

## 2020 Online Summer Theatre Programming Guide

### REGISTRATION OPEN

#### BACKGROUND

The 2020 Virtual Theatre Camp will offer students the opportunity to learn and work with theatre professionals. Every summer, we as a program strive to provide enriching opportunities to further develop young artists. This summer might be a little different, but that does not mean development ceases. Target audience for online summer program: incoming high school through college. Upon registration, students will be able to attend all the scheduled 1-hour Zoom sessions. See schedule and descriptions below.

#### REGISTRATION

\$125 completed registration by Saturday, June 20th at midnight.

With this flat rate, students will gain access to all the sessions offered. This price allows us to bring in several experts that will offer students valuable insight into the world of professional theatre. Once your payment is processed, you will receive a registration confirmation email. On Sunday, June 21st, an email to the address on file will be sent to participants with the signin code for the daily camp session as well as any other material or information to prepare for each experience.

#### SESSIONS

Monday, June 22nd - ***Solo Improv & Mime*** (11am-12pm) & ***Stage Management Explained*** (1-2pm)

Tuesday, June 23rd - ***Disney Performer*** (11am-12pm) & ***Sketch Comedy Writing*** (1-2pm)

Wednesday, June 24th - ***Radio Show Hosting*** (11am-12pm) & ***Stage Combat*** (1-2pm)

Thursday, June 25th - ***Monologue Workshop*** (11am-12pm), ***Jazz Dance Technique*** (1-2pm) &  
***Social Justice in Theatre*** (5-6:15pm)

Friday, June 26th - ***Acting on Camera*** (11am-12pm) & ***Magic's Influence in Theatre*** (1-2pm)

#### LEADING WORKSHOP SESSION DIRECTORS

***Solo Improv & Mime.*** Jeremy Cifonie. A clown by nature, Jeremy Cifonie is a young circus artist who specializes in physical comedy, storytelling, and act direction. His comedic roots lie with improv comedy, origins which have instilled in him a strong value for character relationships. He has competed at an international level with the Improv Mafia, and circus performance has taken him from venues ranging anywhere between 50 and 10000 audience members. Cifonie is an alumnus of Neuqua Valley High School and excited to be a part of it's 2020 theatre workshop's series.

***Stage Managing Explained:*** Elizabeth Miller. A graduate of North Central College with degrees in Theatre and Theatrical Design & Technology. Miller has been working as a Chicagoland stage manager for the last 4 years. Her recent credits include *The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet* (Metropolis) *Graveyard Shift* (Goodman Theatre New Stages), and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (North Central College).

***Disney Performer:*** Mark Pontarelli. A graduate from the University of Illinois at Chicago with a BFA in acting performance, Mark was a recent employee with the Walt Disney World company where he performed in Orlando, Shanghai, and Paris. Mark continues to act and perform throughout the city of Chicago currently.

***Sketch Comedy Writing:*** Jared Mason. Mr. Mason has performed all over Chicagoland with various improv troupes including Second City.

***Radio Show Hosting:*** Erik Zachary. He is an on-camera host, radio personality and live event MC. Originally a Chicago native, Erik first began his career with iHeartRadio, where he's hosted night shows in both the Top 40/CHR

and Country formats. After launching his YouTube channel and producing a series of successful Interviews, Vlogs and Skits, Erik was discovered by MTV and moved to NYC to host the revival of TRL.

**Stage Combat:** Michael Saubert Jr. A life long performer that started out as a dancer at the Northwest Ballet Academy. Michael graduated from the University of Illinois at Chicago with a BFA in Performance. Michael is known for his stage combat skills and is an Advanced Actor Combatant with the Society of American Fight Directors. He is an assistant teacher at the Actors Gym under Fight Master Chuck Coyl for his Stage combat SPT Classes. Michael Saubert Jr. is on the motion and performance capture team at NeatherRealm Studios in Chicago and has been featured as young Johnny Cage in *Mortal Kombat 11*.

**Monologue Workshop:** Matthew James Elam hails from both Corona and Los Angeles, California. He is a graduate of DePaul's "The Theatre School" program as an acting major. His theatre credits include; Depaul's productions: *Native Son* (Bigger), *Wig Out! (Ms. Nina/Wilson)*, *Victory Garden's: Pipeline (Omari)*, *Raven Theatre's: Hoodoo Love (Ace of Spades)*. His tv/film credits include: *Chicago P.D.*, *Newark*, *Fargo*.

**Jazz Dance Technique:** Julia Pontarelli. As a classically trained dancer, Julia has studied at Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA and has performed professionally all over the Chicagoland area. For the past three NBA seasons, Julia has performed with the Chicago Luvabulls where she has been a squad captain. Additionally, Julia is a junior company director at Hinsdale Dance Academy where she teaches various level students.

**Social Justice in Theatre:** Anisha Narain et al. In this session, we will explore how theatre can be used as a tool to identify, discuss, and resist oppression. Additionally, we will dive into the history and systemic foundation of American Theatre from a racial and social injustice perspective as well as listen to and discuss personal stories, ideas, and solutions for dismantling oppression in the theatrical environment.

**Acting on Camera.** Akshay Ravi. A Neuqua Valley High School alum and recent graduate of the University of Southern California (USC) School of Cinematic Arts. Akshay prides himself in fostering unique performances and is at the core a storyteller.

**Magic's Influence in Theatre.** David Kovac. A classically trained actor and former street juggler, David Kovac specializes in combining sophisticated humor with cleverly crafted magic routines. Thoughtful, articulate and with perfect comic precision, Mr. Kovac conjures up wonderfully entertaining feats involving newspapers, numbers, borrowed bank notes, secret envelopes, and the world's most impossible card tricks ... His deft, dapper performance style is drawn from the very best traditions of vaudeville and refined variety theatre, and he shines in the role of Emcee. Website: [davidkovac.com](http://davidkovac.com)