



Theatre & Kids Summer Performing Arts Camps

**Providing Quality Education to the Greater
North Penn Area Since 1985**

www.theatreandkids.org

215-858-9528



Our Philosophy

It has been over 25 years since we first discovered the magical combination of children and the performing arts. Certainly, anyone at any age can appreciate a show or theatrical training, but especially a **KID**. While many of our students have gone on to become successful actors, musicians, theatre technicians, arts teachers, and writers, T&K's greatest goal is to simply develop self-confidence and self-awareness in every child who comes to us. We want them to learn to love and respect the arts and to become life-long supporters, appreciative and involved in the wonder of creativity.

Theatre training encourages children . . .

. . . **to learn to take risks** in a positive environment and be willing to try new things. To stretch themselves and expand on what they already know, developing self-confidence all the while.

. . . **to develop personal discipline.** Learning lines, working on a scene as a team, conquering a difficult mime exercise, creating an original script—These teach children to set goals and meet them.

. . . **to develop skills** in observation, concentration, imagination and creativity. They get in touch with the world around them and can then create an exciting world of their own on stage.

. . . **to understand that it is possible to work very hard and still have fun the whole time!**

With these ideas in mind, the Liegels with **Theatre & Kids** have designed a summer camp program that has delighted thousands and thousands of young people and their parents. The program is diverse and rich with lots of enthusiasm, challenges, and plain ol' "camp fun." Every year, we gather a great group of campers (and staff) who have a blast, grow lots and make friends and memories to last a lifetime. While there are always some minor changes in our staffing of 30+ from year to year, we are confident that all of our accomplished, trained T&K teachers are **FIRST** concerned with our campers as growing children and **THEN** concerned with their growth as performers. Teaching is always age-appropriate and personal as well as creative, exciting, and diverse.

The Three Rules:

Our entire program boils down to **three basic rules** which every T&K “old timer” can quickly and loudly chant, rules for camp & life!

WORK HARD

You get *out* of a program what you put *into* it.
Everyone stays focused.

RESPECT OTHERS

We bring different gifts to camp, but everyone is valued and accepted.

HAVE FUN

Camp’s got to be fun, right? Follow rules 1 & 2 and 3 will always follow.

Class Divisions

Dividing our campers by age allows for each group to move at an appropriate pace and to go as far as possible. The youngest children do less reading and accent storytelling and improvisational pieces. Older campers are able to tackle difficult scenes from major plays. Our experience has been that kids of all backgrounds benefit from the program. If they’ve had no theatrical classes or experience, our “start from the beginning” approach brings everyone on board right away. If they’ve had training, the uniqueness of our program challenges them and the accent upon basics retrains, breaks bad habits and stretches everyone. However, in all our camp activities and afternoon electives, kids interact with others of ALL ages!

The three camper classes take their names from theatrical lighting instruments:

Scoopers: Grades 1-3

Footlighters: Grades 4-6

Spotlighters: Grades 7-9

We also feature a special program just for high school students:

Apprentices: Grades 10-12

More information is listed about this level later in this book!



Work Hard



Respect Others



Have Fun!

Just Your Average

OPENING AND CLOSING SESSIONS



Imagine beginning and ending your day with 150+ creative T & K campers, apprentices and staffers! Our OVERTURE starts the day and whether it's meeting special guests, learning new chants, cheers, games, and songs, or sharing in one of our special "bring-in days," the energy is so obvious you can almost see it.

At the ending of each morning and afternoon there are FINALE times where campers share what they've learned, say goodbye to visitors, make trips to our famous prize basket, and are reminded of what's to come.

MORNING CLASSES

Each grade level grouping moves through three 40-minute classes in music/singing, drama/acting, and dance/movement taught by talented trained dancers, actors, and musicians.

Dance – Jazz, street funk, ballet, creative motion, choreography, working with dance props, basic musical comedy steps, movement exercises, pantomime, and body language, challenge the novice and reinforce the experienced.



Drama – Improvisation, storytelling, voice production and projection, concentration, imagination, script reading, blocking, prop usage, and comic timing combine at every grade level for these exciting sessions. (These classes usually have ten or less students for lots of personal stage time.)



