

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2014

Contents

1. Welcome
2. High School Musical! Theatre Workshop
3. The Classes coming in January 15!
4. Uniform
5. Spotlight Feature – Felicity Ayles, Singing Tutor
6. Class Timetable and Prices
7. Booking Form

Welcome!



Hello and welcome to our first newsletter.

We are a brand new Academy and we are committed to providing the children and young adults of Blandford and the surrounding areas with quality drama and singing tuition. We are so excited to be setting up this Academy and be part of this great community. Both Lauren and I are local girls and want to be able to give other children and young adults the same opportunities we had but without the commute to the next big town!

We have both had a lot of experience in this field and can't wait to pass on our knowledge and watch the students grow and learn.

These newsletters will be quarterly and we will use them along with the website and Facebook to let you know what we have been up to and feature students and their achievements. We will also be doing a feature on each of teachers!

So what have we been up to?

Well, even though we are not officially open for classes, we have been really busy! Marketing, planning and researching have been top of the agenda and also doing an After School Club and a Theatre Workshop.

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL! THEATRE WORKSHOP



The Academy put on a Theatre Workshop during the October half term.

This was 3 days of singing, acting and dancing! Held at The Blandford School, the students learnt songs and a very cut down version of High School Musical.

We staged the show, gave them dance routines to learn and then on the final day they performed everything they had learnt to their parents.

The students arrived at 09:30 every morning and after a good warm up, started work on the Musical. They were taught how to use their bodies and faces to tell a story and also a bit of basic stage craft. We tackled the script and what the words and the story meant and discovered the overall theme of the musical.

Something that impressed us all the most was the confidence of the students. Felicity started by teaching them the chorus to 'All in this together' and then one by one they volunteered to audition for the main parts. They stood up on their own in front of other children they had never met before and sang! This always amazes me.

We had the odd one or two that were very shy but within a few hours had made friends and were joining in as though they had known everyone for years. I love this aspect of workshops, it brings together kids who have a common interest and without fear of being judged and they can really let go and do something they love.

Most of the students learnt their words by the next day and were getting stuck into the dance routines, expertly choreographed by Felicity. Those with duets were taught their songs and everyone else went through the staging of each of the scenes. By the end of the second day they all looked suitably exhausted!

Day 3, the big day! After going through the group songs, we moved rehearsals down stairs and did a technical rehearsal. Scripts were down and were not allowed on stage. This had some interesting results! Most that thought they hadn't learnt their lines, were quite surprised that once tested, they could in fact remember them! Following lunch, there were 2 dress rehearsals with props and then the parents arrived.

All the students had to wait in silence outside the hall, just as they would have to back stage in a real theatre, as the parents were seated. We then let them in and they got into their starting positions. After just the first song there was a tumultuous applause from the parents. The show then ran for 40 minutes and all the students did a fantastic job and we were incredibly proud of what they managed to achieve.

Each child was awarded a certificate to say that they had completed the workshop, but there were also special achievement awards for those that we felt just put that extra into the 3 days.

The awards were;

Shining Star, for those who were brave enough to take on the main roles and worked hard to take on everything we asked of them.

Most Improved, for those that not only improved in ability, but in attitude and confidence.

Hardest Worker, for those that were always working and practicing regardless of their role or ability.

The awards went to:

Shining Star – Vega Stanley, Scarlett Raynor, Aimee Howard and Safia Cross.

Most Improved – Kristina Valdez & Lucienna Haylock

Hardest Worker – Zara Stanley

All incredibly deserving, but this does not take away the work that all the other students put in to the workshop.

We had so much fun and we hope the students did to, really looking forward to the next one in February 2015 half term.



Our classes



So what are our classes and how are we different to the other schools in and around Blandford?

Well for a start we offer only 3 disciplines that can be taken separately or in combination depending on what the student prefers.

