

Dear Students and Parents of Wexford Acting Studio~

We are currently enjoying a respite from the cold and snowy winter weather we experienced a short while ago. Let's hope we continue to enjoy some more! However, in the event we have some more frigid or snow-filled days and nights, please be sure to check to see if we actually have class. I always change my outgoing phone message, send out an email and put it up on the Wexford Acting Studio web site, if there is time. I also put it on my personal Face Book page (Sarah McGraw Krushinski) and on the Wexford Acting Studio Face Book page, if you are on that social media site. If most schools are canceled, there is a very good chance we will close as well, so that parents and teenaged drivers do not have to go out in dangerous conditions. The BEST, most sure-fire way to ensure you know if we are holding classes or not, if there is any doubt, is to call 412-491-2416, the studio number. Sometimes we are able to have class in the afternoon, but then have to make the tough decision to cancel evening classes if the weather conditions worsen. *Fingers crossed* that we won't have to cancel again!

*We had a great time last Saturday morning when we held a combined all-level make-up class from 10:00-11:30. **Thanks to all who came!*** We are about to move on to a very exciting time in studio; preparing for our spring showcase on May 5th at the Kean Theatre on the St. Barnabas Campus!

This week and for the next couple of weeks you will have an opportunity to sign up for what you would like to present in our showcase. The performance opportunities include monologues, scenes from plays or movies (for two or three actors) and from musicals, solos, duets, trios, small groups and of course, the production numbers each class will be doing together. We will decide on what big musical numbers we would like to do very soon since we will begin learning the songs and choreography very soon for each.

Please do some research on YouTube for songs or if you have one in mind from a show you saw, you will need the music (accompaniment in the form of karaoke tracks or instrumental tracks). You **MUST** have a track link to give me so that I can provide the sound technician with it in plenty of time. Over the past several years, a lot of students have waited till the last minute to give me their music.

That is unacceptable. This is why you have to decide on a song/musical number soon so that you can decide on your music back-up track and provide us with it.

Go to the library or online to search for monologues and scenes you might like to do. If you need help choosing a monologue or scene, I can help but please start looking for yourself as only YOU know what sort of piece you really want to work on.

The showcase is your opportunity to perform a piece you really want to present to your friends, family and other audience members who have come to see you all shine. I have to approve all pieces as appropriate. All levels perform in the showcase, and we will begin rehearsing in class soon. Everyone is required to have at least one private lesson with me once your material is memorized so I can help coach your pieces. Much of your rehearsing should be done at home on your own, as all actors must learn to do. It is a bare bones presentation in that we use minimal costumes and only necessary props. There are no sets or other theatrical trappings besides lights and sound amplification (body microphones).

We will have one day of rehearsal at the theatre itself which is the same day we perform in the early evening (5:00 p.m.). We will have a full audience if everyone invites at least 5 people. The bigger our audience, the more fun the students will have presenting the results of their hard work, so spread the word! I will have postcards which you can hand out to everyone you would like to invite. You can also scan these and invite folks on your various social media platforms. Tickets are only \$5!!!

Everyone participating in the Wexford Acting Studio's Spring Showcase must pay a \$50 participation fee due by February 28th. This takes care of the cost of the theatre rental, teacher fees, technical costs, and other production expenses.

We will be having auditions in early June for our fall show which is sure to be a VERY FUN PRODUCTION! I can't wait to reveal what we will be doing very soon.

February tuition is now due, so please place your check in the envelope outside Studio Three this week. The correct amounts are: Level One & Two~\$95 and Level Three~\$115. Thank you for making out checks for the correct amount.

And now a word or two about summer camp which will be held June 10th-16th!

Our Musical Theater Summer Camp 2019, is being held Monday June 10- Sunday, June 16th. It is sure to be the highlight of our warmer months in 2019. We hope you will join us! Registration has begun so be sure to secure you spot now before the camp fills up. Just go to the website and print out the registration form and send to:

Wexford Acting Studio
2611 Nicholson Rd. Building Two
Sewickley, PA 15143

The following is a brief description of our camp: We are at the studio rehearsing for our showcase Monday-Saturday. We work on our musical numbers after warming up with acting exercises, improvisations and games. On Sunday, we are at the Kean Theatre from 11:00-4:00 rehearsing until our short dinner break. The showcase then starts at 5:00. We offer half-day camp Monday-Saturday for students ages 5-8 from 9:00-1:00 and full-day camp for students ages 9-18 from 10:00-5:00. Half-day campers need to bring a snack and water each day and full-day campers need to bring a good, hearty lunch.

Our camp days are high energy and full of fun. It is recommended that each camper gets good rest at night so they can be fully charged for the next day's work. Since it is the summer, it is good to know that there is still a little time for pool fun and outdoor activities after camp if the weather is nice.

Wexford Acting Studio takes great pride in the fact that we have alumni of the studio who return after having graduated and moved on to performance studies and careers. They mentor the campers, having been through the studio and graduated into the field. The campers could not have better counselors guiding and teaching them throughout the week. I, as the owner of Wexford Acting Studio and primary instructor, supervise all the activities of the camp and float around the studio, while coaching all the musical numbers and activities. Campers will act, sing and dance their way to a fabulous showcase on Sunday...

wowing their audience with everything they've learned in a very short time. You will not believe the energy and the quality of the final production!

It is important that we receive registrations by the deadline (May 30th) so that we can choose and cast our showcase numbers based on the ages and talent we have to work with. Registrations will be accepted after the deadline up until the first day of camp, but it is harder to cast the latecomers as we will have received the registrations at the last minute. So... please register early!

If you want a fun and fulfilling week of performance, friendship, and growth, our summer musical theater camp is just the right fit for you and your child! Call with further inquiries: 412-491-2416.

See you at the studio!

~ Miss Sarah