

**EDUCATION CONTACT**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**HERSHEY AREA PLAYHOUSE THEATRE ACADEMY
ENROLLING FALL EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

HERSHEY, Pennsylvania—August 18, 2008 - Hershey Area Playhouse Theatre Academy is now enrolling our Fall Acting Classes for kids in Kindergarten through sixth grade, and Theatre Academy Players for seventh through twelfth graders. Cory Wilkerson will be the lead teacher for these programs, which will be a busy and exciting time around the theatre.

CREATIVE DRAMATICS

Saturdays from 9:00 am - 10:00 am (9.13.08 - 11.8.08)

Grades K - 2: ten classes each semester

This class uses creative dramatics to teach theatre skills. Students will learn about performance through movement, storytelling and FUN. The class will focus on exposing the children to their own creative and artistic possibilities - building communication, confidence and self-expression in a non-threatening atmosphere.

Limit 10

\$95.00 early bird; \$105.00 after 9.1.08

ACTING IT UP

Saturdays from 10:00 am - 11:00 am (9.13.08 - 11.8.08)

Grades 3 and 4: ten classes each semester

This class mixes creative dramatics with improvisation to teach theatre skills. This fast-paced mixture of theatre games, storytelling and creative movement encourages kids to learn to create a character and stretches imaginations. Students will learn to use voice and movement to perform a role.

Limit 12

\$95.00 early bird; \$105.00 after 9.1.08

AN ACTOR'S LIFE

Saturdays from 11:00 am - 12:00 noon (9.13.08 - 11.8.08)

Grades 5 and 6: ten classes each semester

This class uses theatre games and a combination of scripted and improvised material to teach acting with a focus on performance skills but an emphasis on fun. Students learn the skillful use of voice and movement for the stage with an emphasis on creating a character.

Limit 18

\$95.00 early bird; \$105.00 after 9.1.08

THEATRE ACADEMY PLAYERS

Grades 7 through 12: twelve weeks of classes

Interested youth will enroll as students of the program on a tuition basis, meeting twice weekly each semester. Through this initiative, the students can become immersed in the experience of live theatre at their own level, while experiencing material that allows them to stretch as young actors. Performances will be held at the end of the semester - with schedules and rehearsal times revolving around typical youth availability. The inaugural class offering begins in late August of 2008 and includes the twelve weeks of training plus an on-stage performance experience. Registration for the Theatre Academy Players will open in late August with a walk-in registration and parent information session held at the Playhouse on Saturday, August 23, 2008 during the hours of 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

Limit 25

\$295.00

All classes and performances will be held at Hershey Area Playhouse at Country Meadows, located on Sand Hill Road at Cherry Drive in Hershey, PA.

According to Randy Cline, member of the Hershey Area Playhouse Board of Directors, the programs tend to fill quickly. Visit HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com to download a registration form for either program. For questions, contact Randy at rkc4@comcast.net or 717.497.2315.

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Hershey Area Playhouse (HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com) is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization dedicated to providing residents of the community with an opportunity to participate in the creation and production of a theatrical experience. Since its inception in 1999, Hershey Area Playhouse has staged 29 productions at numerous venues around the Hershey area. In April 2007, the Playhouse opened its new permanent home, Hershey Area Playhouse at Country Meadows.