

## **“Curtain Up!” at Performing Arts Center of Connecticut**

In this musical theatre audition and performance program, set in a pre-college workshop environment, students will learn what it takes to survive in the industry and how to equip themselves with the necessary tools to reach their full performance potential in auditions and on stage! For those who plan to pursue Musical Theatre as a college education, this program will also assist in the process and preparation.

### **Our Goal**

To provide all students, regardless of age or experience, with an opportunity to excel in the demanding art of musical theatre. To create a safe and supportive environment. To stimulate the student’s artistic creativity both on and off the stage. To teach with professional sincerity, while reinforcing the importance of respect and the value of hard work.

### **AREAS OF STUDY**

The topics of instruction, at “Curtain Up!”, include: Acting (Monologue Study), Vocal Technique, Vocal Performance, Beginning Music Theory, and Musical Theatre Dance/Movement. Each area will have a focus strongly based in the practice of Audition & Performance technique. A balanced rotation of each Studies area will take effect for the 12-week session.

### **Inclusive Features**

There are a number of all-inclusive features that make “Curtain Up!” an extremely unique & dynamic program. These features are packaged together with the high-quality training at no extra cost.

**Master Class Workshops:** Three exciting Master Class workshops/lectures with industry professionals from NYC. These are closed educational workshops and only open to “Curtain Up” students. Over the span of the 12 weeks, the ambitious performers will work on three different elements of musical theatre with working professionals. The 90-minute Master Classes will consist of an interactive workshop and conclude with an informative Q&A. Audition Etiquette and Technique with Rachel Hoffman (Casting Director for TELSEY CASTING), Monologue/Acting Studies with Noah Weisberg (Broadway’s SOUTH PACIFIC and LEGALLY BLONDE), and Vocal Performance with David Hibbard (Broadway’s CATS and SPAMALOT).

**Private Coaching:** One-on-One Coaching for audition preparation. This feature will allow each student to spend a portion of at least two of their twelve classes with the accompanist and a “Curtain Up!” instructor for more personal development. The scheduling for these private sessions is subject to change and to be determined.

**Seminars:** Two comprehensive seminars on ‘Audition Etiquette & Technique’ and ‘Musical Theatre College Programs’ for students and their parents. These two seminars, presented by the program’s staff, will take place at the first session on Saturday, September 19 beginning at 10:00 AM in the Warehouse theatre at PACC. We encourage all to attend and be prepared to take notes!

### **College Prep**

A large part of the “Curtain Up!” program includes professional assistance and training for College Prep in the educational studies of Musical Theatre, Theatre Arts, and Acting. Our well-equipped team will offer guidance in College selection & evaluation, audition preparation, and audition execution.

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade:** We believe that it is never too soon to begin cultivating your talent and looking ahead with adequate preparation. For our younger students, we will focus on the expectations of the industry and reveal the rigorous demands of professional theatrical training. Through our program we hope to have a positive impact on the student’s educational future, regardless of their ultimate decision.

**10<sup>th</sup> Grade:** We consider this time of High School to be the “beginning stages” of College prep. With private student/parent consultations (two per session) and constant communication with the program’s team, we will begin formulating an methodical plan. The student will also start looking at perspective schools with the help of our professionally trained staff.

**11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Grade:** In the final two years of their High School career, it is of extreme importance to begin preparing the students for both the application and audition process. With private consultations (two per session) we will develop a final list of perspective College programs/schools. Our one-on-one coaching feature will serve as an opportunity for each performer to create a diverse package of recommended audition material and study this material, in professional detail!

### **Schedule**

“Curtain Up” runs every Saturday, at PACC, from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The program begins on September 19, 2009 and concludes on December 19, 2009. “Curtain Up” will **not** meet on October 31, 2009 and November 28, 2009.

### **The Final Day**

Our program will end on Saturday, December 19. While we are not offering a final showing or presentation, the staff will be hosting a Mock Audition Day for the students in their final session. The final workshop will simulate an NYC industry “Cattle Call”, giving the young performers a chance to show our instructors what they have learned and how they have grown as artists. Parents are encouraged to attend.

