PAPER MILL PLAYHOUSE

SPRING CLASSES 2027: FEBRUARY— MAY

Paper Mill Playhouse offers joyful, skill-building classes for performers of all ages. With a focus on musical theatre technique —singing, acting, and movement —our weekly classes help students grow confidence, connect with others, and explore their creativity in a supportive environment. All classes are open enrollment. No audition required.

All classes meet once a week at Studios 20 Main Street, Millburn or Black Box Studio 22 Brookside Drive, Millburn

Visit papermill.org to register or get answers to frequently asked questions

Our offerings include:

Skills Classes

Musical Theater Adventures classes celebrate specific shows and themes through singing, acting, and dancing, while Musical Theater Workshops focus on developing technique and strengthening performance skills. Additional acting, improv, and dance classes offer opportunities to explore individual disciplines.

Production Classes

Using techniques learned in skills classes, students work together through auditions, rehearsals, and performances while developing their singing, acting, dancing, and teamwork skills. Each class culminates in a fully staged production for family and friends.

Private Instruction

Individualized coaching tailored to each student's experience, abilities, and goals, helping performers build technique, confidence, and artistry at their own pace.

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SKILLS: PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN

Theater Tots

Pre-K and their grown-up
Saturdays 9:00– 10:00am
Location: Studios

Step into a world of make-believe together! Theater Tots invites young children and their grown-ups to play, move, and imagine side by side. Through songs, stories, and creative movement, little ones will build early social and emotional skills in a supportive, joyful space.

Storybook Theater

Kindergarten
Sundays 10:45am-11:45am
Location: Studios

Transform beloved fairy tales into lively adventures. A wonderful introduction to the world of theater for the imaginative child, this class brings favorite fairy tales and characters to life through music, movement, and pretend play. Children will explore character, express emotion, and collaborate with new friends through creative play designed to build confidence, empathy, and storytelling skills.

Intro to Musical Theater: Broadway Beginners

Kindergarten
Thursdays 4:00-5:00pm OR
Fridays 4:00-5:00pm
Location: Studios

Sing, dance, and take center stage! Explore the fundamentals of musical theater through beloved Broadway songs and stories. Students will learn age-appropriate performance techniques while building confidence and teamwork. From each class invites imagination and creativity as students bring classic stories to life. The final class will feature a show-stopping sharing for friends and family showing off the star-power of each participant.

SKILLS: GRADES 1 & 2

Musical Theater Workshop: Duets

Grades 1-2
Mondays 4:00–5:00pm
Location: Studios

Two voices, one unforgettable performance! In this exciting workshop, young performers explore the magic of musical theater duets, discovering how two characters can bring a story to life through song. Students build essential performance skills, including vocal technique, breath control, harmonies, and acting through song, while learning to listen, connect, and collaborate with a scene partner. Through partner work, expressive movement, and character exploration, students develop confidence, stage presence, and musical storytelling skills—culminating in a showcase that celebrates the power of performing together!

Show Lab

Grades 1-2
Tuesdays 4:00-5:00pm
Location: Studios

Imagine it. Create it. Perform it! In this exciting collaborative class, young performers work together to create and perform their very own original play! Through acting games, improvisation, character exploration, and creative storytelling, students bring their ideas and imaginations to life. With guidance from their instructor, students develop characters and scenes that come together in a one-of-a-kind final performance. No singing or dancing required—just creativity, teamwork, and a whole lot of imagination!

Musical Theater Adventures: Descendants

Grades 1-2
Tuesdays 5:15-6:15pm
Location: Studios

Step into the exciting world of Descendants! Students sing, dance, and act while exploring unforgettable characters, catchy songs, and exciting scenes inspired by the hit franchise. Through fun theater games, choreography, and character exploration, young performers build their singing, acting, and dancing skills while developing confidence, creativity, and teamwork. This high-energy class encourages students to embrace their inner heroes (or villains!) and shine on stage, culminating in a special sharing for friends and family!

The Actor's Toolbox

Grades 1-2
Wednesdays 4:00-5:00pm OR
Thursdays 5:15-6:15pm
Location: Studios

Lights, camera, ACT! Discover the tools every actor needs to shine on stage! Through fun theater games, improvisation, character creation, and imaginative storytelling, students explore the fundamentals of acting while building confidence, creativity, and teamwork. This playful introduction encourages young performers to express themselves, make bold choices, and bring characters to life! Everyone will get a turn in the spotlight during a sharing demonstration for families during the final class.

