

PRESS RELEASE

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**CHILDREN'S THEATRE COMPANY ANNOUNCES
UPCOMING EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS:**

**FALL 2026
WINTER 2026-2027
SPRING 2027**

Now Enrolling: Classes for ages 2+ and Grades K – 12

Minneapolis—July 21, 2026—Children's Theatre Company (CTC) has announced the upcoming Theatre Arts Training classes for fall 2026, winter 2027, and spring 2027. All classes are now available for registration at childrenstheatre.org/classes.

"At Children's Theatre Company, we believe every young person deserves the opportunity to experience the transformative power of theatre," said Ann Joseph-Douglas, CTC's Director of Education and Community Engagement. "Through our fall Theatre Arts Training classes and free community programs at local libraries, we are meeting families where they are and making arts education more accessible than ever. Whether students join us for a semester-long class or a one-day library workshop, they are invited to explore their creativity, build confidence, develop meaningful relationships, and discover the joy of storytelling. Our goal is to ensure that every child feels seen, valued, and inspired to grow both on and off the stage."

Highlights of Theatre Arts Training Programs:

Recognized for its excellence in theatre education, Children's Theatre Company is a leading destination for young artists in the Twin Cities, offering transformative learning experiences that foster creativity, collaboration, and artistic growth.

- **Institute** Designed for dedicated students in grades 8–12, The Institute provides rigorous, conservatory-style theatre training to prepare young artists for college and professional opportunities. This season's focus is Comedy and Stage Combat.. **Auditions to join the Institute program will take place on September 14, 2026.**
- **MEA Camps** will be offered October 15-16, 2026.
 - Pirates and Mermaids (Grade K)
 - Magic Academy (Grades 1–2)
 - Backstage Crafting (Grades 2–3)
 - The Greatest Showman (Grades 4–5)

- **Student Workshop Series** As part of CTC's Theatre Arts Training program, the Workshop Series offers aspiring young artists focused training experiences designed to build technique, confidence, and creativity. Students work with professional theatre artists to explore specialized skills in performance, auditioning, and theatrical craft.
- Stage Combat (Grades 6-12)
- Audition Prep (Grades 6-12)
- Voice (Grades 6-12)
- Acting for the Camera (Grades 6-12)

New Offerings:

- **Musical Theatre Academy:** offers intermediate-level training in singing, dancing, and acting, for grades 4-8 preparing students for audition-based pre-professional programs through hands-on instruction and performance-based learning.
- **Discovery Theatre:** invites toddlers ages 2–3 and their caregivers to explore the magic of storytelling through hands-on sensory activities, creative movement, and imaginative play inspired by children's books.
- **Crafting and Theatrical Design:** In this hands-on theatrical design class for grades 2-4, students will dive into the world of set design, prop making, and stagecraft. This class is perfect for students interested in making all the cool props and design elements you see on stage. Anything is possible if we have duct tape, cardboard, and paint!

Information about the full offering of Theatre Arts Training Classes may be found at childrenstheatre.org/classes

Policies and Important Information

How to Register

ONLINE: register online at any time at childrenstheatre.org/classes.

PHONE: register by phone with the Ticket Office at 612.874.0400, Tuesday-Friday, 11am-4pm.

Get More Information Online: Sign up to audition for TAT performance programs, find out about CTC professional audition opportunities, meet the faculty, purchase classes and camps, and find information on class and camp sizes and what to bring! Visit childrenstheatre.org/education.

Ways to Save

Save 10% off tuition if you register more than one student in your household or register a student for more than one class (in the same order). Some restrictions apply.

Payment plans are available when using a credit card by phone.

Need-based scholarships are available through the ACT Pass program until all funds are allocated. Apply online at childrenstheatre.org/actpass or call our Ticket Office at 612.874.0400.

Free Community Library Programs

Children's Theatre Company is expanding access to arts education this fall through a series of free workshops presented in partnership with Hennepin County Library and Dakota County Library. Led by CTC teaching artists, these interactive programs invite children and families to explore theatre through storytelling, imaginative play, movement, design, music, and improvisation.

This season's offerings include **The Sounds of Chicka Chicka Boom Boom**, an energetic early childhood experience inspired by the beloved children's book; **Magical Creature Mania**, where young imaginations bring fantastical creatures to life through creative drama; **Designing Fantasyland**, a hands-on exploration of scenic and costume design; and **Improv 101**, an introduction to the fundamentals of improvisational theatre that encourages creativity, confidence, collaboration, and quick thinking.

More than a dozen free events will take place at library branches across Hennepin and Dakota counties from September through November, making it easy for families throughout the Twin Cities to experience the joy of theatre close to home. Registration is available through each participating library system.

Free Theatre Arts Training Open House

Families are invited to discover Children's Theatre Company's Theatre Arts Training (TAT) program at the annual **Theatre Arts Training Open House on Saturday, September 12, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** at Children's Theatre Company.

This free community event offers prospective and returning families the opportunity to experience sample classes, meet CTC teaching artists, explore programs for students of all ages and experience levels, tour learning spaces, and learn more about CTC's year-round theatre education opportunities. Whether a child is interested in acting, musical theatre, creative drama, or building confidence through the arts, the Open House is a fun and welcoming way to experience everything Theatre Arts Training has to offer.

Children's Theatre Company (CTC) is the nation's largest and most acclaimed theatre for young people and serves a multigenerational audience. It creates theatre experiences that educate, challenge, and inspire more than 200,000 people annually. CTC is the only theatre focused on young audiences to win the Special Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre and is the only theatre in Minnesota to receive three Tony nominations (for its production of *A Year With Frog and Toad*). CTC is committed to creating world-class productions at the highest level and to developing new works, more than 200 to date, dramatically changing the canon of work for young audiences.

CTC is the most significant provider of theatre education opportunities in the region. Every year, thousands of children experience theatre for the first time at CTC. Our student matinees and education programs demonstrably benefit the community, from the intergenerational conversations sparked by our world premieres, to the sequential skill-building that happens in our Theatre Arts Training, to the pre-K focus of our Early Childhood Initiative. ACT One is CTC's comprehensive platform for access, diversity, and inclusion in our audiences, programs, staff, and

board that strives to ensure the theatre is a home for all people, all families, reflective of our community. childrenstheatre.org

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