

High School (HSR)

Improv: The Next Frontier

Think of improv like the Wild Wild West: full of unlimited potential and possibility, yet in need of someone to tame the wilderness. In this class, we will enjoy making stuff up and creative big BOLD choices, all while learning to ground and root our scenes in reality, truth and honesty. Students will practice both short-form and long-form improv and be encouraged to observe the “rules” of improv while keeping their creativity and ingenuity untethered. Students of all levels of improv experience and abilities are welcome in this class.

Skills Focus:

- Basic structures and “rules” of improvisation including the foundation of “Yes, And”
- Creating interesting and energetic scenes
- Developing stock and unique characters
- Responding to and playing off your partner
- Exposure and practice with different forms of improvisation
- Grounding scenes with truth, honesty, comedy, and realism
- Working together as an ensemble and scene partners

ADDITIONAL THURSDAY CLASS TBD/COMING SOON

Technical/Backstage Theatre (Jr High/High School)

Welcome to behind the curtain, where the theatrical magic happens! This class starts every week in the TWS scene shop, where they will take on projects and develop skills in various areas of production. The class projects evolve based on students’ interests as well as project support for TWS and CTWS shows. This class works alongside the TD to support and do “real” work on the productions. Throughout the semester, students may learn about areas such as sound design, lighting, costumes, stage management, set dressing, design, painting, props, producing, building, or other skills. We make sure our students stay safe but don't always make sure they're not messy! If your student is interested in being hands-on and learning lots of different things, this is a great class for a backstage star! This class has a collection of instructors and topics that change through the semester. Bring your sharpie, your gaff tape, and a pencil, and let's create! PS- YES students in this class get to visit our tech booths and lighting grid!

Skills Focus:

- Understanding design and how it relates to areas of production
- Creative, hands-on projects that support the spring season of shows

- Exposure to many different areas of backstage production and projects
- Safety, cleaning, and organization procedures
- Locating and utilizing different resources
- How to execute a project based on design plans
- Various tools, materials, and resources and how to utilize them
- Both independent and small group project work

Mixed Age Group Classes

Acting: Scenes from Modern Stories (Jr High/High School)

Let's get to the heart of the actor and dig in deep. We'll be working to create grounded, well-rounded characters and scenes that captivate and enthrall the audience. This semester, we will be working with scenes from the plays like *The Wolves*, *Peter*, and *the Starcatcher*, *Puffs*, *She Kills Monsters*, and *the Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*. We will discuss how these plays and scenes relate to our lives today and how we can bring ourselves and our own stories into these works. Along the way, we will help add acting strategies and tools to your toolkit to give you more confidence and fearlessness on stage and off. Let's create!

Skills Focus:

- Working together as a creative ensemble
- Warm-ups and theatre games
- Script analysis and character background development
- Finding the beats and moments in scenes
- Creating honest, grounded, real, and raw performances
- Memorizing lines and working with scripts and stage directions
- Taking and incorporating acting notes and feedback
- Responding to and connecting with scene partners