Music – Rhythm, warm-ups, note reading, beat patterns, part-singing, vocal production and projection,

Super Day at Camp!

pitch matching, opera background, musical theatre history, great songs from great shows, and video scenes make music come alive!

“INTERMISSION” AND GUESTS

A snack / intermission time every morning allows for videos, games, and guest sharing to accent discussions and lessons in any arts area. **Music** has included opera clips, rare sound tracks, working concert artists and instrumentalists.

Drama has featured performers from the Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival, Steve Burns in pre-*Blues Clues* days, videos of current Broadway shows and teachers from area colleges. **Dance** has brought live percussionists, folk dancers, State Champion gymnasts and ballroom dancers. Some of our “ALL CAMP SPECIALS” have included a live petting zoo, improv teams, puppeteers and more! In addition, both of our **T&K Summer Caravan Road Shows** make a visit to camp and do a full performance.

LUNCH AND REC

While some of our campers head for home after morning activities, the great majority stay for the afternoon. All of our campers, apprentices, and staff campers “brownbag it”, and suddenly camp becomes a “café” where staff, apprentices,

and campers can mingle, laugh and share. Afterwards, it’s outside or to the gym for traditional camp games ranging from elbow tag and red rover to water games and obstacle courses. Exercise, team-building, appropriate competition, and free-wheeling fun take over for a 30-minute frolic.

But it doesn’t end there! Our AFTERNOONS are even more exciting!



Afternoon Elective Classes

Our teachers and aides are all students at or graduates of tremendous university fine arts programs, and it is in the afternoon that they get to accent their special talents and training. We have experienced stage combat instructors, costumers from Equity theaters, Off-Broadway technicians, dancers from area companies, and young film-makers, and all these folks share in personal, planned classes that cross over-age lines and again build friendships and skills. Most years we have **36 different elective classes** every afternoon and students can sign up for any three for each 3-week camp session. Stage Make-up, Production Numbers, Puppetry, Sign Language, Percussion, Show Choir, Drawing, Set and Costume Design, One-Act Production, International Music, Composition, Ballroom Dancing, Mask-Making, Ballet, Script-writing, Improv, Auditioning, Video Production, Theatre History, and Yearbook are just some of our past offerings



"Imagination Station" class making button bugs

"Video Production" students with their TV monster



"Street Funk" has attitude!



Safe sword fighting in "En Garde!"

Make Your Camp Experience Your Own!

Other Fun Stuff:

CAMP THEMES

While we do lots of music and warm-ups from a wide variety of sources and time periods, we try to help the campers to focus a bit more and grow in their general musical knowledge by choosing **All-Camp Music Themes** to draw their attention. Past themes have included Circus, The Middle Ages, Musicals from Shakespeare, Pop Music Musicals, and Broadway composers & lyricists like Rodgers & Hammerstein, George Gershwin, & Stephen Schwartz. There's lots of learning and lots of fun every session!



BRING-IN DAYS & PARTY DAYS

Camp always features **Special Accent Days** to go along with our chosen themes and music. Often campers are asked to bring in items from home to share, or can dress up in crazy costumes and outfits—the more creative, the better! In addition, the final Friday of each camp is a blow-out **Costume Party** with games, contests, prizes and awards. Campers get to say goodbye to special friends and sign camp yearbooks. With food and fun in abundance, a good time is had by all.

EVENING DEMONSTRATION PERFORMANCE

The **last Thursday evening** of each three-week camp will bring a special opportunity for the campers to show what they've learned to an appreciative audience. Family and friends come at 6PM to see afternoon electives in intimate spaces and then all are invited to see the entire camp share what they've learned as they perform scenes, songs and dances in the main auditorium. Refreshments are served and anyone may attend at no charge. Many folks feel this is even better than lots of school shows they've attended because every performer is featured evenly!



SPECIAL CAMPERS

Our experience has shown that mildly challenged students benefit greatly from our program and add to the team experience of everyone involved. Physically and educationally challenged, hyperactive and behaviorally troubled children have all participated in our camp and have done very well. Teachers are trained to bring them into a total camp experience and we will gladly discuss any specific situation or issue.

