

ACTING OUT: Triad Youth Theater Groups



Opportunities abound for your young thespians to blossom

BY JENNIFER BEAN BOWER

If you have been searching for a place where your child can build self-confidence, showcase his or her talent or experience live theater, you don't have to look far. The Triad is home to numerous children's theater groups that provide instruction, auditions and performances. Here are a few youth theater groups in the Triad.

FORSYTH COUNTY

Creative Drama Children's Theater

4794 Kinnamon Road, Suite A,
Winston-Salem
336-633-8696
creativedramachildrenstheater.com
The Creative Drama Children's Theater (CDCT) opened in 2011 and offers classes for children in preschool through high school. The CDCT teaches acting, dance, musical theater and voice; and helps "every student become the artist within."

Number of plays per season: 10
Average ages of participants: 10
Notable past productions: "Aladdin Kids," "Beauty and the Beast Jr.," "A Christmas Carol" and "Guys and Dolls"

Spring Theatre

1005 Burke St., Winston-Salem
336-283-8688

springtheatre.org
Founded by Erinn Dearth Diaz in 2013, Spring Theatre is "well-known for their outstanding youth theater productions." Spring Theatre offers summer camps, acting classes and dance lessons.
Number of plays per season: 5-6
Average ages of participants: 11-14
Notable past productions: "Alice in Wonderland Jr.," "Into The Woods," "Fables" and "Schoolhouse Rock"

Twin City Stage

610 Coliseum Drive NW
Winston-Salem
336-725-4001
twincitystage.org
Since their inception as The Little Theatre of Winston-Salem in 1935, Twin City Stage has "been a fundamental part of Winston-Salem's cultural scene." Twin City Stage merged with the Children's Theatre of Winston-Salem in

2011 and offers acting classes for students in kindergarten through 12th grade and summer camps for children in fourth through eighth grades.

Number of plays per season: 7-9
Average ages of participants: 5-75
Notable past productions: "Alice in Wonderland Jr.," "The Boxcar Children" and "The Outsiders"

GUILFORD COUNTY Community Theatre of Greensboro's Youth Theatre

520 S. Elm St., Greensboro
336-333-7470
ctgso.org
The Community Theatre of Greensboro (CTG) was founded in 1949 and offers a variety of theatrical productions, classes, camps and workshops for young people. The goal of the CTG is to help everyone in their community "share in the excitement of

participating in theatre as actors, backstage crew or audience members."

Number of plays per season: 5
Average ages of participants: 10-12
Notable past productions: "The Lion King Jr.," "Aladdin Jr." and "Charlotte's Web"

High Point Community Theatre Youth Stage

Centennial Station Arts Center
121 S. Centennial St., High Point
336-882-2542

hpct.net
The High Point Community Theatre (HPCT) was founded in 1976 and is "dedicated to providing community involvement opportunities, inspiring appreciation for dramatic arts and educating the next generation." The Youth Stage was founded in 2015 as a subsidiary of HPCT "to provide additional performance

opportunities for Triad area children ages 5-17.”

Number of plays per season: 3-4
Average ages of participants: 7-17
Notable past productions: “Babes in Toyland,” “Alice in Wonderland Jr.,” “Godspell Jr.” and “Musicville”

The Drama Center's Children's Theatre

Greensboro Cultural Center, 200 N. Davie St., Greensboro 336-373-2728
greensboro-nc.gov
The Drama Center's Children's Theatre was founded in the 1950s “as a way for young people to learn more about theater and themselves.” Classes, workshops and summer camps are offered, as are opportunities for students to work behind the scenes.

Number of plays per season: 3
Average ages of participants: 10-15
Notable past productions: “Aesop's (Oh So Slightly) Updated Fables,” “Narnia: The Musical” and “Much Ado About Nothing”

SURROUNDING COUNTIES

Alamance Children's Theatre

PO Box 1893, Burlington 336-222-8497
alamancechildrenstheatre.com
For more than 30 years, the Alamance Children's Theatre (ACT) has presented “quality theater for and by children in Alamance County.” The theater offers workshops and ACTing Up — a summer performing arts camp “planned and directed by ACT's youth Board of Directors' members.”

Number of plays per season: 3
Average ages of participants: 8-18
Notable past productions: “The Sound of Music,” “Shrek the Musical,” “Aladdin Jr.,” “Suessical Jr.,” “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat” and

“Night at the Wax Museum”

Lexington Youth Theatre

221 B S. Main St., Lexington 336-250-3339
lexingtonyouththeatreinc.com
The Lexington Youth Theatre (LYT) gave its first performance in 1985. The theater is unique, as performers consist solely of kindergarten through twelfth-grade students. Backstage crews and technical assistants are also school-age children.

Number of plays per season: 2
Average ages of participants: 5-18
Notable past productions: “Wizard of Oz,” “Mary Poppins,” “Peter Pan,” “Annie,” “West Side Story,” “High School Musical” 1 & 2, “Music Man” and “Tom Sawyer”

Randolph Youth Theater Company

PO Box 2527, Asheboro 336-633-9119
rytc.org
The Randolph Youth Theater Company (RYTC) was formed in 2004 and is an associate member of the Randolph Arts Guild. The organization seeks to interest children between the ages of 8-18 in theatrical activities through productions, workshops and presentations.

Number of plays per season: 3
Average ages of participants: 8-18
Notable past productions: “Wagon Wheels West,” “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever,” “The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe” and “A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court”

Jennifer Bean Bower is a freelance writer from Winston-Salem. Read her Triad Treasures blog on PiedmontParent.com and learn more at jenniferbeanbower.com.



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