

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH REPORT

RIVERSIDE
THEATRE

THE RIVERSIDE THEATRE EDUCATION PROGRAM IS COMMITTED TO PROMOTING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO STUDENTS OF ALL AGES BY:

- Transforming lives through the study, exploration, and creation of theatre
- Connecting students to the professional artists, productions, and opportunities at Riverside Theatre
- Creating a nurturing and collaborative environment for all educators, students, parents, and staff
- Producing Quality work for young people and families
- Providing the community with a broad range of educational opportunities that will develop and cultivate tomorrow's artists and audiences while building the skills for today.

OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Through our community Outreach, we conduct no-cost programs at community sites and schools and provide discount tuition for children who are often under served by arts programs. The Theatre reaches local schools with its performance apprentices, who tour shows and conduct in-classroom workshops. The programming is sustained, in part, with revenue from ticket sales and program fees, but could not exist without the support of our generous community.

The arts benefit society by helping to build better citizens. Integrated school curricula improve academic performance and student discipline. Children learn to respect difference in others, develop team-building skills, and learn to make decisions where there are no standard answers. Studies have also shown that children, who are given the training and opportunity to perform, become more confident, handle themselves well in public, are more in tune with their bodies and emotions, and understand discipline and commitment to a project.

SCHOOLSICAL

Bringing the magic of performing directly to your students after school.

Now in its eleventh season, the Schoolsical program produced the show Disney's *The Lion King KIDS* this past season to the highest number of schools yet! Schoolsical is a free after-school residency program that has our professional staff working with students at local schools and youth groups to rehearse their show on site for 6 weeks. The students are then brought to Riverside Theatre for a final tech rehearsal, and one performance on the Stark Stage - a first for the program! Depending on the school's schedule, a teacher or principal may request a performance in the Fall or Spring. This past year, we had Schoolsical residencies for the first time at Dasie Hope Center in Vero Beach and Samuel S. Gaines Academy Of Emerging Technologies in Fort Pierce, and also at returning schools Liberty Magnet, Glendale, and Vero Beach Elementary schools in Vero Beach, Fairlawn Elementary in Fort Pierce, and a group of homeschool



Students performing in the Schoolsical show, Disney's *The Lion King KIDS*, on the Stark Stage.

students from Vero Beach. Altogether, nearly 200 students were able to participate in this program with no cost to their schools - more than DOUBLE the number we usually average! For the 2019-2020 season, Schoolsical will be producing the show *Annie KIDS*, rehearsing on Tuesdays and Thursdays at your school in either the fall or the spring. Our goal for the next school year is to offer this residency to even more students in the Indian River School District!

To schedule your school for one of our limited spots, contact Director of Theatre Education, Kevin Quillinan at KevinQ@riversidetheatre.com.

TOURING SHOWS

Visiting your school with professional performances.

Since 2009, the Riverside Theatre Touring program has been a crucial component of our community outreach. Comprised of 4 early career professional actors, the 3 tours are run in repertory through the school year and, this year, visited more than 30 schools and youth groups in the Indian River and Port St. Lucie School Districts, reaching more than 3,500 different students. This season, we presented three shows in order to reach all age groups: *The Three Little Pigs and Little Red Riding Hood* for grades K-2, *Patchwork* for grades 3-5, and *A Thousand Cranes* for Middle Schools and High Schools. Each show



Performance Apprentices performing in the Touring Show, *The Three Little Pigs & Little Red Riding Hood*, for a local elementary school.

comes with a Study Guide written by the Riverside Theatre education staff which is distributed to the teachers prior to the visit. These study guides are written to align with common core standards on a variety of subjects. The guides offer background on the show; information on the characters, playwrights, cast, and staff; and provide teachers discussion questions and classroom activities appropriate

to their age groups. The Tours are an important part of our mission as they help bring the joy of live theatre to students who may not otherwise get to experience it. For the 2019-2020 school year, we will offer Tours of *The Brave Little Tailor*, *Art Dog*, and *Aesop's Fables*.

