

TAPROOT THEATRE



C O M P A N Y

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FREE PUBLIC PERFORMANCES OF SUMMER YOUTH CLASSES AT TAPROOT THEATRE

**Students perform Disney's *High School Musical*, *The King and I*,
Comedy of Errors and more**

SEATTLE – June 16, 2009 – Taproot Theatre's Acting Studio opens its doors this summer for free public performances by its students. Taproot's Acting Studio is giving its summer camp students dozens of performance opportunities, with many of its daycamps culminating in the production of a popular play or musical. The public is welcome to attend student productions of Disney's *High School Musical*, Rodgers & Hammerstein's *The King and I*, Shakespeare's *Comedy of Errors* and more. (A partial performance schedule follows. Additional shows will be listed online as information becomes available.)

The summer camp productions give students ages 4-17 the opportunity to learn and build on existing acting skills, then put their skills to use in front of a live audience, an experience that inspires them and builds their confidence. Camps cover everything from musical theatre and Shakespeare to acting for the camera and the art of comedy. Plays for the final performances are chosen with young artists in mind.

All performances take place on Friday afternoons at Taproot Theatre (204 N 85th St., Seattle, WA 98103) or Ballard Church (1460 NW 73rd St., Seattle, WA 98117). Admission is free, and first come, first served. There are no tickets; just show up. Doors open 15 minutes before show time. Donations are welcomed and will be used for Studio camp scholarships. Most shows are appropriate for ages 3 and up. Babes in arms are welcome, but children who are distracting during the production may be asked to wait in the lobby. Taproot's Acting Studio reserves the right to change performance titles and schedules.

There's still time to register for students interested in participating in a summer camp. Registration forms and class descriptions are available online at www.taproottheatre.org, or contact Taproot's Acting Studio at (206) 529-3668 or studio@taproottheatre.org.

Thanks to our media sponsor, *ParentMap*, and our sponsor, The McEachern Charitable Trust. Seasonal support provided by 4Culture, ArtsFund, The Charles Simonyi Fund for Arts and Sciences, Washington State Arts Commission, Nesholm Family Foundation and PONCHO.

About Taproot Theatre Company's Acting Studio

Taproot Theatre Company's Acting Studio offers year-round classes for youth and adults taught by local theatre professionals. Budding thespians will find classes to help them develop their acting skills, while more seasoned actors can build on their knowledge and learn new techniques.

About Taproot Theatre Company

Taproot Theatre Company is a professional, non-profit theatre company with a multi-faceted production program. Founded in 1976, Taproot Theatre serves the Pacific Northwest with Mainstage Productions, Touring Productions and Acting Studio. Taproot exists to create theatre that explores the beauty and questions of life while bringing hope to our search for meaning. Taproot Theatre Company is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), Theatre Puget Sound (TPS), and the Greenwood-Phinney Chamber of Commerce.

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Included:

- Summer 2009 Student Performance Schedule

SUMMER 2009 STUDENT PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Friday, July 6, 3 p.m. at Taproot Theatre – *The Ever After-A Musical*

After a week of singing, dancing, friendship and fun, the students of Musical Theatre Daycamp perform *The Ever After* (book by Nathan Hartswick, music & lyrics by Bill Francoeur).

Friday, July 31, 3 p.m. at Taproot Theatre – *Disney's High School Musical*

Students in our Musical Theatre Supercamp dive deeply into the acting techniques needed for musical theatre performance in our two-week intensive, then put it all together in this final performance!

Friday, August 28, 3 p.m. at Taproot Theatre – *Rodgers & Hammerstein's The King and I*

Aimed at young actors who want a taste of the professional world of musical theatre, Advanced Musical Theatre Supercamp helps young actors take their performance to a new level. They experience the audition process as they're cast in a role in *The King and I* (music by Richard Rodgers, book and lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II, based on "Anna and the King of Siam" by Margaret Landon, original choreography by Jerome Robbins).

Friday, July 17, 3 p.m. at Taproot Theatre – *Comedy of Errors*

After a great introduction to the Bard and his plays, students in Shakespeare Daycamp perform a shortened version of this great Shakespeare comedy.

Friday, August 7, 3 p.m. at Taproot Theatre – *The Merry Wives of Windsor*

Students in Shakespeare Supercamp spend two weeks diving deeply into the voice, movement and acting techniques needed for Shakespearean performance, then put it all together in a shortened version of this play.

More performances will be posted online at <http://taproottheatre.org/summer-2009/> as details become available.