



## **MUSICAL THEATRE CONSERVATORY (MTC)**

**Incoming class: Fall, 2022**

**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 movement. 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 experience being in productions (dance 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, missing no more than 3 classes/rehearsals per semester.

### **UPON ACCEPTANCE:**

The incoming Fall, 2022 MTC class will be taught by master teaching artists Caroline Dubberly and Debbie Jacobson.

**Each semester is named for a year of school:**

- Freshman Semester (Fall, 2022): September– December, 14 weeks
- Sophomore Semester (Winter/Spring, 2023): January– May, 14 weeks
- Junior Semester (Fall, 2023): September– December, 14 weeks
- Senior Production Semester (Winter/Spring, 2024): January– Performance (mid-May, 2024)

**Tuition:** \$750 per semester

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

**Production Rehearsal Schedule (Semester 4):** Continued Mondays 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.

### **VIDEO AUDITION PROCESS:**

Each candidate is required to prepare one monologue and one song for their audition, as well as prepare some responses to interview questions that will help us get to know you. Upon emailing [Nikki Kaplan](#), you will receive monologue suggestions, song directions, and interview questions. Memorize, rehearse, and then perform your pieces on camera. Actors will submit their videos and optional resume through a Google Form portal. The interview questions can be submitted either by video or in writing; whichever way works best for you.

We may contact you to schedule a brief 15-minute follow-up to your audition, either in person or via Zoom.

Audition submissions are **due by August 25, 2022**.

### **Requirements for selection into the Conservatory Program may include the following:**

- Previous acting course work (classroom work not associated with production experiences).
- Demonstration of vocal pitch, tone, and volume.
- Demonstration of clear motivation and intention of the character in both monologue and song work.
- Demonstration of story interpretation in song.

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, nor are all students ready for this program when they audition. 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 29.

Please email or call Nikki Kaplan ([nkaplan@imaginationstage.org](mailto:nkaplan@imaginationstage.org)/301-280-1624) to ask any questions or to receive the audition instructions.

**COVID-19 Notes:** All Imagination Stage students and staff are required to show proof of vaccination against COVID-19. Mask policies are aligned with current Montgomery County guidelines and mandates. All performances endeavor to be un-masked.