pay online with credit card.

* A non-refundable $450 Application/Registration Fee & tuition deposit is due at time of enrollment. This secures your child’s spot in the program.
* All tuition payments and fees are non-refundable.

Returning student space is not guaranteed until deposit and enrollment have been made.

Tuition & Fees for School Year 2019-2020 - $3750

Application/Registration & Deposit Fees $450 (Discounted to $350 for returning students enrolling by 5/31)

Remaining Annual Tuition - $3300 (Payable by installments 2 pmts of $1650, 4 pmts of $825, OR 10 pmts of $330-July to April)

**Families with multiple children take a 20% discount off of the tuition for the second child enrolled (2+).**

* Students enroll for an entire year (Both Fall & Spring) & are responsible for the full annual tuition.
* On-line enrollment in a class constitutes parent/student agreement to all YATP policies.
* Our enrollment is not rolling. We hold each student’s place in the program for the entire program regardless of their completion of that term. Returning current students need not re-audition annually as their work and progress in the program will determine re-enrollment eligibility for the next year. Graduating Seniors are responsible for tuition for the entire year, even if spring term is not completed due to the enormous amount of front loading of the instruction and coaching for Senior year.

Tuition Assistance/Financial Aid

YATP never wants to lose a qualified student due to financial constraints or concerns. Need based financial assistance is available for qualified students. It is the goal of the Board for admitted students to be able to participate in our programs regardless of ability to pay tuition. Aid is limited, and awards must be reapplied for each year. Please see “Financial Assistance” letter for instructions on how to make an application on our website. Financial aid applications are due by May 1st for returning students and June 15th for new students.

Once Admitted, to complete enrollment follow these steps:

1) NEW Students: Enroll in Summer Technique Camp for assessment. Admissions decisions will be emailed to parents on the last day of camp as Admitted, Waitlisted, or Re-Audition in the future. If admitted following camp, follow steps 2 & 3 below. If any openings remain following camp acceptances, individual auditions may be scheduled in August. Please note that it is not uncommon for students to audition more than once prior to gaining acceptance, and a wait-listed or re-audition student is WELCOME and ENCOURAGED to reapply the next year.

2) NEW/RETURNING STUDENTS: Upon admittance, complete the ONLINE enrollment and pay the non-refundable Enrollment Fee/Deposit. www.ourproductionstheatreco.org, click “About” then “Young Artist Training Program” and follow links.

3) Complete three PAPER enrollment forms (PDF forms available on the website) a) Enrollment Application, b) Tuition Payment Form, c) Performer Contract and submit via mail to YATP, PO Box 271483, Flower Mound 75027. Forms can also be scanned and returned as signed PDFs. Enrollment is not complete without BOTH these three forms + the online deposit.

Young Artist Training Program
P.O. Box 271483, Flower Mound, TX 75027-1483
972-724-2147 Theatre Box Office, www.ourproductions.org, info@ourproductions.org
Young Artist Training Program
Class Supply List & Dress-Code

- Female students should wear dance attire and have their hair pulled out of their face. Male students may wear athletic pants & t-shirts.
- Rubber soled shoes or Black jazz shoes(preferred). Girls over 13 years should plan on having heeled character shoes for class work and auditions.
- **Personal recording device – labeled with name** (Please include extra batteries & make sure the student can operate it independently) - Recording with phones is acceptable, **but using cell phones during class(other than recording) is not allowed.**
- *Sturdy, 3 ring binder of 2”+, dividers or tabs, plastic page protectors (non-glare)*
- *Multiple sharpened pencils and highlighter*
- *Water jug or bottle of water*

Supplies should be brought to every class/rehearsal. Students that attend class without proper attire & supplies may be asked to sit out and observe that day. Students are responsible for keeping up with their own music and scripts given out in class. Most production scripts are rentals, and may only be marked in pencil, and must be returned fully erased at term’s end.

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**Young Artist Training Program**

**Stephanie Riggs, Educational Director**

*Guest artists & additional faculty are subject to change due to professional schedules, and will be scheduled throughout the year as deemed appropriate by the Educational Director.*

Ms. Riggs holds a B. F. A. in Theatre and Television from Texas Christian University, where she received the Fine Arts Guild and Ann Bradshaw Stokes Scholarships for her work in Musical Theatre. While at T. C. U., Stephanie studied voice under Dr. Vincent Russo, editor or ‘The Journal of Research in Singing’ and Jan Sullivan, author of The Phenomenon of the Belt-Pop Voice. An award winning and nominated actress and director, Stephanie has performed with Casa Manana, Lyric Stage, Theatre Three, Uptown Players, PRT, WaterTower Theatre, and Our Productions. She appeared in the regional premier of multiple Tony Award winner producer, GFour Production's Motherhood, The Musical in 2011. Stephanie is a multiple time featured soloist with the Las Colinas/New Arlington/Garland Symphonies and performed cabaret entertainment regularly both with Uptown Players and independently. She is also a voice-over/recording artist working for companies such as Mary Kay Cosmetics, The Staubach Corp., Southwest Airlines, WRR Classical 101.1 & The Las Colinas Symphony. She is the current Educational Director and Artistic Director of Our Productions Theatre Co., a professional, nonprofit theatre & is a proud member of Actors’ Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers. As a teacher with over 26 years of teaching experience, Stephanie holds her Teaching Certificate with the Royal Academy of Dancing, and has studied classical ballet with Egan Weng of the Royal Danish Ballet, and in Oslo, Norway with the Royal Norwegian Ballet. She has attended multiple R. A. D. workshops with Lynn Wallis and Dame Antoinette Sibley as well as esteemed prima ballerina Irina Baronova in Banff, Canada and London, England. In the States, she has received teacher training from Gillian Davis, R. A. D. Examiner at the Callanwolde Fine Arts Center in Atlanta, Georgia. Stephanie’s past and current students have worked in National, Regional and Local professional productions. As a director, Stephanie’s work has been award winning and critically acclaimed in the Metroplex. Stephanie has also twice directed the youth choir composed of her own students for the Dallas Summer Musical’s stop of the National Tour of Joseph...Dreamcoat®.

Her alumni students have appeared in or worked on several off-Broadway and Broadway productions along with many National Touring productions, appeared in locally at Dallas Theater Center, Casa Manana, and other local professional theatre productions including Lyric Stage, WaterTower Theater & of course here, at Our Productions. Students are also currently appearing in & working on national television series, for the Disney Co., in commercials and feature films. Stephanie also offers private vocal coaching to selected Y.A.T.P. students developing both the proper belt/pop placement and a classical/legit sound. Her students are known for their technical skill, discipline, courteousness, and work ethic and most alum students that are working professionals today credit Y.A.T. P. with giving them a solid foundation that helped them off to a great start. Stephanie’s graduating seniors historically and regularly gain admittance to top university programs, most attending with scholarships.