

## LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE CONTINUES POPULAR SUMMER THEATRE WORKSHOPS FOR YOUNG THEATRE LOVERS

*Classes Include Expanded Technical Theatre Program  
And Additional Week of Classes for  
In-Demand Young Performers' Workshop*

La Jolla, CA – La Jolla Playhouse kicks off another summer of creative, educational and interactive theatre programs for young theatre lovers with **Young Performers at La Jolla Playhouse (YP@LJP)**.

These acclaimed, multi-step programs begin with **Young Performers' Workshop (YPW)**, running **June 17 – July 12**, which invites students in grades 3-12 to explore a wide range of theatre skills. An additional week of classes for grades 3-6 has been added in July to meet the demand for this particular YP@LJP division. **Young Performers' Academy (YPA)**, running **July 15 – July 26**, encourages students entering grades 5-12 to take their theatre skills to the next level beyond YPW. YPA is divided into **Ensemble** for grades 5-7 and **Company** for grades 8-12. High school students in grades 10-12 interested in preparing for a serious college theatre program and pursuing careers in professional theatre can take part in **Conservatory** (formerly known as Young Performers' Conservatory; auditions required), running **June 17 – July 19**.

For students interested in the technical aspects of theatre, **Intro to Tech Theatre Class**, running **July 15 – 19**, is a special week-long course which introduces young people in grades 7-12 to the vital work that goes on behind the scenes to make a production happen, including costumes, props, and scenic building and painting. A newly added program, **Applied Tech Theatre Class**, running **July 22-26**, is for the experienced technical theatre student looking to put their skills into performance practice. These students will be hands-on in adding technical elements to the final presentations for Young Performers' Academy.

Renowned audition expert and theatre professional **Jeffrey Howard Ingman** will be returning to lead Conservatory as its director. Mr. Ingman has headed up M.F.A., B.F.A. and B.A. Theatre programs with over 20 years of teaching and is a sought-after audition coach. Having performed as "George" in the Playhouse's *The Cake*, he continues to work as a professional actor and director in both professional and academic environments and has over 70 productions to his name as a director.

"It is an inspiration to witness these young performers build character and find creative confidence inside the safe, collaborative and encouraging space of our summer workshops," says **Playhouse Artistic Director Christopher Ashley**. "The world of theatre is horizon-expanding, joyful and, for many young students, often life-changing. We're tremendously fortunate to be able to give kids a chance at delving into these fulfilling artistic experiences while they're with us for the summer."

“Each summer the Playhouse hums with the palpable energy of young theatre artists,” says the **Playhouse’s Education and Outreach Director Julia Cuppy**. “We’re so glad we can meet the demand for more programming, especially in regard to the new Applied Tech Class and the added week of Young Performers’ Workshop, and to welcome more students here who are keen on deepening their knowledge of performance and stagecraft. Each program we offer mirrors the creative process seen on our stages, and we are honored that we can provide our students – the artists of tomorrow – the opportunity to grow.”

**Young Performers’ Workshop (YPW)** offers students entering grades 3 -12 the opportunity to work with expert teaching artists to find new ways of expressing themselves. In a fun-filled, nurturing environment, students build theatre skills, gain confidence and develop social skills through collaboration and performance. Daily workshops provide age-appropriate activities focused on acting, improvisation, musical theatre and movement. Students also enjoy behind-the-scenes experiences at La Jolla Playhouse, meeting artists who help bring the renowned theatre’s productions to life. Young theatre enthusiasts love the thrill of performing for an audience through an informal final presentation at the end of the workshop, which they share with family and friends.

**Young Performers’ Academy (YPA)** is a two-week intensive that provides the next step beyond YPW in theatre training with a specific focus on the field of musical theatre. By teaching them how to dive deeper into their musical tool box, students build upon skills learned in YPW and discover techniques for applying them towards a more comprehensive rehearsal process. **YPA Ensemble** (Grades 5-7) and **YPA Company** (Grades 8-12) will either develop an original musical performance by utilizing their collective creativity and ideas, or advance their artistry by learning the process of tackling an established script.

**Conservatory** offers an intensive five-week acting experience for high school students in grades 10-12. Centered on the actor’s process, this program is designed for students who want to pursue a professional career in theatre and prepares them for a serious college theatre program. Each week, acting students spend 35 hours in intensive training classes which include: classical scene study, modern scene study, ensemble-devised performance, voice for the actor, movement and Yoga. In its revamped design, students will also be able to expand their knowledge of musical theatre and also bolster their audition packages for both college and professional auditions. Additionally, they get a chance to work with guest artists and cast members from Playhouse productions which have included *Come From Away*, *Up Here*, *The Orphan of Zhao*, *Memphis*, *Limelight* and *Peter and the Starcatchers*. YPC students may also have the opportunity to attend rehearsals and La Jolla Playhouse productions.

Conservatory graduates have gone on to successful careers in television and on stage, including James Maslow (Nickelodeon’s *Big Time Rush*), Bridget Regan (*Legend of the Seeker*), Christopher Douglas Reed (*Sons of Anarchy*) and Cashae Monya (*Miss You Like Hell* and *Memphis* in La Jolla and Seattle). Conservatory alumni have also been accepted to prestigious college theatre programs such as Yale University, New York University, Carnegie Mellon, Emerson College, Juilliard and the American Academy of Musical and Dramatic Arts.

**Intro to Tech and Applied Tech Theatre Class** are week-long programs that introduce young people grades 7-12 to various aspects of technical theatre. In Intro to Tech, students receive an introductory survey course in the vocational skills necessary to become professional theatre technicians. Topics include: Costume, Lighting, Props, Scenic Building and Painting. Applied Tech is for the experienced technical theatre student looking to put their skills into practice.

Registration for YPW, YPA, Conservatory (audition required), Tech Theatre Class and Applied Tech Theatre Class is now open! Apply online at [LaJollaPlayhouse.org](http://LaJollaPlayhouse.org) or by emailing [education@ljp.org](mailto:education@ljp.org).

To check out the full schedule and pricing for these programs, please visit: [LaJollaPlayhouse.org](http://LaJollaPlayhouse.org).

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**La Jolla Playhouse** is a place where artists and audiences come together to create what's new and next in the American theatre, from Tony Award-winning productions, to imaginative programs for young audiences, to interactive experiences outside our theatre walls. Currently led by 2017 Tony Award-winning Artistic Director Christopher Ashley and Managing Director Debby Buchholz, the Playhouse was founded in 1947 by Gregory Peck, Dorothy McGuire and Mel Ferrer. Playhouse artists and audiences have taken part in the development of new plays and musicals, including mounting 101 world premieres, commissioning 52 new works, and sending 32 productions to Broadway, among them the currently-running hit musicals *Come From Away* – garnering a total of 38 Tony Awards, including the 1993 Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre. For more information, visit [LaJollaPlayhouse.org](http://LaJollaPlayhouse.org).

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