



Pre-Professional Theatre Program 2023/24 Audition Package

The Arts Umbrella Pre-Professional Theatre Program consists of Theatre, Film, Musical Theatre, and Sketch Comedy and Improv Performance Troupes as well as programs Stagecraft. These yearlong programs are structured to offer aspiring artists a space to sharpen their skills, increase their confidence, and expand their network. A balance of process and production, students develop teamwork and cooperation, discipline and technique, creative expression, and individual artistry.

Our instructors are industry professionals who help students explore their artistic potential. Many of our students have gone on to post-secondary theatre programs and professional acting careers around the world.

The Arts Umbrella Pre-Professional Theatre Program is a September to June commitment (with extra rehearsals added around performance time). Students **MUST** be prepared to put a lot of energy and time into training and preparation for performances. Participants are chosen by audition to take part in the program and will be placed in the Troupe that best fits their age, experience, interests, skill set, and goals.

Important note: *Our Pre-Professional Program is designed for those who are considering theatre and the performing arts as a career path. A significant amount of at-home preparation and regular attendance is expected of all students. Missed classes may require changes in casting for our productions. Families are asked to consider this carefully when choosing to audition for the program.*

Proposed Schedule for 2023/24*:

Theatre Troupe**	Mondays 6-9pm	Thursdays 6-9pm
Musical Theatre Troupe**	Tuesdays 6-9pm	Fridays 4-9pm***
The Actor's Film Troupe	Tuesdays 6-9pm	Thursdays 6-9pm
Sketch Comedy and Improv Troupe**	Tuesdays 6-9pm	Fridays 6-9pm
Stagecraft Production Program	Mondays 6-9pm	Wednesdays 6-9pm

*Subject to change

**Extra rehearsal time to be added around performances.

***Dance for Musical Theatre Troupe is incorporated in students' schedule and is reflected in the tuition

Updated class/rehearsal/performance schedule come from the department as they become available

Fees include class time, rehearsal hours, technical rehearsals, headshot sitting fee, production fees, and commemorative swag.

Performance Opportunities:

Theatre/Sketch Winter Shorts Weekend - December 1st-3rd, 2023

Musical Theatre Winter Shorts Weekend – December 8th-10th, 2023

Film Acting Winter Shorts Screening – January 20th, 2024

Expressions Theatre Festival – In House Performances and School Tours – April-June 2024

Musical Theatre Cabaret Evenings: June 2024

We are still in the process of finalizing exact performances dates and times. Updated performance schedules will be available in October. Other performance opportunities may arise throughout the year.

Additional rehearsal hours will be communicated as soon as they are confirmed.

To register for an audition please visit www.artsumbrella.com/theatreaudition

If you have any questions regarding the audition process or any pre-professional theatre troupe in general, please email us at theatre@artsumbrella.com



Program Descriptions:

Theatre Troupe

Channel your talents! In Theatre Troupe, teens develop on- and off-stage skills. Beyond honing performance techniques, students also experiment with production know-how such as lighting, sound, costume, and set. The Fall Session is dedicated to intensive training that develops strong rehearsal techniques and encourages a sense of ensemble. Winter and Spring Sessions focus on mounting a professional production to tour Metro Vancouver schools. Students also showcase their work as a part of Winter Shorts, the Expressions Festival, and other performance opportunities throughout the year.

Past productions for Theatre Troupe include: “The Boxcar Children”, “Hummingbird”, (2023) “Kindness”, “Treehouse” (2022), “Shakespeare Redux”(2021), “The Pandemic That Didn’t Define Them” (2020), “Dorothy Meets Alice”, “As You Like It” (2020), “Peter Pan”, “Animal Farm” (2019), “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory”, “The Pheonician Women” (2018), “Charlotte’s Web”, “The Complete Works Of William Shakespeare: Abridged” (2017)

Musical Theatre Troupe

Young performers train with professional musical theatre artists to gain valuable ensemble and solo performance experience and enhance the special connection between performers and audiences. Actors can expect to expand their audition repertoire, develop their voice, and learn advanced singing, dancing, and acting techniques. Musical Theatre Troupe members showcase their work as a part of Winter Shorts, and end the year with either a full-length or school length Broadway Musical as part of our Expressions Festival, and a solo performance as part of our cabaret evenings, and other performance opportunities throughout the year.

