

April 2015

Dear PVTC Summer Camp Families,

Welcome to **The Enchanted Forest!** We are planning a fun-filled summer, complete with quests, castles, talking animals, dragons, royalty, magic, and much more. A passionate and talented team of teaching artists and interns are already dreaming about sets, props, costumes, acting games, and special all-camp activities.

Summer is my favorite time of the year at the Children's & Youth Conservatory because students, teaching artists, and interns spend so much concentrated time together. Not only can we achieve a higher level of artistic engagement with students in our summer setting, but we also have time to build friendships that outlast the length of a camp. This year, as we expand our program to include more shows and more opportunities for students all the way from PreK through high school, we are looking forward to quite an adventure. PVTC is committed to providing an excellent experience for all our campers that reaches beyond performance opportunities and design techniques into building lasting relationships, self-confidence, and collaboration skills. We truly hope your child has a magical experience in **The Enchanted Forest** this summer and walks away feeling as though they have been part of something very special.

In the following packet, you will find a plethora of resources, including information about auditions, costumes, tickets, and camp schedules. Please take the time to review this packet and let us know if you have any questions. We have also posted this information on our website at www.pvtc-ca.org, should you want to reference it there.

Along with this packet, each actor is provided with one script. Please be sure that your child puts his/her name on the script immediately. Each day of camp, students need to bring their scripts! After the play, the script is yours to keep.

If you need any other information, please contact us at (650) 851-8282 ext. 105 or info@pvtc-ca.org.

Looking forward to it!

Noëlle GM Gibbs
Director, Children's Conservatory

2015 PARENT PACKET - *SLEEPING BEAUTY*

SCHEDULE

Our camp begins on Monday, July 27th and runs through Friday, August 7th. Each camp day begins at 9:00am and ends at 3:00pm. Students should not arrive earlier than 8:50am without parental supervision or stay past 3:10pm without parental supervision, as our staff is not available to provide care outside of these times. The final day of camp is a half day in order to provide some down-time before the performance that evening. We will dismiss on Friday, August 7th at 12:00pm. We also have a spirit week midway through camp as a fun way of keeping up energy. Dress-up themes are listed on the enclosed calendar.

Performances are:

Thursday, August 6th at 6:00pm (Students arrive at PVTC at 5:00pm)

Friday, August 7th at 6:00pm (Students arrive at PVTC at 5:00pm)

If you have any conflicts with the schedule, please let us know in advance by marking it on the back of the audition form.

WHAT TO BRING ON THE FIRST DAY OF CAMP:

- ❖ *Emergency release form*
- ❖ *Completed ticket form*

WHAT TO BRING EVERY DAY TO CAMP:

- ❖ *Script with your name on it, a few pencils and a highlighter.*
- ❖ *Bottled water, a healthy lunch, and morning and afternoon snacks (Do this everyday!)*
- ❖ *Safe Shoes! We do a lot of movement, so sandals and flip-flops are not appropriate during the four weeks of camp. (Do this everyday!)*
- ❖ *Actors will be given a PVTC Summer Camp 2015 bracelet on the first day of camp. They will need to wear this everyday since it will be used on a daily basis.*
- ❖ *Sun screen & a hat (for warm days).*
- ❖ *A sweater (in case it cools off).*
- ❖ *A change of clothes for water games.*

SIGN-IN/OUT

It is important to sign your child in and out each day. A table will be set up curbside near the parking lot of the theatre, along with announcements and volunteer sign-up listings. **We are unable to provide supervision outside of the 10 minutes before and after camp.** If you need to drop your child off early or pick them up late, we are happy to put you in touch with other camp families to find a solution.

MISSING CAMP

Please make use of the Conflict Calendar on the back of the included Audition Form to notify us of any days during the camp period that you are planning to be away. By letting us know about previously scheduled vacation days, we can best structure camp to benefit as many students as

possible and minimize confusion for parts of rehearsal that a student may miss. This will help reduce your child's stress level, too.

VOLUNTEERING

Portola Valley Children's Theatre Conservatory encourages families to share in the creativity and fun of a production. During the summer program, each family is expected to sign up for at least one volunteer opportunity that assist us either through personal time or supplies. Your help allows for our summer staff to be fully available to our students for any last-minute questions. A sign-up sheet with job descriptions will be emailed out prior to camp.

THE AUDITION PROCESS

Preparing for your audition is as easy as 1-2-3!

Step 1- Fill out your Audition Form. You should bring it with you to the audition. Make sure you've attached a photo that shows your face!

Step 2 - Read the script carefully, along with the character descriptions provided by PVTC to identify your first-choice character.

Step 3- Refer to the audition packet to see what specific material you should prepare to showcase your first-choice character and rehearse for your audition.

Auditions will take place on Wednesday, May 20th. We will send an email reminder about auditions as they approach. Please refer to the audition packet for information on how to prepare for a PVTC summer camp audition.

HOW WE CAST SHOWS

Our casting policy at PVTC is to celebrate the value of every performer. Our directors spend hours carefully casting the show in order to provide each camper with their moment in the spotlight. Naturally, not every child who hopes to be Maleficent or Briar Rose will be cast in that role -which can be a hard thing for young performers to process. However, by reminding your children that the directors will find a way to give every student a featured moment, you can help us make this camp experience a wonderful one!

Actors will be notified of their role by Friday, June 5th. This year we will be posting the cast list online. If your child would prefer to hear from us directly, the camp instructors are happy to contact campers by phone to let them know which character they've been cast as. Your child will be able to indicate if they'd prefer to know their role by phone on their audition form. We are very excited to provide information about the roles, especially because our version of this musical will include fantastic characters that may not appear in the script character list. Again, because we value every performer, we give careful consideration to how we can best fit highlight their strengths

CAMP STRUCTURE

In addition to rehearsing onstage each day, campers rotate through classes in music, dance, acting, prop construction, set design, and costume design. Students also have the opportunity to take special workshops, which have ranged from stage combat to makeup design in the past. Classes are taught by highly experienced teaching artists, or by qualified and passionate college students studying theatre education. Additionally, each camper is a member of a rotation group that is led by a high school or college-aged intern, ensuring that all campers have plenty of one-on-one interaction with instructors.

Each morning, camp begins with a series of theatre games and warm-ups designed to engage the body, voice, and imagination in preparation for the creative work ahead. Between class rotations and rehearsals, we take a morning and afternoon break, as well as a lunch break. The day winds down with an all-camp activity that might be a competition between rotation groups, water balloon toss, or massive game of elbow tag. Our culminating activity is to crown “Kings and Queens of the Day,” a tradition that recognizes campers who have done something truly special that day. Every camper has the opportunity to be royalty once in a camp session.

Week 1 of camp is dedicated to putting the show together; Week 2 is “Tech Week,” when we add all technical elements of the show, like costumes, lights, and final set pieces.

COSTUMES

Each student will be asked to provide basic costume pieces for the show. After auditions, you will receive detailed information regarding your child’s costume based on his or her casting.

TICKETS

We will send out information regarding tickets as camp gets closer. To ensure that each family has equal access to tickets, there will be an 8-ticket cap per performer, including two complimentary tickets. Once each family has had a chance to purchase tickets, any available tickets will be made available on a first-come, first-served basis. **There will not be an online ticketing option this summer.**

FINAL DRESS REHEARSALS & PERFORMANCES

Performances take a lot of energy (as does the adrenaline in a performer’s body!) Please maintain your child’s health by planning to lie low on performance days or keep activities to a minimum.

Thank you for taking time to read through this information! We are eager for the summer to start so that we can all begin enjoying the process of performing *Sleeping Beauty KIDS!*