



***Musicals at Richter Summer Youth
Musical Theater Workshop 2012
Featuring
Disney's
Beauty and the Beast Jr.***

Questions and Answers

1. Dates and Hours of Operation:

The workshop will be held July 30 – August 18 on the grounds of Richter House, 100 Aunt Hack Road, Danbury, CT. Auditions will be held on July 27 from 10 – 3 (See #6 for Details)

Auditions will be held on July 27: 10am – 3pm

The first two weeks (7/30/12 – 8/9/12): 9:30AM-3:30PM Monday-Thursday.

The final week (8/13/12 – 8/15/12): 5:00PM – 9:00 PM

Three Performance Nights (8/116 – 8/18): 6:30PM call for all performers;
8 PM Show - Gates open at 7pm

Tickets for audience members are \$12

****PLEASE NOTE****

*Participants are required to attend all rehearsals and performances

*Drop off and pick up times MUST be honored due to staff hours

2. WHAT TO BRING EVERY DAY:

Each child needs to bring:

- Water, snack, and lunch labeled with their names.
- ALL belongings in a backpack
- Script and/or score (which will be made available to every student.)
- Suntan lotion

****PLEASE NOTE****

- * Transportation is not provided.
- * The session ends with a full production (tickets must be purchased for every show) and the students get to work on a stage, with a professional staff and crew.

3. What is the age group?

The age range is from 9-17 years old.

4. What type of staff do you have?

We have professional directors, choreographers, musical directors, stage managers and production assistants.

Staff Descriptions

1. **The Director/Assistant**- Works on blocking the show and acting technique.
2. **Musical Director**- Works on vocal technique and teaches the melodies and harmonies.
3. **Choreographer**- Works on the dances and staging of musical numbers.
4. **Production assistants** - Work with the group on whatever needs to be worked on.

Bios – Workshop Director and Choreographer

DONALD E. BIRELY (Director) has been associated with Musicals at Richter since 2004. His productions include *Annie*, *The Sound of Music*, *The Music Man*, *Oklahoma!*, *Victor Victoria*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Yeston/Kopit's Phantom*. Many of his productions have included young people. Donald has toured the U.S. in productions of *Annie*, *Oklahoma!* and *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*. He has directed and stage managed at The Westchester Broadway Theatre in Elmsford, New York. Donald can be heard on the BMG/RCA recording of *Yeston/Kopit's Phantom*. Mr. Birely owns DB Productions -- an Entertainment Company specializing in Musical groups and Costume Rental. This year he is happy to be back at M.A.R. directing their productions of *Brigadoon* and *Bye Bye Birdie* and is Co-Directing *Nunsense the Mega Musical*. Mr. Birely is the founder of the Summer Youth Musical Theatre Workshop and has directed the productions for the past two years.

MATTHEW FARINA (Choreographer) has been performing and choreographing in school and Community Theater for the past 15 years. When not on stage, he can be seen performing in front of students as a third

grade teacher at Redding Elementary School (RES) in Redding, CT. Prior to RES, Matt worked at Stadley Rough Elementary School in Danbury, and Whisconier Middle School in Brookfield where he choreographed their spring musical. This year, he will be returning to Danbury's Immaculate High School to choreograph their spring musical, *Miss Saigon*, after choreographing their last three productions, *Aida*, *The Wedding Singer* and *West Side Story*. He also wrote, directed and choreographed *Cinderella with a Hip Hop Twist* at Green Chimneys in Brewster, NY, the nationally renowned, non-profit organization whose mission is to create futures for children with emotional, behavioral, social, and learning challenges.

Anna Demasi (Musical Director) is a musical director and piano teacher. She has been teaching piano lessons for seven years in Ridgefield and Wilton, where she also serves as the resident music director at Wilton High School. Anna has spent the last three summers with Musicals at Richter, both playing in the pit and musical directing. Anna has worked at Coleytown Middle School, Wilton Children's Theater, Ridgefield Playhouse, Ridgefield Theater Barn and The Wilton Playshop. She enjoys teaching private piano lessons, accompanying voice lessons and playing for St. Edward's Church music ministry.

5. How many are accepted?

The Workshop is first come, first served basis. You do not need to audition to get into the workshop as casting happens on the first two days. We will accept between 35 and 50 students. Once the session is full we will put your child on a waiting list. If anyone cancels we will call the next person on the waiting list and offer them the spot.

6. How are parts cast?

Students will be placed in parts according to their talent and what they are able to handle. Please note that we reserve the right to DOUBLE CAST parts as needed.

Auditions will take place on Friday, July 27, 2012 from 10-3 at the Richter House. Everyone will learn a song, read and dance.

Roles will be given out on Monday, July 30 (the first day of camp)

The students **DO NOT need to prepare anything in advance** to audition for the summer workshop.

The Director and Musical Director teach the students one song from the show and they will sing it together and then individually to listen for vocal quality and projection.

**If performers are unable to make auditions on 7/27, alternate accommodations may be able to be made. This will be based on each individual circumstance.

7. PAYMENT AND REFUND POLICY:

We accept cash and checks. If paying by check please make it payable to: **Musicals at Richter** Returned checks will result in a \$30 insufficient transaction fee.

This is a **non-refundable program** and students will not be permitted to attend the first day of our workshops without payment in full. Musicals at Richter reserves the right to remove anyone from the program for misconduct and will not refund any tuition or tickets purchases.

8. What is the cost of the program?

The cost of the 3-week program is \$425 for one student per session. If you sign up and pay in full before April 15, 2012 the cost is \$375. Sibling rate is \$200 per child