



Madhatters Community Theatre

Camp Madhatter 2023

"We've Got Magic To Do"

July 24-28 & July 31-August 4 / Performance August 4, 7pm
Wadena Memorial Auditorium

Robin Jensen: Artistic Director *Justin Edin: Assistant Director*Shawn Lowe: Choreographer*Deb Fitzsimmons: Executive Director

Every year Camp Madhatter chooses a different musical or dramatic theme from which we base our work. We want to continue to enhance and challenge the returning campers as well as cater to the first year campers to build their theatrical experiences. We also want to provide a theatrical experience for the community that is informative and entertaining. In the past twenty-one years we have introduced a wide variety of musical styles, theatrical genres, writers and composers including: William Shakespeare, Victor Hugo, Frank Loesser, Commedia dell' Arte, Vaudeville, contemporary musicals, musicals inspired by American history and the lives of people from our history including real and fictional characters.

Camp Madhatter 2023 is entitled "We've Got Magic To Do". The theme of the program will be loosely based on "Pippin" where a traveling theater troupe comes to town to present a show. The musical dance and singing selections will come from such shows as "Pippin", "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels", "Kiss Me Kate", "West Side Story" and "Mary Poppins". The PM Ensemble (1:30-5) will explore scenes from the playwright, William Shakespeare, focusing on scenes from "Midsummer's Night's Dream", "Taming of the Shrew" and "Hamlet". The AM Ensemble (9-12:30) will explore the music and selected scenes from the musical "Mary Poppins".

Dancing will include basic partnering and learning the basic dance steps that are used in musical theatre. Because the music selected leans towards tap dancing. This year's focus on dance will include some "soft shoe" tap dances. This is something we have never approached in the past. Dance sessions will focus on soft shoe tap as well as musical theater dance steps and styles.

Scene work will delve into the words of Shakespeare and making them come to life for the camper. Work in both ensembles will focus on developing different types of characters, physical and vocal. Dramatic improvisation and ensemble work will include drama games that teach ensemble awareness and activities that stretch their creative minds.

Classes will also include the theatrical tools that are needed to perform on the stage. Intertwined in the classes will be subjects covering creative drama, improvisation, dance, acting, vocal technique, diction, ensemble work, and character development are all part of our daily schedule.

The musical excerpts, dramatic scenes and monologues will be decided prior to camp. However, a lot of the program will be designed around the campers and what they need to learn and take away from this drama camp. Unlike a summer stock or school production that has auditions, it is important that every camper is a star in the production. Each will have a dramatic scene and/or monologue to work on and all will be a part of the dancing and singing ensembles. Solo singing and solo dancing are encouraged as well. It is crucial that every camper have opportunities to stretch beyond their experiences. It is important that they feel like they have ownership of the production and have an opportunity to shine.

Pre-registration Form

Name: _____ Age (as of 7-24-2023) _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Please detach this portion and return with payment to:

W-DC Elementary c/o Deb Fitzsimmons: Camp Madhatter 215 Colfax Ave. SW, Wadena, MN 56482

Information or questions contact Deb Fitzsimmons, Executive Director, at (218)371-1703 debfitzsimmons6@gmail.com

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