

Wingspan Arts Arts online

Theatre Conservatory - Fall 2020



www.wingspanarts.org/arts-online

Classes for Grades 6 - 12

September 12 - November 21

Remote Learning

While we sorely miss our students, we understand that safety must be our number one priority. Considering the current pandemic we are facing, we have made the decision to make all Fall Conservatory classes remote this year. We are hopeful we can get back into the classroom and learn and create in person this spring. That being said, we just successfully ran our Summer Conservatory program completely online and we were encouraged to see all that is possible even when only meeting through a screen. We are highly confident in our abilities to continue to offer deep, meaningful arts classes virtually. Below are some accolades from students and parents who participated in our online Summer Conservatory. We hope you can join us this fall!

“Your program had it all. It was the gold standard on how to make remote arts deep, collaborative, and meaningful! Thank you for teaching all of us that we can get through this unprecedented time, still very much connected to the arts!”

“It’s been rough being home and away from friends for months and it can be hard to connect online. These past weeks the kids were engaged and drawn into the Zooms and you all made the best of a hard situation. The program was unbelievably well organized and well thought out. [My daughter] was never bored. She was challenged and had so much fun.”

“I really feel like Conservatory being virtual allowed us to have some learning experiences that we usually were not able to have, which was super fun! The greatest thing I learned is how to learn in ways I’m not used to.”

“The classes were super duper fun. During the beginning of Conservatory I was thinking ‘how would they make the classes fun over Zoom’ because my drama class at school wasn’t fun at all over Zoom. So it really surprised me how all the teachers had really fun things prepared and everything worked well!”

Class Offerings

Core Classes

Prices listed are for single courses. See Class Bundles page for discounted prices on bundled courses.

Acting for the Camera - Grades 6 - 12

In this class, we will explore the difference in acting for the camera as opposed to stage acting. We will explore acting with subtlety, playing for the camera, and other on-camera acting techniques through a hands-on approach. We will pay particular attention to creating self-tapes that stand out, as video submissions will be the preferred method for auditions for the foreseeable future.

Thursdays 4:00 - 5:00pm - Sept 24 - Nov 19

Tuition: \$250

Acting Styles / Scene Study - Grades 6 - 12

Students will be assigned scenes to work on with a partner. Scenes will be age appropriate and from various plays. With their partners, they will learn skills to investigate the text: how to break their scenes down into beats, how to develop unique characters, how to create the “world of the play,” and ultimately, how to make bold choices. Perhaps most importantly though, students will exercise the skills of listening and living truthfully in the moment— the basic principles of acting.

Wednesdays 4:00 - 5:00pm - Sept 23 - Nov 18

Tuition: \$250

Audition Prep - Grades 5 - 12

We will focus mostly on auditions for specialized High Schools in this class. Each student will work on 2 contrasting monologues that they can bring to their auditions. We will also talk about best practices and how to best film your auditions as they will be video submissions this year. This information can certainly be applied to any audition scenario, however, so even if you aren't preparing for a specific audition, this class will be useful for any actor.

Tuition Equates to 4x 45-minute one-on-one sessions

Tuition: \$150

Must be scheduled between Sept 14 and Nov 20

Times will be filled on a first come first served basis & subject to availability

Playwriting - Grades 6 - 12

Plot, character, dialogue, action, and given circumstance—these are the concepts we'll employ to write short plays in playwriting class. Through studying excerpts from great plays, and through writing exercises, students will learn a simple, workable process for getting their ideas out of their heads and onto the paper.

Mondays 4:00 - 5:00pm - Sept 21 - Nov 16

Tuition: \$250

Class Offerings

Elective Classes

***Prices listed are for single courses. See Class Bundles page for discounted prices on bundled courses. ***

Cosplay - Grades 6 - 12

Students will explore costume, prop, and makeup design and fabrication. Based on our favorite movies, video games, comics and tv shows, we will bring our characters to life.