To bring one of our tours to your school, contact Director of Theatre Education Kevin Quillinan at KevinQ@riversidetheatre.com or sign up August 3, 2019.

FIELD TRIPS

Providing trips for your classes to Riverside Theatre's youth shows at a reduced ticket price.

Did you know Riverside Theatre offers reduced price tickets for our Student Series shows and our Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA) productions? This year we presented all of our shows in the Stark Stage in order to accommodate more. All of our Student Series field trips sold out quickly, as did a few of our TYA performances. Next year, we will once again be offering our shows on the Stark Stage in order to accommodate even more schools! The first of these shows for school trips will be our TYA production of *Polkadots*, *The Cool Kids Musical* in October followed by our student performances of *Frozen JR* in December and *Beat Bugs* in May 2020. Reserve your spots by contacting the box office as soon as you can- even in the bigger theatre spots fill up fast!

After August 4, 2018, contact our Guest Services Manager, Misti Wlnemiller at MistiW@riversidetheatre.com.

ASTRACHAN THEATRE AWARD ANNUAL PROGRAM

Mission: The Astrachan Theatre Award was devised to provide a select group of high school students with an earned opportunity to attend a professional performance at Riverside Theatre for FREE.

- Reward students for distinguished achievement: Academic, Theatre Arts, Volunteer, Other (TBD by School Administrators)
- Support educators in encouraging and rewarding performance excellence
- Help students develop the "well-rounded experience" essential for success
- Provide an exceptional introduction to professional performing arts
- Instill an interest in the arts, building the supporters, performers, and audiences of tomorrow
- Offer a "Talk-Back" opportunity following the performance with members of the artistic staff and cast

Estimated annual cost is \$25,000, serving up to 1,000 High School students.

FREE COMMUNITY EVENTS

Since 1980, the educational arm of Riverside Theatre has been introducing the performing arts to the children of Indian River County and beyond. With polished productions and intimate storytelling, Riverside seeks to inspire creativity and spark a child's imagination through classes, camps, and workshops.

RT Star, Riverside Theatre's Education mascot, offers a variety of FREE performing arts celebrations for kids throughout the year featuring music and theatre presentations, a variety of outdoor games, face painting, hands-on activities, and more!



RT Star's Big Birthday Party - May 4, 2019



RT Star's Back to School Party - August 3, 2019

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE EDUCATION FOUNDATION OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY



RT Star's Family Festival Night - November 23, 2019



RT Star Celebrates the Arts - January 4, 2020

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CULTURAL COUNCIL



RT Star's Family Festival Night includes "ice" skating, holiday music, snacks, festive decorations, visits with Santa and more!

EDUCATION

CLASSES & CAMPS

Offering quality performing arts instruction to students of all skill levels.

Riverside Theatre Education offers many opportunities for students of most ages to get training from professionals in theatre, dance, and music. These classes are geared to students of all levels and abilities. Throughout the school year, children starting at age 3 are offered classes in a variety of disciplines after school. During the summer of 2018, our Theatre Camps and Workshops were highly attended as was the annual Dance Festival in August, reaching over 300 students throughout the summer. Discount Tuition is available to families in need to help make the classes affordable to all students – we never want cost to prohibit kids from participating in our performing arts classes.

To refer a student to Riverside's after-school theatre classes contact Director of Theatre Education Kevin Quillinan at KevinQ@riversidetheatre.com. For dance classes, contact Director of Dance Education Adam Schnell at AdamS@riversidetheatre.com.

STUDENT SERIES

Building new audiences while providing performance opportunities to students of all ages and abilities.

The Student Series shows are open by audition to anyone aged 8 to 18, whether they have been in the Riverside education programs or not. They are not “just doing a show,” but continue the educational mission of Riverside Theatre. This year, our two Student Series shows were performed on the Stark Stage for the very first time, facilitating our largest audiences ever!

Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas was a world premiere based on the classic Jim Henson TV special. Audiences were engaged with the story as our cast of 34 students were the first kids to tackle this heartwarming show! For our students in the cast, the process honed their storytelling skills and pushed their vocal abilities to new heights. They reveled in the chance to play both the comedic and heartfelt moments in the show, while a few worked with puppets as a nod to its Muppet origins.