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SKILLS: GRADES 3 – 5

Musical Theater Workshop: Duets

Grades 3-5
Mondays 5:15-6:15pm
Location: Studios

Two voices, one unforgettable performance! In this exciting workshop, young performers explore the magic of musical theater duets, discovering how two characters can bring a story to life through song. Students build essential performance skills, including vocal technique, breath control, harmonies, and acting through song, while learning to listen, connect, and collaborate with a scene partner. Through partner work, expressive movement, and character exploration, students develop confidence, stage presence, and musical storytelling skills—culminating in a showcase that celebrates the power of performing together!

Musical Theater Dance Youth

Grades 3-5
Mondays 6:30-7:30pm
Location: Studios

Step into the spotlight and dance like you're on Broadway! Students will learn choreography inspired by hit shows while building coordination, confidence, and performance skills. Each week focuses on storytelling through dance—no singing required! The session culminates in a fun sharing of their favorite routines.

Musical Theater Adventures: Descendants

Grades 3-5
Tuesdays 4:00-5:00pm
Location: Black Box

Step into the exciting world of Descendants! Students sing, dance, and act while exploring unforgettable characters, catchy songs, and exciting scenes inspired by the hit franchise. Through fun theater games, choreography, and character exploration, young performers build their singing, acting, and dancing skills while developing confidence, creativity, and teamwork. This high-energy class encourages students to embrace their inner heroes (or villains!) and shine on stage, culminating in a special sharing for friends and family!

Acting Technique Youth

Grades 3-5
Wednesdays 5:15–6:15pm
Location: Studios

Step into someone else's shoes! Students will explore how to bring characters to life. Through imaginative exercises, improvisation, and short scripted scenes, young actors will learn how to think, move, and speak like their characters. The class will focus on understanding motivation, building backstory, expressing emotion, and making strong acting choices. At the end of the session, students will show off their fully realized characters in a sharing for friends and family.

Show Lab

Grades 3-5
Fridays 4:00-5:15pm
Location: Paper Mill Playhouse Blackbox

Imagine it. Create it. Perform it! In this exciting collaborative class, young performers work together to create and perform their very own original play! Through acting games, improvisation, character exploration, and creative storytelling, students bring their ideas and imaginations to life. With guidance from their instructor, students develop characters and scenes that come together in a one-of-a-kind final performance. No singing or dancing required—just creativity, teamwork, and a whole lot of imagination!

Improv Youth

Grades 3-5
Saturdays 11:30am–12:30pm
Location: Studios

No script? No problem! Improvisation skills are the foundation of any successful performance. Teamwork, listening, spontaneity, and thinking on your feet. Students use theater games and exercises to increase performance skills, awaken creativity, and learn to work with others to accomplish common goals. At the end of the session, students will say yes to showing off their creativity and imagination in a unique sharing for friends and family.

SKILLS: GRADES 6 – 12

Musical Theater Workshop: Duets

Grades 6-12
Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm
Location: Studios

Two voices, one unforgettable performance! In this exciting workshop, young performers explore the magic of musical theater duets, discovering how two characters can bring a story to life through song. Students build essential performance skills, including vocal technique, breath control, harmonies, and acting through song, while learning to listen, connect, and collaborate with a scene partner. Through partner work, expressive movement, and character exploration, students develop confidence, stage presence, and musical storytelling skills—culminating in a showcase that celebrates the power of performing together!

Acting Technique Teen Monologue Workshop

Grades 6-12
Tuesdays 7:30-9:00pm
Location: Studios

Step into someone else's shoes! Students will explore how to bring characters to life. Through imaginative exercises, improvisation, and short scripted scenes, young actors will learn how to think, move, and speak like their characters. The class will focus on understanding motivation, building backstory, expressing emotion, and making strong acting choices. At the end of the session, students will show off their fully realized characters in a sharing for friends and family.

Improv Teen

Grades 6-12
Wednesdays 6:30–7:30pm
Location: Studios

No script? No problem! Improvisation skills are the foundation of any successful performance. Teamwork, listening, spontaneity, and thinking on your feet. Students use theater games and exercises to increase performance skills, awaken creativity, and learn to work with others to accomplish common goals. At the end of the session, students will say yes to showing off their creativity and imagination in a unique sharing for friends and family.

