

Media: *Tickets, photos and interviews available upon request*
Contact: Audra Sybert, asybert@noblefool.org or 630-443-0438

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**Local Youth to Learn all Aspects of Theater through Old and New Classics this
Spring: High School Musical, Saturday Night Fever and more
With Noble Fool Theatricals Performing Arts Academy**

March 2008, St. Charles, IL – The NFT Performing Arts Academy students are offered a variety of Spring Classes, including jazz dancing to “High School Musical,” performing “Saturday Night Fever,” singing to “Little Shop of Horrors,” and learning character development through “The Diary of Anne Frank” and “Harry Potter” at Pheasant Run Resort (4051 E. Main St., St. Charles, IL; admin telephone 630-443-0438; education telephone 630-364-0550).

With the Performing Arts Academy tripling in enrollment since it’s beginning in late 2006, expanding it’s offerings to such theater aspects as jazz dance, audition techniques, and singing classes has easily fit into the current repertoire.

Classes are taught by experienced teachers, directors, actors and musicians in the Chicagoland area. The instructors specialize in challenging and developing each student’s talents no matter what level they are at when they enter. All aspiring actors are encouraged to try a theater class for the first time or brush up their existing skills.

“My daughter took an audition class at Noble Fool in the fall and thoroughly enjoyed the class, and fortunately, she was just offered a paid professional acting job with American Girl Theatre downtown,” says Heidi Blakely, mother of an NFT student. “As soon as she was cast in the show, I thought of the audition class she took and how helpful it was to her.”

While some spring classes have already filled up, applications are still being accepted for the following classes:

**AUDITION: CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT AND SCENE STUDY "DIARY OF ANNE FRANK"
AND "HARRY POTTER"**

Ages: 8 to 18

Classes: Tuesdays, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

April 8 – May 13, 2008

Showcase: Tuesday, May 13 at 7:00 pm

Tuition: \$175

This class is designed to guide participants through the process of character development in preparation for auditions. Students analyze a scene for emotion and conflict. Next, they explore the emotional and physical life of a character through performance. A bonus: This workshop improves participants' reading and speaking skills.

THEATRE DANCE: JAZZ DANCING TO "HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL"

Ages: 8 to 18

Classes: Wednesdays, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm Studio Stage

April 9 – May 14, 2008

Showcase: Wednesday, May 14 at 6:00 pm Studio Stage

Tuition: \$175

Instructor: Kate Schultz

Explore jazz dancing as it relates to musical theatre choreography. Emphasis will be on Broadway choreography and dance routines original to Broadway-style music. Classes include warm ups, technique, across the floor work and a dance combination.

TEENS MUSICAL PERFORMANCE CLASS: "SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER"

Ages: 12 to 18

Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 7:15 pm – 9:15 pm

April 16 – May 14, 2008

Tech/Dress Rehearsal: Wednesday, May 21: 7:15 pm – 9:15 pm Studio Stage

Performances: Studio Stage

Saturday, May 24 at 1:30 pm and Sunday, May 25 at 11:30 am

Tuition \$175

Directed by Tracy Whiteside

Performers in this group will memorize lines, songs and choreography for this ½ hour show performed for family and friends. Students develop their artistic voice, both individually and within an ensemble. "G" RATED VERSION.

The film version made John Travolta a star and features Bee Gees disco hits such as Stayin' Alive, You Should Be Dancing and How Deep Is Your Love.

“Based on the smash hit film of the same name, this disco-era coming-of-age tale is about young Tony Manero, who learns the value of life in 1977 Brooklyn.”

SINGING: “LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS”

Ages: 8 to 18

Classes: Saturdays, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

April 19 – May 24, 2008

Showcase: Saturday, May 24 at 11:00 am

Tuition: \$175

Instructor: Ken Jones

Get a head-start on learning music theory, aural skills and practical musical applications. Learn solos, duets and ensemble pieces from this popular musical. This workshop improves the student’s abilities in a fun and creative atmosphere.

This musical won the Drama Critics Award for Best Musical and features songs such as Somewhere That’s Green and Suddenly Seymour.

“Seymour, an orphan and a nerd, spends his time doing menial tasks and dreaming of Audrey. One day, Seymour buys a strange plant. While caring for it, he discovers the plant's rather unique appetite. The plant grows, as does Seymour's infatuation for Audrey, but who will get her first?”

The NFT Performing Arts Academy opened its doors to classes and youth productions for the community in the fall of 2006, including classes on improvisation, scene-study, and auditions, as well as the critic-acclaimed Youth Ensemble program. The academy features some of the Chicago area’s most respected teachers, directors, actors and musicians. Classes are for adults, children and business professionals looking to learn from the people who are working at what they love do.

For more information on the NFT Performing Arts Academy or to enroll, visit www.noblefool.org/education, call 630-364-0550, or email education@noblefool.org. Noble Fool Theatricals at Pheasant Run Resort is located at 4051 E. Main St., St. Charles, IL. Additional theater information may be obtained at www.noblefool.org.

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