

Backstage Pass



INSIGHTS ON STAGE, SCREEN AND BEYOND

Kids Explore The Wonders Of Theater at The Sharon

By KRISTEN FIORE | Daily Sun Senior Writer

Theater camp opens up a world of possibilities for kids — new friends, new skills, and maybe the discovery of a passion for the spotlight.

Incoming first- through eighth-graders are invited to attend theater camp being held next month at the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center.

Two camps, taught by the Compass Creative Dramatics children's theater program, will take place this year because of the camp's growing popularity.

Students will learn their parts in a show during each camp, leading to performances that include costumes, sets, props and lighting.

The first camp, "Princess and the Pea Remix" will be

from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 17 through 21 at The Sharon. Performances by members of the group are scheduled for 5 p.m. June 21 and 22.

The second camp, "Cinderella Saves the World," runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 24 through 29, with performances at 5 p.m. June 28 and 29.

Plenty of open slots remain for each camp. Cost is \$90



Cindy Skop | Daily Sun

Registration is open for this summer's children's theater camp at the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center.

per student for each camp. Extended camp from 3 to 5 p.m. also is available for an additional \$30.

Two free tickets to one performance comes with the purchase of a camp registration, but anyone can attend the shows. Tickets to the shows are \$10.

Tickets and registrations can be purchased online at thevillagesentertainment.com or at any Villages Box Office location.

The shows, both spinoffs of classic fairy tales, also are musicals.

"They're fun and quirky versions of the fairy tales," said Nathaniel Niemi, director of education at The Sharon. "They use ensembles, and every child

has a role and an exciting part to play."

The idea is for kids to learn to take creative risks in a safe and positive learning environment,

Niemi said.

"It's also an opportunity to build community and work as an ensemble, learn teamwork and what it means to have a role to play in a team," Niemi said.


Theater professionals from Compass Creative Dramatics will work with the students for a bulk of the camp, but Niemi will be there to help facilitate when needed.

"We'll play theater games and do improvisation," he said. "I'm excited to get to know creative kids in the community."

Niemi said that every student will find something they enjoy, whether it is dancing, clowning or music.

"They'll find something they're interested in within the realm of theater," Niemi said.

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