### **Cost/Tuition**

The cost of the program, at a bargain price of \$650, creates an incredible steal for interested students in today’s economy. “Curtain Up!” (valued at over \$1,200) is prepared for competitor comparison. Similar programs, located in the surrounding area, cost between \$800 and \$1,300. The tuition is due and payable upon registration. Scholarships for this program and others at PACC may be available – call or send an email for more info.

## **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

Each student, regardless of age, is eligible for enrollment pending grade level – All performers entering Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 are permitted to participate. Younger students, entering the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, are eligible to apply for special registration. All registered students are required to attend a brief 20-minute interview, with a “Curtain Up!” instructor, on Saturday, August 29. Parents are requested to join for the interview. Following registration, PACC will contact each student to schedule an interview time. Artistic resumes and personal headshots (or a school photo portrait) will be required, for submission, on Interview Day. Past theatrical and/or performance experience is **preferred** but it is not required.

**ATTIRE:** The attire varies from weekend-to-weekend. We will review appropriate attire when the program first meets. On Master Class days, students will be asked to dress nicely. Our dance section will be taught on 7 of the 12 Saturday’s; the students will be notified ahead of time so that they may prepare appropriate attire. For all other studies sections, we ask that you dress comfortably – clothing that the student can easily move in. No tight clothing please!

**Registration:** Registration begins on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 and ends on August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009. To register please call 203-372-2787 or email: PACofConnecticut@aol.com

**FACULTY:** Our “Curtain Up!” staff, comprised of professionally trained performing artists and educators, is highly qualified and boasts a reputable collection of theatrical credits. These instructors have worked with the best and brightest including Broadway stars, world-renowned teachers, and professional industry coaches/consultants. It is their pleasure to offer these learned lessons through quality artistic training.

**Contact:** If you have any questions or would like to learn more about “Curtain Up!”, please do not hesitate to email us: **CurtainUpWorkshop@gmail.com**. You may also leave a message, for our staff, with the PACC offices by calling 203 – 372 – 2787.

**Our Space:** We have over 10,000 square feet of air-conditioned, state of the art studio space, which includes two 1,000 square foot, one 1,500 square foot studio and one 2,400 square foot sprung floor dance studios with the latest professional audio systems, four voice/acting/music studios, 2 lounges, a homework area, costume shop and a performance space. We are conveniently located in Trumbull, Connecticut just minutes off the Merritt Parkway, I-95, or Route 25 Connector. 18 Lindeman Drive in Trumbull. Directions to our studios are available on our website.

## **POLICIES**

**Class changes or cancellations** may be made based on enrollment. The faculty reserves the right to place or move students according to technical ability. Instructors may be changed due to scheduling conflicts.

**Tardiness and Absences:** Promptness is expected. If you are going to be more than ten (10) minutes late or absent please contact the studio by phone.

**Liability:** We are not responsible for personal injury or lost property. Students and parents (guardians) release claims of liability while studying dance, voice, acting and music instrumentation at the Performing Arts Center of Connecticut, LLC. See Registration Form.

## **2009-2010 Calendar**

Classes will begin on Wednesday, September 9, 2009 and end on Thursday, June 17, 2010. We follow Trumbull Public Schools December, February, April vacation and holiday schedule. In addition to the three vacations listed above, we are closed for Halloween, Thanksgiving Weekend, Easter Weekend and Memorial Day. Check our website.

**Closings:** Closings will be posted on our telephone answering system by 12 noon of any day in question. We follow the Trumbull public School Closings.

**Make Up Classes:** It is the student’s responsibility to make up classes during the same semester, due to personal conflicts or illness. Classes cancelled in conjunction with school closings will not be made up. Classes cancelled due to faculty illness or conflicts will be scheduled and made up by PACC.

**Open Door Policy:** The faculty at PACC is here for its students and parents. We welcome any ideas and suggestions you may have regarding the center.

# “CURTAIN UP!” Musical Theatre Audition & Performance Program

## Fall 2009

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● PERFORMING  
● ARTS CENTER  
OF CONNECTICUT, LLC

18 Lindeman Drive  
Trumbull, CT 06611

**203-372-ARTS(2787)**

[www.PACofCT.com](http://www.PACofCT.com)

Email: PACofConnecticut.com