When we were carrying out our market research, we spoke to a lot of different children and young adults and quickly found that some loved Drama, but hated singing and then others loved singing, but had no desire to act. Then there were the ones who loved to do both. So we came up with teaching pure Drama, Singing and Musical Theatre. This way, students can pick their best topics. With the Musical Theatre classes, taking either Singing or Drama as a complementary subject really enhances the student's ability.

So how are we different?

Well we found that other stage schools were mainly focused on Dance and that acting and singing were side classes or that a student had to take all 3 subjects in order to be a part of the school! Class sizes were also quite large, which we felt would detract from the quality of teaching.

So we decided to split up the disciplines and have class sizes of 15. We also split the age groups, into 3 categories:

Juniors – 5-8 years

Intermediate – 9-13

Seniors – 14-18

These ages are a rough guide and the students will also be looked at in terms of ability when it comes to assigning them to a particular class.

So what will they learn and what examinations will they take?

Drama and Musical Theatre will be working from the LAMDA syllabus and taking their examinations through LAMDA.

Musical Theatre Classes are about building confidence through movement, acting and singing. It has been developed to build the skills necessary to communicate the dramatic content of musical text over a range of musical styles/categories. Students will build on voice, diction, movement, setting and staging, and musicality.

Drama classes are structured to prepare students for the different types of examinations and underlining the

Personal Learning and Thinking Skills (PLTS). PLTS is a framework that describes the qualities and skills needed for success in learning and life. The Framework consists of 6 group skills:

1. Independent Enquirers
2. Creative Thinkers
3. Reflective Learners
4. Team Workers
5. Self Managers
6. Effective Participants

The framework supports young people in their learning across the curriculum allowing them to learn to develop and to transfer skills across a range of contexts.

Singing classes use the Trinity Guildhall syllabus recognising there is no single approach to musical teaching or assessment. We create a learning space designed to play to each student's strengths, teaching real musical skills that build an individual's ability to express their own musical identity. We provide classical training that becomes the basis for each student to develop their own style. Once these basics are mastered, a whole range of musical styles can be explored.

So what can we offer your child?

We offer your child the chance to explore their creative side in a safe environment with lots of other children who want to do the same thing! You will be amazed at the difference in your child after just a few sessions in their level of confidence and presentation. You have a dedicated team of Principals and teachers who have all been through what your child has been through

and are incredibly passionate about passing on their knowledge and experiences.

Affiliations

Both Principals are on the committee for Forum Drama. This is a local community theatre group that encourages participation in its productions from anyone in the local community. We are offering all our students the opportunity to work with this drama company, in a variety of roles, whether that is acting in one of their productions or back stage doing props. This is valuable experience and it will all be carried out under our guidance and organisation.

FORUM DRAMA

BLANDFORD'S COMMUNITY THEATRE



Share

Follow @forumdrama

43 followers

HOME

ABOUT US

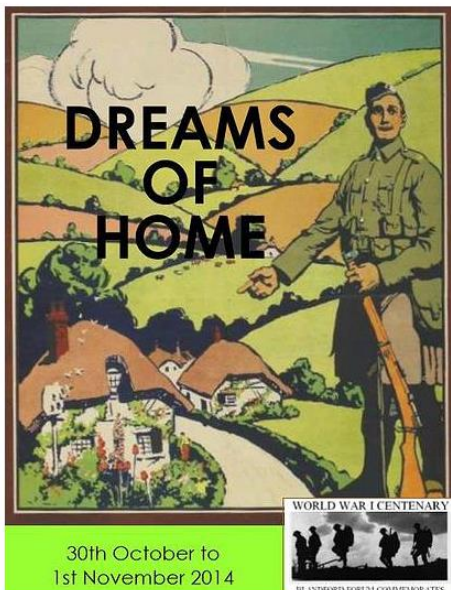
PRODUCTIONS

THE COMMITTEE

MEMBERS PAGES

GET INVOLVED

CONTACT



Forum Drama Presented:

in association with Blandford Forum Commemorates

30th OCTOBER - 1st NOVEMBER 14

Dreams of Home

3 One Act Plays

The Blandford Corn Exchange

Audience Comment:

"Thank you so much for a superb evening. Well done to all those on stage (thought Simone was great!), front of house and behind the scenes. Highly recommend to anyone considering attending tomorrow (Saturday matinee or evening performance)."