The Apprentice Program

Many Camps struggle to draw in older students to summer programs—that's not a problem for T&K! We have, on average, **40-60 students in grades 10-12**, hailing from over a dozen area schools. Some began with us in elementary grades while others recently joined us through a referral from a friend or teacher. However, ALL fit together well, working with our Apprentice Director to develop skills and attitudes they can draw upon today and all life long. And how our campers look up to them! Paying a **reduced fee**, they take classes, but also help with snacks and clean-up, and set the example for the younger folks. Not campers and not staff, our apprentices choose from our afternoon elective classes like campers, but are offered a special opportunity to work in one of three specially designed "tracks" with special teachers each morning:

The Performance Track – for those interested in perfecting their performing skills. Apprentices in this track will take three performing arts classes each morning – music, drama and dance. The staff teaching these classes are already geared to move very quickly to challenge experienced, "older folks".



The Education Track – for those interested in teaching and leadership. These apprentices will take one or two morning performance classes, one special class on how to teach others and then regularly assist specific teams in one morning or afternoon class.



The Production Track – for those interested

in developing behind-the-scenes skills: Sound, lights, set, props, costumes, and more. We welcome guest workshop leaders and provide lots of exciting and fun activities.



These apprentice tracks allow a great opportunity to grow in specific areas or to learn something entirely new. We also provide formal reference letters/recommendations to use for future jobs, college applications, and scholarship contests (upon request).

But hey, Apprentices! *That's not all!*

Our apprentices also have many special events and opportunities open to them all summer long!

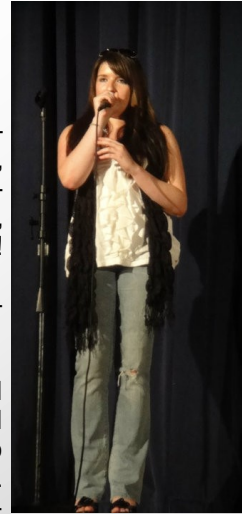


They share two performances of more advanced **One-Act Plays** . Prepared in an afternoon class, these have in the past featured Comedies, Shakespeare, Absurdist, and Classics

They present an All-Apprentice **Talent Show**, featuring dance, song, instrumentals, Monologues, improv, and more!

And . . . they spend a **Saturday in NYC** with our staffers, touring the town and seeing a Broadway show (or two!).

The spaces for our apprentice participants are limited and all must have at least limited previous performance or technical experience in school or the community. This program is also the “training ground” for future aides and assistant staffers. Contact us early with your resume and application and perhaps you can be a part of the adventure. What a great way to spend a summer! And remember, the **apprentice cost is nearly HALF** of that for campers!



Apprentices “on Broadway” in the Big Apple!

Training and Fun Like No Other!

The Nitty Gritty

SCHEDULE

Campers (grades 1-9) may participate in Theatre & Kids in 2 ways:

Mornings only: 9AM -12:30PM

Full Day: 9AM-4PM * Apprentices may only take the Full Day option.

(Due to the nature of the program and the layout of the day, an "afternoon only" option is *not* available.)

LOCATION

The partnership between **Theatre & Kids** and the **North Penn Community Education** program enables our summer camp to be held in the spacious facilities of a North Penn School. The air-conditioned classrooms, large indoor spaces, auditorium and stage, and groomed outdoor areas provide the perfect setting for summer fun and learning.

THEMES

Theatre & Kids Camps run in two 3-week sessions, and any camper, new or old, can benefit from either session. To keep things fresh, each session has a theme that is used in choosing material for the demo performance at the end.

FINANCES

We are aware of the pressures on today's families, so T&K Camp remains one of the **best bargains of the summer**. The truth is, that compared to other arts camps in the area, we offer a much more comprehensive program for a much lower price. With the economic uncertainty facing the country, we want to keep camp possible for every student in the area.

