

**EDUCATION CONTACT**

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[marketing@HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com](mailto:marketing@HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com)***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****HERSHEY AREA PLAYHOUSE THEATRE ACADEMY  
PLAYERS TO GO ON TOUR**

HERSHEY, Pennsylvania — January 9, 2009 — Hershey Area Playhouse Theatre Academy Players is a professional youth theatre troupe designed to provide training for students interested in a career in the performing arts. The class is open only to young people in grades seven through twelve, on a tuition basis, meeting weekly each semester. Additional rehearsal time may be scheduled at the end of the study period as needed to prepare a live performance. During each semester, the students will receive hands on instruction in performance skills as well as tips and career advice from working professionals. This is a performance-based educational program. Each session centers around a performance used as text for learning solid acting skills.

Registration fees are \$295 and the program is open to students in grades 7 – 12. Classes will be held on Saturday afternoons from February 7 through April 25, 2009. Tour dates begin in early May based on bookings and student availability.

**Registration and first class meeting: Saturday, 2.7.09 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm.** Enrolled students will spend two hours learning about the program and getting to know each to other. **Auditions for roles in the touring production**

**will be held on Saturday, 2.14.09 from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm for registered students.** All registered students will be cast, however the size and depth of the role will vary depending upon the results of their audition.

This semester, the troupe will perform *Classy* by Cory Wilkerson which asks the question: can Shakespeare's characters convince some tough guys that it takes courage to be yourself? This is a play designed around a combination of classic pieces from the Bard within a comic framework. It is specifically designed as a custom fit for the class and a great vehicle for touring to elementary and middle school students. It offers strong roles for the more serious actor ranging from comedy to tragedy – as well as some great spots for those just beginning to learn the craft.

**Registration deadline is Thursday, 2.5.09, if space is available. Registrations will be date stamped and the first 25 paid registrations will receive a spot in the class. The class will close after 25 students have registered.**

Classes will be held at Hershey Area Playhouse at Country Meadows, located on Sand Hill Road at Cherry Drive in Hershey, PA. Visit [HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com](http://HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com) for more information and to download a registration form. Contact Randall Cline at 717.497.2315 or [TheatreAcademy@HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com](mailto:TheatreAcademy@HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com) if you have questions about this program.

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Hershey Area Playhouse ([HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com](http://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 32 productions at numerous venues around the Hershey area. In April 2007, the Playhouse opened its new permanent home, Hershey Area Playhouse at Country Meadows.