

The Backyard Theatre Company! 2017-2018 Season

28 WeeksSeptember 12, 2017 – April 8, 2018

The Steinbach Arts Council would like to welcome you to another exciting year with the Backyard Theatre Company sponsored by The Steinbach Arts Council.

Our Board of Directors, Staff and Volunteers are very excited about our studios and classes - there are a few important details and reminders as we start the season:

Meet the Directors



Jeremy Plett – Artistic Director
*6th Year with our Theatre Company



Malcolm Roulette – Assistant Director
*5th year with our Theatre Company

The Backyard Theatre Company's Goals for this Season

- **Build your confidence** and explore your creativity
- Participate actively in the Southeastern Music Festival and community events
- Have fun! Develop strong theatre skills and build community partnerships

Acting Out! Ages 5-8

Upstairs Studio B 5:30 – 6:15 pm

Dramatic Discovery Ages 9 – 11

Upstairs SCU Studio 5:30 – 6:30 pm

The Actor's Studio Ages 10 – 12

Upstairs SCU Studio 6:45 – 7:45 pm

The Audition Ages 12 – 15

Upstairs SCU Studio 7:45 – 9:00 pm

Parent Advisory Committee

This committee will represent the parents and oversee the program activities, with specific attention to the Christmas and year end shows. They will receive feedback and offer direction to make this year productive and successful. If you are interested in serving on this Committee, there are great benefits involved...call Cassandra, Programs Co-ordinator (204) 346-1077 for details.

Our first meeting TBA

Attendance

Students are requested to attend all classes, be 10 minutes early and ready for classes. Please contact the office in advance if unable to attend.

If a child has several absences; it is at the discretion of the Instructors if they will not be allowed to participate in performances (ie. Festival & Showcase). Speak to the Instructor if time will need to be missed.

Prairie Theatre Exchange Learning Experience – Attendance is Mandatory Date/Time: TBA

As part of the theatre program – the Backyard Theatre Company students will attend the Munsch Show! This is a great opportunity for the students to see live theatre.

Royal Manitoba Theatre Company Learning Experience – Attendance is Mandatory Date/Time: TBA

As part of the theatre program – the oldest theatre group – The Audition will assist the Manitoba Theatre company with the production load in and load out. They will work with the production crew and learn the backstage component of theatre. The students will stay to see the show as well.

Southeastern Manitoba Festival

The two oldest groups of Backyard Theatre are entered into Festival through The Backyard Theatre Company to prepare and perform group plays that the Director's assistant them with during class. We encourage all students to participate in Festival including the other theatre groups. Individuals can enter to complete monologues and spoken poetry, groups of individuals can enter to do short skits, plays, etc. We encourage all theatre students to participate in Festival. Please ask Cassandra, Jeremy or Malcolm about Festival and how you can get involved. It is a great experience!



The Backyard Theatre Company at SEMF Festival 2016

Boots and Shoes – Students are required to remove outer footwear before entering studios.

NO OUTDOOR SHOES AND BOOTS TO BE WORN IN CLASS. Leave all outer boots at front or back entrances during the winter/spring season. During fall/dry season, they may bring their shoes into the studios and leave them on the rug runners. **BRING INDOOR SHOES OR ATTEND CLASS IN SOCKS.**

No bare feet please. Thanks for helping to protect our specialized studio floors.

Schedule/Classes

Classes may be changed to best accommodate size and interest; students will be notified of changes by phone and/or email in advance.

Storm dates/sick days are scheduled within the 28 week schedule; 25 classes are guaranteed. Make up classes will be scheduled by SAC.

The Backyard Theatre Calendar will be issued to everyone at start of season.

Observation Classes

Only on scheduled days, parents may attend with the following conditions upon speaking to the instructors for approval:

*No in & out of class allowed *No talking/visiting * No disruptive siblings

*May view from inside studios; on lower level in Studio A, on chairs in Studio B

Observation dates: TBA

Registration

Students may register until numbers permit. Other requests will be at the discretion of the instructor. Space is secured upon receipt of payment; a payment plan option is accepted with post-dated cheques which **must accompany each registration form along with volunteer & fundraising cheques or payment in order to be enrolled**. Cash, cheque, debit or credit card for one time payments.

Class changes/cancellations

SAC friendly policy allows student to try the class for 3 weeks; if not suitable, monies will be refunded less a \$25 Administration Fee and Membership Fee.

THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS AFTER SEPTEMBER 26th, 2017

In case of injury or long-term illness, refunds will be made for remaining classes with a medical note less \$25 administration fee. Classes with insufficient numbers will be cancelled and all monies refunded.

No refunds on memberships. \$25 NSF Fee.

Fundraising/Volunteering

All families are required to participate in the theatre's fundraising project and requested to sell/purchase a minimum of **\$500** for the chosen fundraiser by SAC; a \$50 cheque post-dated November 7, 2017 is collected at registration. Once the participation is complete, the cheque is void/shredded. Those wishing not to participate may pay the \$50 waiver at time of registration.

***If you join in January, you will be given forms to fundraiser Sobeys cards and volunteer time can be fulfilled within theatre classes or at SAC centre**

Fundraising Campaign – Begins October 10 – November 7, 2017 – You will receive your forms during this week of classes. Our students are encouraged to participate by selling **\$500 per family**. More details to follow....

Each student/family is required to volunteer in some capacity within the theatre year.

eg. Fundraising, costumes, costume buyers, etc....A \$25 volunteer waiver is required at the time of registration dated May 1st, 2018. Once volunteering duty (4 hours) is complete, the \$25 cheque will be void/shredded. If you choose not to volunteer, \$25 will be collected at time of registration.

Facility

Washrooms are located near the front entrance. Back or front door access; leave outside shoes and boots at entrances during snow, or wet weather. SAC is not responsible lost or damaged items. Fire exit routes will be practiced during first month of classes with instructor. **Absolutely no outdoor shoes in studio allowed. Parking – in outside lot, or on street; parking for STAFF only along the fence area.**

Zero Tolerance

Bullying, harassment, foul language, vandalism or disruptive behaviour will not be tolerated. If issues cannot be resolved, parties involved will be suspended. Complaints should be made in writing to the SAC office. Instructors reserve the right to remove students from class upon their discretion.

Performance/Mentoring opportunities

All dress rehearsals and final show will be held at the SRSS – times to be confirmed)....Opportunities to perform in festivals, competitions and other events available as arranged with the instructors on a class by class basis. Mentoring is encouraged; older or advanced students may arrange with instructor to participate in classes in this way. We are pleased to have a full time mentor in the program this year. We will encourage individuals and small groups to also enter the festival in performances in March; we will work to encourage other community and school shows as well.

Since we want parents to enjoy the final showcase from the audience, we will be exchanging certain volunteer times and tasks (classroom supervisors, backstage, set up and take down, etc..) with the Arts4Tots Year-end wind-up and tasks – in this way the AFT parents will work during the Theatre Final Showcase, and our parent volunteers will work during their Arts4Tots year-end wind-up. Everyone can sit back and relax while their child is on stage!

Communication

All information regarding the program, instructors, administration, scheduling, etc. should be directed to our **Program Co-ordinator, Cassandra Milcharek (204) 346-1077 or programs@steinbachartsCouncil.ca** If you have a concern about your child directly in the class setting, please feel free to share that with Cassandra and she will arrange a meeting with the director(s).

March 17, 2017