In May, the final Student Series show was a musical version of *Junie B Jones*. Featuring two separate casts to involve over 40 kids, the students played to enthusiastic crowds and helped further our mission to build and groom audiences of all ages to hopefully become lifelong theatregoers. Next season's Student Series shows include the Treasure Coast premiere of a musical adaptation of Disney's *Frozen JR* in December, while May 2020 will premiere *Beat Bugs The Musical*, based on the hit Netflix show which incorporates The Beatles classics in a new colorful story.

To share information on auditions with your students, visit riversidetheatre.com/student-auditions.

JUNIOR THEATRE FESTIVAL (JTF)

Enriching students with national theatre opportunities.

Our 11th trip to the Junior Theatre Festival in Atlanta this January saw us continue to bring many students to this event thanks to new fundraising initiatives by Riverside Theatre to keep costs low for all participating students. 34 students ventured to Atlanta for the largest celebration of youth theatre in the country, with over 100 groups from across the globe participating and sharing in the joys of musical theatre. Our students performed the campy classic *Xanadu JR* and won an award for Excellence in Student Choreography by our students Emily Olsson, Cristina Pines, and Xaria Arielle Reason. The students also presented a full concert staging of the show as a fundraiser for the first time in the Waxlax Stage, the weekend before taking it to the JTF. We are planning on doing a similar format next January with the JTF 2020 selection of *Thoroughly Modern Millie JR*, which will be even more exciting as the Riverside Professional Series is doing the full length version of the show in January.

To share information on auditions for the JTF with your students, visit riversidetheatre.com/student-auditions.



Riverside Theatre students perform *Xanadu JR* at the Atlanta Junior Theatre Festival.

THEATRE EXPERIENCES FOR SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

Empowering students of all abilities.

Our staff is continuing to make connections with nationally recognized professionals who specialize in working with children with special needs and who have helped create sensory friendly performances on Broadway with companies like Disney Theatrical. Our goal is to offer a “relaxed performance” of select shows so that students of all abilities can appreciate our stories. We are continuing to reach out to local special needs teachers to explore new ways we can work with their exceptional students and bring theatre into their classrooms.

To discover ways we can work with your exceptional student classes, contact Director of Theatre Education Kevin Quillinan at KevinQ@riversidetheatre.com.

DISCOUNT TUITION

Allowing students from any financial situation to participate in our education programs.

Tuition Discount Applications are accepted year-round between March 1 and January 15 for each upcoming season. Once awarded, discounts may be used throughout the designated season. Discounts range from 25%, 50%, 75%, and 100% based on financial need. Applications may be printed from riversidetheatre.com or picked up at the Box Office or Education Reception desk.

For more information visit www.riversidetheatre.com.

BALLET VERO BEACH PARTNERSHIP

Throughout the year, Riverside Theatre partners with Ballet Vero Beach to produce The Riverside Dance Festival and the youth component of Ballet Vero Beach's Nutcracker on the Indian River. Additionally, as part of the company's own educational outreach initiatives, Ballet Vero Beach offers a free Student Matinée Series and Ticket Donation Program.

Student Matinée Series

Ballet Vero Beach is committed to inspiring the next generation of artists and arts lovers. Each season the company provides two absolutely free student matinée performances. One performance is specifically designed for third grade students, while the other is designed for fourth grade students. The goal of the Student Matinée Series is to provide each and every third and fourth grader living in Indian River County a meaningful professional arts experience each year. The performances are open to all public, private, charter, or home school students, and transportation scholarships are available on a first come, first served basis.

Ticket Donation Program

Ballet Vero Beach seeks to promote the universal language of dance to the broadest spectrum of the population living in our community. To that end, the company provides educational enrichment and free performance tickets to local organizations whose constituents might not ordinarily have access to our programming.

