

# Musical Theater for Creatively-Inclined Kids

## STAGE DOOR CONSERVATORY



**They'll act, sing, dance and have the summer of a life-time!**

*Whether* A SINGLE SUMMER OR MANY, OVER THE COURSE THEIR JOURNEY WITH US, MANY OF YOUNG PERFORMERS BEGIN TO DEVELOP NOT ONLY A STRONGER SENSE OF THEMSELVES AND THEIR CREATIVE POTENTIAL, BUT THE POWER OF THE IMAGINATION AND IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY IN THEIR LIVES. OFTEN, MANY REPORT EXPERIENCING A SENSE OF CAMARADERIE THEY HAVE NEVER FELT BEFORE, AND WITH IT, A SENSE OF BELONGING THAT LASTS FAR AFTER OUR PROGRAMS END!

# Showing children the power of imagination and the importance of community



## Welcome

I became involved as the General Manger of STAGE DOOR CONSERVATORY in 2003 after seeing my step-son in one of the program's KIDS ON STAGE productions. At the time he was in 4th grade, playing the role of Schlemazel in *Schlemazel Goes to Paradise*. As I watched him, I felt a swell of sheer joy as he did unabashedly what I had always wanted to do myself, but had always been too shy to try: sing his heart out – even if he was a bit off-key.

It was especially inspiring because he did this as a child with Tourette's syndrome with some fears about how he was perceived by others. On stage, and with the support of our staff, he found a way to express his own special talent and over the years, something very important happened – he started becoming more confident and skillful, not only as a young person, but as an artist. I can truly say that STAGE DOOR CONSERVATORY has been one of the most positive and formative influences in his life – one that he will carry as a resource inside him as ventures forth in his life both as a young adult and performer.

The arts provide such a rich opportunity for growth and learning for children, helping them develop not only as artists, but as persons – which is why it's been so exciting to include so many young members of our community in our programs. In addition to providing a memorable summer experience, exemplary training in theater arts and rewarding opportunities to perform, we are committed to helping each child find and express that unique spark that is theirs alone.

If you are seeking a summer program for your child, I urge you to consider enrolling him or her in Stage Door Conservatory this coming summer. If you do, your child will certainly learn and grow ... and have the experience of a life-time! — *Rawna Romero*

## Helping them find their own unique spark



# Building a more vibrant world for children -- one musical at a time!



Call 510-521-6250 for more information!



## **KIDS ON STAGE** - *For children in the 3rd—6th grade*

Four sessions of KIDS ON STAGE will be held this summer, each two-weeks long, with sessions beginning June 25 and ending August 17. Our session dates will be (SESSION 1) June 25 – July 6, (SESSION 2) July 9 – 20, (SESSION 3) July 23 – August 3 and (SESSION 4) August 6 – 17. Each session will conclude with a celebratory performance at 7:00 PM on the evening of the final day of camp.

**COST:** \$650 per session plus a \$50 registration fee for a camp day or \$950 plus a \$50 registration fee for a full day until 6:00 PM.



## **ON BROADWAY** - *For children in the 5th—9th grade*

One six-week session of ON BROADWAY will be held from June 18 until July 27 and will culminate in a celebratory production of **ANNIE** presented on July 26 – 29.

**COST:** \$1950 plus a \$50 registration, script and t-shirt fee or \$2,700 plus a \$500 registration fee for a full day until 6:00 PM. This year we are offering a 7th and 8th week option for participants wishing to gain more experience in theater production for an additional \$500 fee.

Four hours of volunteer assistance is requested from each family.



## **TEENS ON STAGE** - *For children in the 8th—graduating 12th grade*

One six-week session of TEENS ON STAGE will be held from July 2 until August 10 and will culminate in an exciting production of **SWEENEY TODD** presented on August 9 – 12.

**Audition for leading roles in SWEENEY TODD will occur March 3 and 10. For more information or to schedule an audition, please either call us at 510-521-6250 or email us at [stagedoorconservatory@yahoo.com](mailto:stagedoorconservatory@yahoo.com).** We will respond with more information about the audition preparation process and the scheduling options we are offering.

