

Theatre Workshop Musical Theatre - Updates & Reminders – New Term August 2020

Dear All,

We hope everyone is settling in to, or back in to the new term nicely.

Please see & read the – Attached documents:

Theatre Workshop Course – Student & Parent Reminders – New Term Comms
Requirements for On Stage & Theatre Workshop & Performance Courses

Expectations

At the beginning of each academic year, when we have new students joining, it is really important that everyone integrates well. We expect the previous year's students, to always be welcoming, friendly, supportive and helpful to all new students, to act as 'buddies'. We expect them to be excellent role models. We are all here to learn from each other, together. There is no room for Diva's or Prima Donna's on these courses! ☺ We ask all students to remember how they felt being the 'new' student. We expect our Centre Stage Theatre Workshop students to become ambassadors, not only for the arts but in dealing with others, to use their excellent communication, social & emotional skills, having empathy, understanding and respect for all.

Updates:**Course Classes/Groupings**

Traditionally, at the beginning of the academic year Musical Theatre Workshop students come together with the Actors in the first couple of weeks and work together, it is also an aim to do that at several other points throughout the academic year, where possible. Due to Covid 19 and MOH/MOE restriction's and guidelines it makes this kind of interaction between Actors and MT students impossible and this year we were not able to come together in the same way for our ice breaker creative workshops as we would normally enjoy.

Historically, The MT Course has two training groups, sometimes three, in which, we swap the students around between each group regularly, in order for the students to be able work together with everyone. This is so that all the MT students become, comfortable with and familiar working together as one whole group. From January onwards they usually come together to rehearse their production. At this point, they will need to become one solid *company* of performers. A supportive ensemble company – who have each other's back.

Again, due to safe distancing measures, group size and Covid 19 and MOH/MOE restrictions and guidelines it poses difficulties to achieve student movements in and out of the two groups during the morning as we would normally do and therefore restricting, this important aspect of interaction within their training. They will remain split in to two groups.

Last week, – for those students who were there at 9am - I explained this to the two groups separately, before class started. This was in order to, not only explain, but to reassure every one of the changes. The new ones who are feeling 'new' where everything is unexpected and need support and for last year's students, to remind them to be flexible and adaptable, ready & prepared to work beyond their friendship groups/comfort zone and cliques, in order to become, confident, generous performers and true ensemble members.

Production in 2020-21

Usually, at this time of year, we would let you have the dates we have booked in the Theatre for this academic year's production. As none of the Theatre's are open or taking bookings at this point, we are unable to give you confirmed dates. We can tell you that our aim is to work towards and book the theatre for either weekend of **5th/6th OR 12th/13th June 2021** if possible.

We will work towards and pursue all new projects and production for this academic year along the same timeline, as usual. However, we will need to adapt and change our direction, with regard to all classes, rehearsals, performance, audiences, etc., so as remain in line and accordance with current MOH/MOM Covid guidelines. We are not sure yet, how socially distant performances/direction will look like aesthetically?! 😊

Grease Production

As you will be aware, last year's students were sadly not able to complete rehearsals and perform Grease the weekend of 13th/14th June 2020. Our plan going forward is that – As and when the Theatre's begin to open, we would look to re assess the situation and see if it's still possible to resurrect this production, things to consider will be, If we are able to:

- a. Book a Theatre allowing enough time for rehearsals/set build/costumes to be made
- b. We have enough of last year's students happy and available to create a cast, and rehearse outside of classes and current projects
- c. We are given the go ahead by the rights company to re-apply for new performance dates using June 2020 fee
- d. Provided we haven't lost the initial rights fee of **US \$3,375.00**

It is really wonderful to have students back in classes at the Centre and to hear the laughter, the chatter and the sounds and buzz of creativity!

We look forward to an exciting if not different Academic Year ahead of us.

Any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes,

Ali & Pete
And the Centre Stage Team