Riverside Dance Festival

Begun in 2012, the Riverside Dance Festival is a unique experience in intensive summer study for ages 10 and up. Students have the opportunity to take daily classes in Ballet and Contemporary Dance from visiting professional dance companies and Riverside's own distinguished faculty. To date companies from New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, and cities across the country have spent two weeks in residence at Riverside Theatre educating festival

students, engaging in community outreach, and presenting public performances.

Nutcracker on the Indian River (Youth Component)

Ballet Vero Beach and Riverside Theatre join forces to bring an extraordinary opportunity to local youth. Aspiring dancers ages 7 to 18 are invited to participate in Ballet Vero Beach's spectacular *Nutcracker on the Indian River*. Young people have the opportunity to take on various roles in the production and share the stage with Ballet Vero Beach's accomplished professional dancers. In an effort to include as many youth as possible, students from Ballet Vero Beach's Ticket Donation Program, Student Matinée Series, and Riverside Theatre Dance Education are eligible. No stage experience is required!

For more information on these programs contact Director of Dance Education Adam Schnell at Adams@riversidetheatre.com.



Production photo from Ballet Vero Beach's *Nutcracker on the Indian River*.

FUNDRAISERS

SPECIAL EVENTS

Vegas Nights (Every Weekend in July)

Riverside Theatre's Orchid lobby is transformed into a Las Vegas-style casino with blackjack, poker, craps and roulette tables for an entertaining evening of chance to benefit Riverside's Discount Tuition Program.

Festival of Trees (November 22-23, 2019)

Considered the premiere start to the holiday season in Vero Beach, the Festival of Trees is a three-day event covering the entire Riverside campus. Starting with a glittering gala on Friday evening, the Festival features a sparkling world of Christmas trees, holiday displays, a Santa's village, choral and children's performances, and a fun night of surprises for the whole family on Saturday.

DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

Donate to Classes

Seventy-four classes and eighteen camps were conducted this Season in Acting, Singing, Music, Dance, and Production for students ages 3 and up. Dance classes culminated with *The Nutcracker* during the first semester with a dance recital at the end of the second.

Several showcase performances, highlighting classroom work in Acting and Musical Theatre, were performed for the students' peers, adults, and families.

Donate to School Tours

The addition of six Performing Apprentices this Season allowed Riverside Theatre On The Go, the Theatre's in-house touring company, to develop its curriculum-based educational theatre offerings free to schools during regular hours or during the schools' afterschool program. Selected shows highlighted current issues and educational topics relevant to the students, such as the issues of bullying and historical education, all based on classic and modern literature. All productions were developed with corresponding workbooks available online.

Donate to Afterschool Programs

This 2018-2019 season was presented to over 3,500 children with performances in Indian River, St. Lucie, and Martin County schools. Schoolsical, Riverside Theatre Education's afterschool enrichment program took place in five schools, garnering statewide recognition for its innovative approach to involving a new populace of children, including those with autism and special needs. Riverside Theatre's Education directors auditioned and rehearsed a musical theatre show at chosen schools, then showcased the children in a public performance at Riverside's Anne Morton Theatre to the students' family and friends.

Donate to Tuition Fund

Discount Tuition Applications have been streamlined to allow a yearly application process, rather than by semester. This allows the family to make plans for the full school year and eliminates the hassle of repeated applications. Families may also register for classes and camps online, using their discount tuition as a reduced form of payment. This ensures privacy and expedites the process of registration. The new discount tuition process has increased the number of new applications, thereby increasing enrollment and participation in the classes and camps. Over \$35K was given in scholarships to 78 students.

Donate to Discount Ticket Fund

Discounted and complimentary tickets to performances at the Children's Theatre were made available through the Theatre's partnerships with social service agencies, such as The Boys and Girls Club, Hibiscus Center, and others. Seventeen schools participated in the reduced price tickets that were given out for five shows as field trips, accommodating 1,243 students. The schools included public and private schools as well as homeschool programs.

\$50,000 as part of the Discounted Tuition Program is given to students to attend classes and camps.

For Special Event and Donation opportunities contact Annamarie LaBella at annamarie.labella@riversidetheatre.com.

RIVERSIDE THEATRE

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