Past productions include: “The Secret Garden”, “Jasper in Deadland” (2023), “Tuck Everlasting”, “SpongeBob SquarePants: the Musical” (2022), “Children of Eden”, “13: The Musical”, “Merrily We Roll Along” (2021), “Mamma Mia!”, “Frozen Jr” (2020) “Into the Woods”, “James and the Giant Peach Jr” (2019) “Oklahoma!”, “Guys and Dolls Jr” (2018), and “Urinetown: The Musical” (2017).

The Actor’s Film Troupe

Take a deep breath and dive into the art of acting for film. There is so much that goes into creating a great film; from sound, lights, and cinematography, to casting, acting, and directing. Understanding how it all works together, each adding its own artistic expression to a film, is key to becoming a great actor. Expand your awareness of the different aspects of movie making. Gain tools to help you be in the moment, find honesty in your work, and hone your artistry as a film actor. Work with other dedicated young actors and industry professionals to create short films to be shared with audiences throughout the year.

NEW Sketch Comedy and Improv Troupe

Take your comedic and improv skills to the next level with the new Sketch Comedy and Improv Troupe. Through a mixture of improvisation and writing, young actors will create original sketch shows and improve performances throughout the year. Industry professionals will help you develop your technique, discipline and artistry. Sketch Comedy and Improv Troupe members showcase their work as part of Winter Shorts, and Expressions Theatre Festival, as well as mid-term performances in the Poole Theatre in order to maximize performance opportunities with an audience.

Stagecraft Production Program

Students are accepted by application – Apply at www.artsumbrella.com/pre-professional-program/

Work with industry professionals in this year long stagecraft program to gain the conceptual and technical skills needed to excel in the technical side of theatre and film production. Dive into the fundamentals of production, including stage management, lighting, sound, costumes, props and set building using state of the art equipment. Students will have the opportunity to join the production team for our Pre-Professional Theatre Program shows both on tour and in the Jack and Darlene Poole Theatre throughout the year.

To register for an audition please visit www.artsumbrella.com/theatreaudition

If you have any questions regarding the audition process or any pre-professional theatre troupe in general, please email us at theatre@artsumbrella.com



What is the Process to Audition?

1. Go to www.artsumbrella.com/theatreaudition and click Register For An Audition.
2. Complete the questionnaire as best as you can.
3. a) If you are auditioning for Musical Theatre, Film, or Theatre, you will receive a 15 minute audition slot when your questionnaire has been received
b) If you are auditioning for Sketch Comedy and Improv, you will be placed in a group audition time-slot
4. On the day of your audition, arrive at Arts Umbrella 10-15 minutes early to ensure that you are ready to go at your scheduled audition time.

You may audition for multiple Troupes – you may select which Troupes you’ll be auditioning for on the form. Audition slots are given on a first come, first serve bases. Apply early to guarantee an audition time

Audition Dates:

Musical Theatre, Film, or Theatre

June 18, 2023 – 9am-5pm

**You will be assigned a 15 minute time slot*

Sketch Comedy and Improv

June 18, 2023 – 1:30pm-5pm

**You will be assigned a group audition time*

How do I prepare for my audition?

If you would like to be considered for **Musical Theatre Troupe** you must prepare a song from the Musical Theatre canon. Make sure you have sheet music to bring with you to your audition. Sheet music can be found in hard copy at libraries, or online at resources including composer’s personal websites, musicnotes.com, and sheetmusicdirect.com

AND

Learn [this dance combo posted on Vimeo](#) (password: MTAudition). For rehearsal purposes, “Seize the Day” from “Newsies” can be found on [Youtube](#) and [Spotify](#) (the combo starts at around 4:40). Music will be provided at the audition.

If you would like to be considered for **Theatre Troupe** you must memorize and prepare a monologue from a published play. Choose a piece that speaks to you and make sure you read the play to get as much information about the character and story as possible. If you are

AND

Learn [this mime sequence posted at on Vimeo](#) (password: THAudition)

If you would like to be considered for **The Actor’s Film Troupe** you must memorize and prepare a monologue from a published play. Choose a piece that speaks to you and make sure you read the play to get as much information about the character and story as possible.

AND

You must prepare [this film scene](#) to be read with a reader at your audition. You may choose whichever character you’d like and a reader will play the scene with you at your audition

If you would like to be considered for **Sketch Comedy and Improv Troupe** you will be placed in a 30 minute group audition where you will be lead through a warm up and some improv scenes to see how you work with others and your boldness in your work.

The link to the dance combo, mime sequence, and film scene can also all be found at <https://www.artsumbrella.com/pre-professional-theatre-auditions/>

Be brave, make strong choices and above all have fun!

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