**COST:** \$1950 plus a \$50 registration, script and t-shirt fee or \$2,700 plus a \$50 registration fee for a full day until 6:00 PM. Four hours of volunteer assistance is requested from each family

# We welcome both children new to theater and experienced actors They'll enjoy opportunities to learn as artists and perform

*In addition to the training and rehearsal activities that are featured as a regular component of our program, each of our participants are offered personalized coaching from our staff and apprentices to help him or her reach her or his own goals as a performer.*

*We also encourage our participants to actively support and mentor one another and to work as an ensemble. Stage Door Conservatory is overseen by Simon Kaplan in tandem with a team of loyal and talented professional theater artists and educators. As a conservatory, we stress the importance of cooperation and respect and value each member's contributions equally, helping each child to develop skills that will help them succeed at school and in their family and community, as well as their futures as adults.*



*The ARTS PROVIDE SUCH AS RICH OPPORTUNITY FOR GROWTH AND LEARNING FOR CHILDREN, HELPING THEM DEVELOP NOT ONLY AS ARTISTS, BUT AS PERSONS – WHICH IS WHY IT'S BEEN SO EXCITING TO INCLUDE SO MANY YOUNG MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY IN OUR PROGRAMS. IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING A MEMORABLE SUMMER EXPERIENCE, EXEMPLARY TRAINING IN THEATER ARTS AND REWARDING OPPORTUNITIES TO PERFORM, WE ARE COMMITTED TO HELPING EACH CHILD FIND AND EXPRESS THAT UNIQUE SPARK THAT IS THEIRS ALONE.*

# Uplifting, engaging, imaginative, egalitarian and joyful



*Children* LOVE THEIR EXPERIENCES AT STAGE DOOR CONSERVATORY -- NOT ONLY FOR THE TRAINING IN SINGING, DANCING, ACTING AND PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES WE PROVIDE, BUT OUR EMPHASIS ON CREATING A SUPPORTIVE, NURTURING AND DEEPLY ENGAGING ATMOSPHERE FOR LEARNING. SUITABLE FOR BOTH CHILDREN NEW TO THEATER AND EXPERIENCED ACTORS, OUR PROGRAMS PROVIDE A JOYFUL AND INSPIRATIONAL IMMERSION IN THE MUSICAL THEATER AND THE PERFORMING ARTS.

## Common Questions

### **DOES A CHILD NEED TO HAVE ACTING, SINGING OR DANCING EXPERIENCE?**

We welcome children new to theater and acting as well as those with significant training and experience.

### **ARE THERE AUDITIONS FOR ENROLLMENT?**

We do not require auditions for enrollment however we hold auditions for casting. Casting for KIDS ON STAGE and ON BROADWAY occur during the summer, however we offer early auditions for casting of the leading roles in TEENS ON STAGE in March and April.

### **WHAT IS INCLUDED IN YOUR CAMP DAY?**

Over the course of a week, your child will be involved in a variety of activities including theater games, story-telling, art, singing, acting and dancing, and in some cases, playwriting. We have two daily outdoor breaks, including an hour lunch, plus weekly swimming.

### **DO YOU OFFER FINANCIAL AID?**

Yes, we try to make the experience of Stage Door Conservatory as accessible as possible to the broadest range of children, regardless of their ability to pay. This past year, we offered nearly \$60,000 in scholarships to Bay Area youth and are currently seeking grants and donations to assist us with our 2012 scholarship disbursements. If YOU can help, please let us know!

**CALL: (510) 521-6250**

**EMAIL: [stagedoorconservatory@yahoo.com](mailto:stagedoorconservatory@yahoo.com)**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [stagedoorconservatory.org](http://stagedoorconservatory.org)**



# Call us for more information or come to our meeting in February



## ATTEND OUR INFORMATIONAL MEETING

We will hold an **informational meeting** to provide information about our summer programs on **Saturday, February 25 at 3:00 PM**. The meeting will be held at the Epworth Community Methodist Church at 1953 Hopkins Street. Our director, Simon Kaplan will lead the meeting in conjunction with other members of our staff. Please join us if you can.



## CALL US AT 510-521-6250 FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you cannot attend our informational meeting, or would like to talk to us more at length or in private, **simply call and leave us a voicemail at 510-521-6250 or email us at [stagedoorconservatory@yahoo.com](mailto:stagedoorconservatory@yahoo.com)**. We would be more than happy to talk with you to answer any questions you might have. You can also visit us online at [stagedoorconservatory.org](http://stagedoorconservatory.org) for more information.