\$25 discount if registered by April 1

10% sibling discount

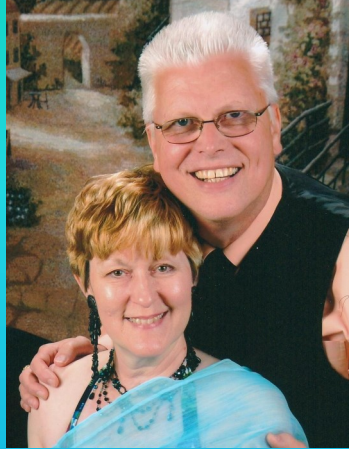
Tuition cost may be paid in several payments. The balance is due two weeks before the first day of each session. *There are no discounts available for the Apprentice Program.*

SCHOLARSHIPS

We want to make the joy of T&K camp available to as many children as possible; therefore, we do offer substantial scholarship assistance for each camp session. Those interested in financial aid should send a letter with an explanation of the situation. No tax forms or financial specifics are required.

For further information email **onstageandoff@live.com**.

Our Founders and Staff



Susan and Will Liegel are the founders of **On Stage & Off** and **Theatre & Kids** and its summer camp program. Will and Susan both grew up in the arts, meeting in the musical *Oklahoma*. Parenting ten children themselves, she was a music teacher for 20 years and is now an Elementary School Principal. He is an English and Drama teacher with three masters degrees and a resume of nearly 1,000 productions. Together they have performed in 40 states and have spoken for dozens of civic, church, and family groups. They have gathered around themselves an astonishing team of like-minded teachers who pursue excellence in the arts but always “put the student first.” We also have a ratio of about 1 to 5 staff to students.**

Past Staff has included:

Jennifer Moynihan – Graduate of Northwestern University in Theatre, MA in English Education at Lehigh University, performer, writer

Betsy Falk - Graduate of DeSales University in Theatre, Broadway costume stitcher, performer, director, writer

Randy Moyer—Graduate of University of the Arts in Theatre, Equity performer, National Theatre tour, stage combat instructor, director

Theresa Smith—Graduate of Syracuse University in Music Business, Assistant-Director of Cantabile Children’s Choir, voice teacher, performer

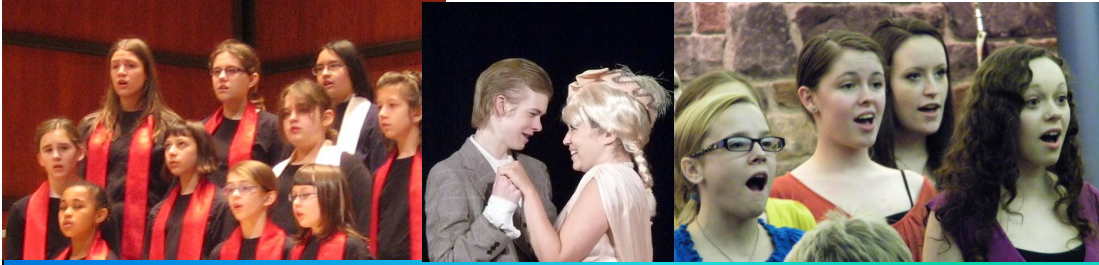
Michael Macartney—Graduate of Penn State in Music Education, Men’s Glee Club director, performer, instrumentalist, arranger

Lauren Lockard - MA from Lehigh University in Education, middle school English teacher, skilled singer and actor, director



** All Theatre & Kids staff have received all formal state and federal criminal and child abuse clearances.

Photos provided by: Evelyn Cook, Jamie Tyre, Will Liegel, Noelle Gambale, Betsy Falk, & Sara Herman



Like what you see here?

Visit www.theatreandkids.org for an enrollment form today!

Interested in other programs with us?

Our Camp is just one of our great offerings!
On Stage & Off, Inc. runs programs all year long, including:

August Show Camp

A full-length musical done in just two wonderful weeks!

Saturday Morning Arts Academy Classes

Varied 8-week sessions at NPHS for Age 4-Adult

Theatre for Young Performers Productions

2-3 full productions at area theaters

Summer Starlight Theatre

Our July Blockbuster Broadway-style show for grade 9 through age 30

Summer Children's Theatre Caravan

Three different hour-long shows hitting 50+ area venues

Cantabile Children's Choir

Our award-winning, world-travelling ensemble for grades 3-9

Kaleidoscope Show Choir

Our brand-new, exciting performance ensemble for grades 10-12

Down Center

Our e-newsletter and audition notice board

THEATRE & KIDS:

a dramatic combination!

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215-858-9528 www.theatreandkids.org

Theatre & Kids is a
program of