Contact us:
07753708958

forumdrama@yahoo.co.uk

We will also be on the lookout for good reputable casting agencies, to whom we can put, those that want to, up for auditions for theatre productions, TV & film.

Our Uniform

Uniform is an important element to any organisation or school as it defines identity and it gives students the feeling of belonging to something and especially if they are proud of that school or club.

Our uniform is very simple! A purple t-shirt for the girls with our logo on and a black version for the boys. They are £8.50 each and printed by a local firm in Dorchester called Azure Logo Ltd.



There is also a hoodie available for £18.00. These are not compulsory, however if we do any outside displays we will expect the children to have them on those chillier days!



Spotlight feature

Felicity Ayles

Singing Tutor



We are so excited that Felicity has joined our Academy!

Felicity has been singing for more than 10 years. Training under the internationally acclaimed Sophia Grech, she achieved her Grade 8 ABRSM singing exam, and will now go on to complete her Grade 8 Rock School, LCM and LAMDA exams as well as her Licentiate in Vocal Teaching. She is a member of the Institute for Learning, and in 2013 was awarded her Diploma to Teach in Lifelong Learning Sector and her Qualified Teaching Learning Skills status. She can offer exams across a range of exam boards, and is also able to teach Music Theory up to Grade 5.

Felicity has a wealth of performing experience, having performed all over Dorset and in London. She has appeared in a number of musicals, including one of only three UK amateur productions of David Da Silva's *Fame Forever* (which has recently been commissioned for the West End), and the first ever school's edition of *Les Misérables*. She was one of the original members of Vocalis Youth Choir, and principal soprano of vocal harmony groups *Il Cantante*, *Fragments Vocalise* and *Come Together*. With these groups she was fortunate enough to perform at many weddings and community events.

Felicity loves teaching singing, helping young people to find a new self-confidence, and talent they may not even know they have! She loves inspiring her students, watching them perform and seeing their confidence bounce from the stage to their everyday lives.

Class Timetables and Prices



CLASS TIMETABLES AND PRICES COME AND TRY A LESSON FOR HALF PRICE*

musical theatre

tuesdays

juniors	3:45-4:15	£8
intermediates	4:15-5:00	£11
seniors	5:00-6:00	£15

drama

wednesday

juniors	3:45-4:15	£8
intermediates	4:15-5:00	£11
seniors	5:00-6:00	£15

singing

thursday

juniors	4:15-4:45	£8
intermediates	4:45-5:30	£11
seniors	5:30-6:30	£15

juniors 5-8 years

intermediates 9-13 years

seniors 14-18 years

Trial a class half price!*

20% discount for siblings

10% discount on each additional class taken

Prices shown are per lesson

Fees are payable upfront at the start of each term

*One class per child and only applies to their first class in one subject. Full price for the subsequent classes in the term required at the time of registration for a full term.



The Performing Arts
Theatre Academy

Principals Lauren Newbury and Rebecca Hollands

www.thepatheatreacademy.uk

thepatheatreacademy@gmail.com

07920 755791

Class Booking Form

Parent or Guardian Name

Address

Contact Telephone
Number

Emergency Contact
Number

Email

Child's Name

Male/Female

What Class/es would you like to
book

Childs Age

Any Medical Conditions?

Y/N

If yes please provide further
information

Where did you hear
about us

Privacy Notice:

Any personal information that we gather will only be used in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and used for the purpose stated at the time we request the information. We will not sell, distribute or lease your personal information to third parties.

We can't wait to meet you!

Rebecca and Lauren



Principals Lauren Newbury and Rebecca Hollands

www.thepatheatreacademy.uk

thepatheatreacademt@gmail.com

07920 755791