

VPA SUMMER THEATER ARTS PROGRAMS

2025

Session dates and play descriptions

****Session 1 June 16 - June 27* Directed by: Laesa DenBleyker***



**Morning Class 9 am to 12 pm (7-11 yrs) *Hairy Tale Rock*
musical, comedy twisted fairytale**

Can a children's show really be about true love? Sure it can, when those involved include the supremely bratty Prince Rupert, the equally obnoxious Princess Iphigenia, peasant children Elton and his sister Ernestine who sell the family's electronics for a measly five beans that they hope are magic, and Rapunzel and her brother Bill, who are forced to stay in an enchanted tower

because they refuse to get a haircut. The prince and princess have been exiled to the wild woods of Wychwood and can't return home until they each find true love. But who would love such spoiled brats? With a fairy tale committee that includes a super-cool big bad wolf and a bumbling fairy godmother making the rules, this rocking and rolling romp is a tangle of twists and turns! *Hairy Tale Rock* will have you laughing until the curtain falls and everyone (well, almost everyone) has learned the meaning of true love, true sacrifice, and truly hilarious storytelling.

Afternoon Class 1 pm to 4 pm (12-17 yrs) *The Ever After, A Musical* musical, comedy twisted fairytale

Is Ever After really as happy as everyone expected? In a hilarious parody of daytime TV, host Sally Lizzie Jesse Donatello-Griffin or Monterey Jack Chesterfield Williamson (you pick the gender) wonders if time truly heals all wounds. She invites Cinderella and her middle-aged 'beauty-impaired' stepsisters to reconcile with each other after being estranged for 20 years. What about Snow White and the Evil Queen? This hysterical fractured fairy tale has it all: a trash-talking clairvoyant mirror, an unfortunate prince who is turning slowly back into a frog, and even Jiminy Cricket — now an occupational therapist and author of the book "My Life as Your Conscience."

The musical is punctuated by questions from obnoxious studio audience members and ridiculously funny infomercials for fairy tale related products, such as the Practical Princess Crown which doubles as a purse and makeup case. Get ready for some knee-slapping and hand-clapping with great foot-tapping songs like 'Beauty Impaired' and 'Dainty Do-Gooder'!



Session 2 July 7 – July 18 Directed by: Jaleen Ellis



Morning Class Only 9 am to 12 pm (7-11 yrs) *No Body To Murder*

straight play, comedy, murder mystery

If you're looking for a quick comedy that's easy to produce and full of zany characters, hilarious stage action, and a surprise ending, this one's for you! Bad news — in the form of severe thunderstorms and an escaped convict — threatens the guests at the Come On Inn of Nova Scotia. By the end of the day, gung-ho aerobics instructor Billie Body is mysteriously murdered during a power outage. Was it the cook's lemonade that poisoned her, or did someone else have a hand in Body's death? Who would have the audacity to commit murder under so many noses? Inspector Black, on the scene in search of the escaped convict, has his job cut out for him. As the winds howl, suspicions rage — from Garth the gardener (who weeds with an axe) to an inept doctor on holiday from malpractice suits to a hairdresser who constantly changes her appearance — everyone has a hidden motive to want Billie Body dead. After all, she does have abs "to die for"! Take your audience by storms of laughter with the silly saga of *No Body to Murder!*

Session 3 July 28 – August 8 Directed by: Lauryn Worley

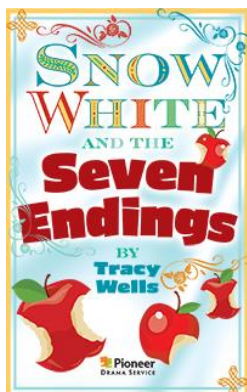
Morning Class 9 am to 12 pm (7-11 yrs) Folk Tails animal stories from around the world, straight play with the addition of 1 performing song

Monkeys and turtles and coyotes — oh, my! Introduce your young audiences to tales from around the world with this creative collection of six different animal stories. There's something for everyone in these delightful stories, told by six storytellers who narrate each tale while other actors don simple animal costumes onstage to act out the short scenes.



This whimsical children's play can be performed by an ensemble of as few as six savvy actors, or by young kids for kids, with as many as 39 small roles all under 20 lines, so everyone can be included. Representational sets and costumes encourage audiences to use their imaginations, and the option to present as few as three stories allows for a shorter running time. Easy to tour and flexible in both the cast size and the running time, this collection of short fables is ideal for any theatre group performing for young audiences. They will be all ears with these timeless "tails!"

Afternoon Class 1 pm to 4 pm (12-17 yrs) Snow White and the Seven Endings twisted fairytale, comedy, straight play with the addition of 1 performing song



Happily-ever-after gets turned on its head in this comedic retelling of Snow White's classic princess fairy tale. When the seven forest dwellers (who can be tall or short, it doesn't matter!) reminisce about their recent run-in with a royal run-away, they each have a different take on how the story unfolds and who the real hero is. But which is the real ending? The only thing they agree about is that the Prince shouldn't get the credit!

Laughter abounds as each of the seven forest dwellers takes their turn sharing their recollection of what happened to Snow White once she came to their cottage. Which will be your favorite? The mysterious "And Then There Were Seven," the melodramatic "Perilous Plight of Miss Snow White," or the slapstick "Snow Alone — Lost in the Woods"? Naturally, everyone loves the action-adventure "Spindiana Jones and the Apple of Doom!" There's also the Shakespearean "Mid-Snow White's Dream" and the

hysterical interpretive dance, "The Hunt-Cracker," along with the classic retelling.

No matter your preference, this series of unique and entertaining, fast-paced scenes is refreshingly fun for everyone.