



ZACH Performing Arts School Skill Progression

After-School and Saturday Classes

Acting

Act the Story Classes (Ages 3.5–5)

Students engage in creative drama and imaginary world exploration (teacher-led) to foster imaginative play. Students learn—and begin exploring—the four Actor’s Tools (Body, Voice, Imagination, and Listening) through creative play, arts and crafts, theatre games, and group songs.

Act the Story Classes (Grades K–2)

Students create original characters, generate story/narrative ideas, and embody their chosen characters to create an original devised play. Students continue to layer the Actor’s Tools, use creative dramatic play, and theatre games/exercises to explore the fundamentals of acting creating and embodying a character.

Acting 1 (Grades 3–5 / 6–8 / 9–12)

Students receive scripted roles and begin to incorporate memorization of the material to learn the fundamentals of acting and creating a character. Students start to learn the basics of the actor’s vocabulary including playing character’s objective, changing tactics, intent listening, and having an honest emotional response.

Acting 2 (Grades 4–5 / 6–8 / 9–12)

Students continue to work with scripted materials but start to learn about acting methods and techniques that help them to work on internally creating the role as well as engaging with their scene partner. Students will continue to explore advanced acting techniques previously learned in Acting I through scene and monologue work.

Improv I (Grades 3–12)

Students learn to create characters and think quickly on their feet by playing theatre games and short-form improv games. Students focus on listening to their fellow actors and responding truthfully in the moment.

Musical Theatre

Broadway Littles Classes (Ages 3.5–5)

Students engage in the foundations of musical theatre, learning basic dance skills while exploring rhythm and tempo in a group setting. Additionally, students will engage in instructor-led creative play, theatre games and student-created crafts.

Broadway Kids Classes (Grades K–5)

Students learn lyrics, intonation, and vocal dynamics, and begin to act the song by adding appropriate emotion and character. Students learn foundational dance skills such as flexibility, body positions, turns, and spatial awareness. Instructors apply additional focus to pitch, intonation, and timing as students continue to work in ensemble groups.

Children’s Choir (Grades K–5)

Students develop a love for singing in community as they learn how to read music through fun games and activities. Students learn to sing in unison and harmony through a variety of musical styles including classical canons, partner songs, and musical theatre pieces. In addition, they learn how the voice works—and how to care for their voices— and the differences between solo and ensemble singing.

Musical Theatre Dance 1 (Grades 6–8 / 9–12)

Students will learn vocal technique including how to harmonize, develop better tone through proper body alignment, and match pitch. Students also learn proper body position, work on developing flexibility and strengthen their body through core conditioning. Students also work on developing the skill of picking up choreography in a dance-call-type setting.

Musical Theatre Dance 2 (Grades 6–8 / 9–12)

Students will continue to develop and master dance technique at a beginner to intermediate level. Students will continue to develop flexibility and build more advanced skills.

Musical Theatre Voice 1 (Grades 6–8 / 9–12)

Students will learn vocal technique including how to harmonize, proper body alignment to develop better tone and to match pitch. Students will also learn how to read music and sing to an accompaniment piano and track.

Musical Theatre Voice 2 (Grades 6–8 / 9–12)

Students continue to develop vocal technique at an intermediate level and work to master difficult harmonizing sequences. Students also develop good body alignment, tone, and pitch. Students should be able to master the ability to match pitch with a piano by the end of this course. Students also work on reading sheet music and learn basic music theory.

Production Workshops (Grades 3–5 / 6–12)

These workshops include the disciplines of Musical Theatre classes but introduce costumes, stage lighting, and props, so students learn to incorporate the production aspects of being a musical theatre performer.

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For inquiries, email: zachtheatre.org/education.