



MUSICAL THEATRE CONSERVATORY (MTC)

Incoming class: Fall 2017

Grades 7-10

Thank you for your interest in the Musical Theatre Conservatory (MTC) program at Imagination Stage!

MTC is an intensive two-year performance technique training opportunity for students entering grades 7-10 (completing the program as 8-11 graders). Students spend 3 semesters in the classroom participating in advanced level classroom work in acting, singing, and dance. The fourth and final semester is spent applying their acquired skills towards rehearsing and performing a fully supported musical production.

AUDITIONS: While year-round classes and summer productions are open to all students, Conservatory spots are open only to students selected through an audition process. Candidates should have previous experience in acting and singing classes in addition to experiences being in productions. (Dance technique is not assessed during the audition process.)

COMMITMENT: Due to the intensive and ensemble nature of the program, actors who are accepted are done so with the understanding that they will, to the best of their ability, remain committed to the program for its entire two-year duration. Actors must have consistent and dependable attendance, and participate with focus and dedication.

UPON ACCEPTANCE:

The incoming Fall 2017 MTC class will be taught by instructors Jeanne Hisle and Evie Korovesis.

Each semester is named for a year of school:

- Freshman Semester (Fall 2017): September– December, 14 weeks
- Sophomore Semester (Winter/Spring 2018): January– May, 14 weeks
- Junior Semester (Fall 2018): September– December, 14 weeks
- Senior Production Semester (Winter/Spring 2019): January– Performance (mid-May 2019)

Tuition: \$750 per semester

Class Meeting Days/Times (Semesters 1-3): Tuesdays from 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Production Rehearsal Schedule (Semester 4): Continued Tuesday evenings, Saturday afternoons (3:00-6:00 p.m.), and 5 Friday evenings (TBD).

The Musical Theatre Conservatory's course of study includes:

- Rigorous physical and vocal warm-up practices.
- Approach to healthy singing technique including proper mouth shapes, vocal placement and resonance, breath support, and range building.
- Acting technique focused on character development, inner monologue, motivated actions, and objectives and tactics.
- Basic movement/dance awareness, grounded in the Broadway jazz style.
- Scene work from musicals spanning genres, styles, and time periods.

Sharings/Conferences:

- Every semester culminates in an informal sharing of scene work for parents and siblings as well as individual parent-teacher-student conferences to assess each student's progress through the program.



AUDITION PROCESS:

Each candidate is required to prepare one monologue and one song for their audition. After each is performed, the auditors will work with you in a rehearsal-like setting, discussing and incorporating any notes they may have. During this section, we encourage you to play, make creative choices, and have fun! After your audition, there will be a short interview.

Audition monologues will be provided when you schedule your audition. Song suggestions are also available, but you are welcome to bring in your own selection (criteria for selection is provided upon scheduling your audition). A piano accompanist will be provided to play piano for you during your audition. Both pieces should be completely memorized.

Requirements for Selection into the Conservatory Program may include the following:

- Solid vocal pitch, tone, and volume.
- Demonstration of clear acting choices and risk taking in audition.
- Demonstration of clear motivation and intention of the character in both monologue and song work.
- Demonstration of story interpretation in song.
- Ability to interpret direction and make quick and appropriate adjustments to their performance.
- High level of focus, concentration, and personal discipline.
- Demonstration not only of the desire to perform but a commitment to learning technique.

Please note: While we endeavor to make this audition as low-stress as possible for our student actors, risk is very much an inherent part of the process. We have a lot of interest in this program each year and cannot accept everyone who auditions. It is important for both parents and students to discuss and be prepared for either outcome of this audition. We provide feedback and class recommendations to students who are not accepted into the program.

Audition results will be communicated via email at the end of the audition period, on August 30.

Audition Dates Summer 2017: Auditions are held in individual, 30-minute timeslots and must be scheduled in advance. Auditions will take place on the following dates and times:

Wednesday, June 14 (3:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.)
Tuesday, July 18 (3:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.)
Tuesday, August 15 (3:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.)
Wednesday, August 16 (3:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.)
Wednesday, August 22 (3:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.)
Thursday, August 24 (3:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.)

Auditions will not extend past August 24.

Please email or call Nikki Kaplan (nkaplan@imaginationstage.org/301-280-1624) to ask any questions and to begin the scheduling process.