Sketch Comedy

Grades 6-12
Wednesdays 7:30-8:30pm
Location: Studios

Get ready to laugh—and make others laugh, too! Students will learn how to write, rehearse, and perform their own original comedy sketches. Through improv games, character work, and group brainstorming, young comedians will discover what makes a scene funny and how to bring it to life on stage. They'll build timing, confidence, and collaboration skills. The session wraps up with a showcase of their funniest original sketches. *Students will be divided into writing teams by age.*

Musical Theater Dance Teen

Grades 6-12
Thursdays 6:30-7:30pm
Location: Studios

Bring Broadway choreography to life in this dynamic dance-focused class! Designed for all experience levels, this class explores the signature styles of musical theater—from Golden Age showstoppers to modern hits. Students will learn how to tell a story through movement while refining their technique, rhythm, and stage presence. The session culminates in a sharing featuring choreography inspired by beloved musicals.

Teen Cabaret: Villains' Variety Hour

Grades 6-12
Thursdays 7:30-9:00pm
Location: Studios

It's good to be bad! Step into the spotlight and embrace your wicked side in this thrilling musical theater cabaret inspired by Broadway's most unforgettable villains! Teen performers explore the darker, sassier, and delightfully mischievous side of musical theater through dynamic songs, bold characters, and showstopping performances. Students strengthen their vocal technique, character development, stage presence, and storytelling skills while working on solo, duet, and ensemble numbers. This exciting class encourages performers to make bold creative choices, embrace their individuality, and bring their favorite villains to life, culminating in a wickedly entertaining cabaret performance for friends and family!

PRODUCTION: GRADES 1 – 8

Production I: The Best Party Ever!

Grades 1-2
Fridays 5:15-6:15pm OR
Saturdays 10:15am-11:15am
Location: Studios
Prerequisite: Students must have completed a Musical Theater class or equivalent

It's showtime! Young performers collaborate to bring a mini-musical to life, discovering how songs, dialogue, and movement work together to tell a story about a group of friends trying to plan the most amazing party. Each class functions like a rehearsal where students practice listening, focus, and teamwork while strengthening performance technique and celebrating the themes of friendship and celebration. The session culminates in a joyful performance that celebrates every student's creativity and growing confidence.

Production I: Seussical KIDS

Grades 3 – 8
Mondays 4:00-5:30pm OR
Sundays 9:00am-10:30am
Location: Black Box
Prerequisite: Students must have completed a Musical Theater class or equivalent

Oh, the thinks you can think! Students rehearse and perform a fully staged production of *Seussical KIDS*, bringing the colorful characters and imaginative world of Dr. Seuss to life! This class emphasizes teamwork, responsibility, and performance skills as students learn blocking, choreography, and songs, culminating in a live performance filled with music, imagination, and fun!

Production I: Annie KIDS

Grades 3 – 8
Wednesdays 4:00-5:30pm
Location: Black Box
Prerequisite: Students must have completed a Musical Theater class or equivalent

Step into the spotlight and bring the timeless story of Annie to life on stage! Complete with costumes, sets, lights, and choreography. From auditions to the final performance, students will build skills in singing, acting, and dance while reinforcing teamwork, stagecraft, and performance discipline. The session culminates in a heartwarming final performance you'll never forget!

Production II: Broadway Junior Revue: Raise Your Voice

Grades 3 – 8
Saturdays 9:00am-11:00am
Location: Black Box
Prerequisite: Students must have completed a Production I Grades 3-8 class or equivalent

Get ready to raise your voice and take center stage! This more advanced production experience invites developing performers to explore an exciting collection of Broadway favorites in *Raise Your Voice*, a Broadway Junior Revue. Students strengthen their character development, vocal performance, choreography, and stage presence while working together to create a dynamic, polished final performance that celebrates the magic of musical theater!

ADULT

Musical Theater Collective

Adult
Mondays 7:30–9:00pm
Location: Studios

Whether you're a lifelong performer or stepping onto the stage for the first time, this class offers a supportive and energizing space to explore the magic of musical theater. Students build confidence through vocal performance, acting, and movement, working on ensemble numbers and solo moments from beloved musicals. Along the way, participants develop skills in storytelling, expression, and stage presence—all while connecting with a community of fellow theater enthusiasts. The session ends in a sharing that celebrates growth, artistry, and joy through performance.

What other class offerings would you like for adults? Email your ideas to classes@papermill.org

PRIVATE INSTRUCTION (AGES 8+)

Private Voice

Ages 8+
Weekly; 30-minute sessions

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays 3:30 – 9:00pm;
Fridays 2:30 – 7:00pm;
Saturdays 9:00am – 2:30pm;
Sundays 10:30am – 2:30pm

Individual attention helps student singers learn breathing and vocal placement in a nurturing one-to-one environment; exercises are used to strengthen and protect the voice.