

HISTORY

23 Years!

Theatre & Kids began in 1986 as an out-growth of a family dinner theatre and children's theatre program. Since then literally thousands of young people and their families have been a part of the adventure. Under the corporation name *On Stage & Off, Inc.*, there are a myriad number of year-round offerings including Saturday Academy classes at North Penn High, Children's Theatre at The Lansdale Center for the Performing Arts, August Show Camp at Christopher Dock, and shows for Young Performers at various North Penn schools. Our summer Road Show Musicals hit 40-60 locations annually and our gold medal winning Cantabile Children's Choir and Heartbeat World Drummers has traveled to Verona (Italy), Toronto, Chicago, and a dozen other major cities.

While many of our students have gone on to become successful musicians, theatre technicians, arts teachers, and writers, T&K's greatest goal is to simply develop self-confidence and self-awareness in every child we work with. 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.

Our Directors

Will and Susan Liegel both grew up in the arts and met in the musical *Oklahoma*. Parenting 10 children themselves, she is a full-time music teacher and directs Cantabile and two other community choirs. He is an English and Drama teacher with two 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 and their encouragement is to pursue excellence in the arts but to always "put the student first."

PROGRAMS

SOMETHING NEW AUGUST SHOW CAMP!

For five years, T&K has been offering a very special camp situation — a show camp where 30 students grades 3–9 learn an entire Broadway style musical in just two weeks. At nearly the tail-end of the summer when kids are growing bored and restless, they can be a part of a real adventure. Combining organized rehearsals with traditional fun camp activities, musicals like *THE MUSIC MAN, JR.*, *BYE BYE BIRDIE, JR.*, and *INTO THE WOODS, JR.* are fully produced and presented at a wonderful area venue. An talented team of directors, teachers, and interns puts everyone through their paces and audiences are always stunned by the polished, no-stress result.

Write or call for more details.



THEATRE & KIDS

a dramatic combination

P.O. BOX 1485 LANSDALE, PA 19446

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Rehearsal facilities and storage for our enormous costume and prop collection are at Canon & 7th Ave in Lansdale. Performances are at various area venues and programs are offered throughout the summer and school year. Theatre and kids programs are offered to children from pre-school (Saturday Academy) through college-age (Summer Starlight Theatre). T & K staffers are trained and have received the criminal and abuse checks required of all public school personnel.

Our summer Performing Arts Camps and Saturday classes are offered in cooperation with the North Penn Community Education program. Our Cantabile Choir and Heartbeat Drummer programs audition in the summer and rehearse at area churches, and perform at about 10 venues and on one elongated trip during September through May. Auditions for productions are announced in local papers and through our T & K newsletter. For further information connect with our website at www.theatreandkids.com or send us an email at onstageandoff@live.com. For questions, give our directors a call and we'll try to help you just as soon as possible.

WHAT DO PARENTS SAY?

- "School can be rough for an arts kid, but when my son gets to T&K camp he feels so supported."
- "You folks teach so much more than theatre... my daughter learned to work in a team, to take risks, and to believe in her abilities. She really grew with you."
- "We sent you this shy child and now she is just brimming with confidence--and never stops singing around the house!"
 - "The staff each year is phenomenal. They have so much energy and care so much."
- "Why wasn't there a camp like this when I was a kid?"



Theatre & Kids Performing Arts Camps Grades 1-12



Morning Program

Our morning program provides the foundation for good skills and team building. Campers move in groups by grade through three classes of drama, music and dance taught by talented trained dancers, actors, and musicians. Broadway, pop, folk, and international music pours from classrooms and drama classes explore scenes, improvisation, monologues, story-telling, voice, and body language. We also choose themes that allow campers to dig down into particular shows and composers. Whether it's The Middle Ages, Circus Shows, musicals from films or novels, or the tunes of Schwartz, Berlin, Gershwin, and others, students learn so much. A snack / intermission time also allows for videos, games, and guest sharing.



9AM—Overture and Greetings

10AM—12:10AM—Three 40-minute classes in music, drama, and dance along with a 40 minute snack and intermission time.

12:10—FINALE!
A closing time to share, award prizes, and prep for the afternoon to come.



Lunch and Rec Time

While some of our campers head for home after morning activities, the great majority stay for the afternoon. A healthy, inexpensive hot lunch is served by the district or campers can BYOL, 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 dodge ball to water games and obstacle courses. Exercise, team-building, appropriate competition, and free-wheeling fun take over for a 30-minute frolic.

THEATRE & KIDS PERFORMING ARTS CAMPS



Opening and Closing

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 regular "bring-in days," the energy is so obvious you can almost see it. One mom reported that "I never have to call my kids twice — they live to get to camp each day. They wind up pushing me!"

At the ending of each morning and afternoon there are FINALE times where campers share what they've learned, say goodbye to visitors, many prize-basket treats are awarded, and all are reminded of what's to come. Previous guests have included Broadway and TV performers, puppeteers, live children's theatre productions, dance troupes, bands, improv troupes, and songwriters. A Dad commented that "The way you begin and end each day draws everyone into the activity and is always innovative, well-planned, and encouraging."



Afternoon Electives

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. 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, and Yearbook (see a page below) are just some of our past offerings.

23 years
of the most
exciting, creative,
fun-filled good
times around!



SUMMER APPRENTICE PROGRAM

Many Camps struggle to draw in older students to summer programs—that's not a problem for T&K. The last four years, we have averaged 40-60 students in grades 10-12, hailing from a dozen area schools. Not campers and not staff, our apprentices are each in a different study program: performance, education, or technical studies. And how our campers look up to them! Paying a reduced fee, they take their classes, help with snacks and clean-up, and set the example for the younger folks. They also present an evening talent showcase, spend a Saturday in NYC with our staffers, and share a weekend of one-act plays with the community. 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.

North Penn Life Pom Pom

Modern Dance
Cara Callahan
Lara Decker
Brittita Martin
Luann Penn
Ashley Primrose
Jaida Tyne
Oliver Williams



Devil's Choir
Alexis Cohen
Ally Gie
Devyn Gungale
Olivia Johnson
Vickie Kosman
Katie Martin
Isabella Valerich
Branda Younger
January Youssan

Let's see
an
dance

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