## SCHEDULE AN AUDITION FOR CASTING IN A LEADING ROLE IN SWEENEY TODD

**Preliminary auditions for leading roles** will be held on **Saturdays, March 3 and 10** at the Epworth Community Methodist Church at 1953 Hopkins Street in Berkeley. **To schedule an audition, please either email us at [stagedoorconservatory@yahoo.com](mailto:stagedoorconservatory@yahoo.com) or call us at 510-521-6250**. Once you contact us, you will receive a confirmation message with instructions, including details regarding what song/s to prepare. **Please note:** Auditions are NOT REQUIRED for enrollment in TEENS ON STAGE or any other program we offer.



## HELP US SPREAD THE WORD

Please share this brochure with anyone you think might be interested in sending their child to our program, or invite them to join you at our upcoming informational meeting! We rely on both our outreach and word of mouth to help us promote our programs and would greatly appreciate any help you can provide. Thank you so much! Need more information? Just call us at 510-521-6250.

**TEENS ON STAGE casting auditions are in March**  
**[stagedoorconservatory.org](http://stagedoorconservatory.org)**

# Our popular BACKSTAGE program

## for children who enjoy the technical aspects of theater



**For 9th through 12<sup>th</sup> graders**

**BACKSTAGE** is an exciting apprentice/counselor-in-training program for teenagers entering or in high school. Each counselor/apprentice will be asked to select a specific focus, such as choreography, stage and set design, music, costuming, stage management or direction. Participants will be actively engaged in one or more of our productions, and gain invaluable pre-vocational training in their area of focus. Apprentices are scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 daily, and must undergo a separate application process, including an interview. Please call us at 510-521-6250 or email us at [stagedoorconservatory@yahoo.com](mailto:stagedoorconservatory@yahoo.com) office for more details and an application.

**SESSION DATES:** June 18 – August 17

## Internships for college students

We offer internship opportunities for college students interested in acquiring mentoring and supervised work experience in theater production, marketing, outreach, nonprofit administration and other areas. An internship with Stage Door Conservatory can offer you many benefits, including an opportunity to develop your skills, acquire invaluable work-related experience and explore your career interests and network with professionals who may serve as references or contacts as you pursue your academic and employment goals. Currently we are seeking interns in the following areas:

- **Counselor Interns** *interact personally with campers and assist them with general camp activities, as well as provide supervised one-on-one support to campers needing special attention.*
- **Instructional Interns** *assist with our art, music, drama, dance and swimming activities as specialists.*
- **Marketing, Development and Outreach Interns** *assist with the promotion of our camp, events and shows, as well as our fundraising activities.*
- **Production Interns** *assist with our two large scale productions, including in the areas of stage management, sound and lighting design, set and prop development and backstage management.*
- **Costume Interns** *assist with costume design and development.*

**For more information, please email us at [stagedoorconservatory@yahoo.com](mailto:stagedoorconservatory@yahoo.com) or call our offices at 510-521-6250.**

# The many benefits of theater



I've been involved with the performing arts as an actor and director for over 20 years. I've worked with children in theatre for more than 15 of those years and witnessed just what an invaluable role it can play in young person's life.

There is perhaps no more powerful medium for artistic and creative expression than theater. It engages children's capacities for joy and wonder and provides them with an unprecedented opportunity to safely explore the world of their imagination. When engaged in theatre, children discover not only new ways of experiencing and perceiving themselves and others, but more about themselves, their capacities and life in general. It has many benefits and can help your child to:

- Act, sing, dance and perform with greater confidence and skill
- Develop his or her talents as a performer and artist
- Become more familiar with theater, history, literature and the cultures and traditions of the world
- Learn the value and importance of cooperation in collaborating with others and community
- Appreciate and respect the contributions and talents of others and the value of team-work
- Express him or herself with more ease
- Become more patient with him or herself and others
- Develop more sensitivity and understanding of the feelings of others
- Experience the joys of belonging
- Gain more self-esteem
- Develop self-discipline
- Think critically
- Become more fit physically

A child's dreams are the foundation of his or her future. Consider enrolling your child in STAGE DOOR CONSERVATORY today!

- *Simon Kaplan*