****Materials required for this class: Scissors, hot glue gun, paint, and fabric (either raw or from recycled clothing)****

Saturdays 12:00 - 1:00pm - Sept 19 - Nov 14

Tuition: \$250

Dialects - Grades 6 - 12

This course will explore a range of accents that are necessary for the working actor on stage and in film. All students will learn core dialects ranging from Standard British (RP), to Cockney and American accents ranging from the Deep South to New York City.

Mondays 5:00 - 6:00pm - Sept 21 - Nov 16

Tuition: \$250

Shakespeare Club - Grades 8 - 12

This class will balance practice and play when it comes to reading Shakespeare. Meeting bi-weekly over 6 sessions, each class will focus on a different Shakespeare play. Students will read a 90-minute cut of the play while studying the text, characters, and plot. Students will learn how to confidently speak and analyze iambic pentameter, while also enjoying Shakespeare's classic comedies, tragedies, and more.

Saturdays 2:00 - 5:00pm

Tuition: \$250

Meets bi-weekly on Sept 12 + 26, Oct 10 + 24, Nov 7 + 21

Stop Motion Animation - Grades 6 - 12

This course will explore the process and techniques behind creating a stop motion animation piece. Students will experiment with methods of puppet creation, lighting, sound and set design, and will combine these elements to create a short stop motion film.

Tuesdays 4:00 - 5:00pm - Sept 22 - Nov 17

Tuition: \$250

Class Bundles

Save money by signing up for more than one course! **Class bundles also include a monthly Master Class or Workshop led by guests from the field.** These will be held on weekends and are TBD. Past guest artists include: Aneesa Folds (Star of Freestyle Love Supreme on Broadway), Marc Bruni (Broadway Director), Stephanie Klapper (Casting Director), etc. **Each Master Class/Workshop is valued at \$75 or more.**

2 Courses - \$300

3 Courses - \$450

4 Courses - \$600

Audition Prep cannot be included in a bundle

To Register go to:
www.wingspanarts.org

There is a \$15 registration fee

To Apply for Financial Aid, please email financial-aid@wingspanarts.org

Class sizes will be between 4 - 12 students per class.
Any class with less than 4 students enrolled will be canceled.

Teaching Artists



Meghan Blakeman -

Acting Styles/Scene Study, Playwriting, Shakespeare Club

Meghan has worked in theatre education for over 10 years, and proudly carries a B.A. in Secondary Theatre Education from the University of New Hampshire. After 6 years working on Wingspan's education programs, she became Wingspan's Director of Community and Donor Engagement. Meghan loves nothing more than bringing people together, and when there is "play" involved she is especially excited. She has worked professionally as an actor, director, and producer, but her true love is working with young people.



Marissa Porto -

Acting for the Camera, Audition Prep, Dialects

Marissa holds a B.S. in Theatre from Skidmore College and a M.Ed. in Educational Theatre from The City College of New York. She began her career in theater as a performer, which she still does. After graduating from college, she moved back to NY to pursue a career in theater. She was mostly just waiting tables, however, and was getting frustrated that her life did not include any creative outlet so she looked for an internship that would provide her something more fulfilling. She found a listing for an internship at a place called Wingspan Arts, applied, and was hired. Within months, she was a full-time employee and realized that her career needed to be in arts education. Marissa has directed almost 20 productions with Wingspan Arts and taught numerous courses.



Nicole Scandiffio -

Cosplay, Stop-Motion Animation

Nicole has been working with Wingspan Arts Conservatory program for the past 5 years as both the Assistant Director of the summer program and as a Teaching Artist. In these roles she has the pleasure of being able to collaborate with both the students and the creative teams for each show- creating props, sets, and working with the stage management team. Before starting full-time with Wingspan Arts, she was a preschool teacher, Stage Manager and Disney World Cast Member. Nicole holds a B.A. in Theatre Studies from Montclair State University.