



**where
everyone
is center
stage!**

**2022
summer
programs**

Grades K-12

**WHEELLOCK
FAMILY
THEATRE**

welcome!

We are excited to announce our return to in-person programming for Summer 2022!

At Wheelock Family Theatre (WFT), we are committed to providing high quality, innovative, process-based theatre arts education experiences. WFT fosters student growth, not only in theatre arts skills, but also in essential life skills such as communication, collaboration, critical and creative thinking, and empathy. Rooted in child development, our continuum of theatre arts experiences is designed to embrace the diversity of our students and offer rich learning experiences for all ages and stages.

This summer welcomes back many of our most well-loved class favorites, while also celebrating the launch of a whole line-up of brand new class offerings. Exciting, right?! From *Best of Broadway* to *Shakespeare on the Green*, physical comedy to playwriting, *Treasure Trunk Theatre* to our *Theatre Design Intensive*...at WFT, "Everyone is Center Stage!" - So, what are you waiting for? Come on out and play!

Jeri Hammond

Director of Education



A woman with dark hair, wearing a black t-shirt with white text, is smiling and raising her right hand. She is surrounded by several children, some of whom are also raising their hands. The children are wearing various clothing, including a yellow shirt and a pink headband. The background shows a classroom setting with colorful artwork on the walls.

about us

Our team of professional educators and theatre artists provide a caring and welcoming learning environment where students work together toward common goals and, in so doing, develop a sense of belonging and confidence and discover new things about the world of theatre and also about themselves.

Our mission is to break down barriers so all children are able to fully participate in our programming. Please reach out to learn more about our inclusive education practices for students with disabilities and other learning needs, as well as our sliding scale tuition assistance program designed to make participation within reach for all families.



programs for all ages

These week-long classes book-end our summer and involve students in kindergarten through high school in a program-wide theme.

Puppet Academy

in partnership with Puppet Showplace Theatre

Dive into the wildly creative and interdisciplinary world of puppetry arts! This summer, kids of all ages will have a unique opportunity to learn the secrets of crafting extraordinary characters and bringing them to life on stage and screen. Guided each day by a dream team of professional puppeteers, students will cover a different building and performance technique, from marionettes, to mouth puppets, hand puppets to shadows and much more! We'll learn to see creative inspiration in found objects and materials and to tell stories using movement and "visual vocabulary." Mini performances and fun creative challenges will take place throughout the week, along with performances by veteran puppeteers. No prior puppetry or theater experience is necessary. Join us for a fun and imaginative start to summer vacation! This program does not have a final demonstration.

Under the Big Top: A High Flying Circus

Come one, Come all to the Greatest Show on Earth! We will bring our summer to a rousing finish with a week-long exploration of the theatrical world of the circus. Professional Boston Area Circus artists will lead classes each day in circus skills such as clowning, juggling, tumbling, plate spinning and more! In addition, Wheelock Family Theatre teaching artists will lead classes in physical comedy, musical theatre and movement. All together, making for a three-ring circus of an experience!



programs for grades k-1

Our full-day programs for our youngest students introduce the building blocks of theater, visual arts, and creative play in a fun and supportive environment. Final demonstrations for this age group are the final Friday of the program at 11:30am.

where
creativity
takes center stage

Story Explorers

A week of creative play! Students will work together and use their imaginations, bodies, and voices while exploring the imaginative world of favorite storybooks. The morning will be spent engaging in creative drama and movement and the second half of the day will be our “Afternoon Arts Adventure” - hands-on visual arts projects connected to the theme of the week. Themes this summer are “Book a Trip”, “Appetizing Adventures”, and “Lost & Found.”

Treasure Trunk Theatre **NEW PROGRAM**

Get ready to take an imaginative trip! Inspired by mystery objects found in the treasure trunk, students will head off on a new adventure each day using movement, creative problem-solving, and imaginative play. An engaging theme charts the course for a fun-filled journey. The morning will be spent engaging in creative drama and movement and the second half of the day will be our “Afternoon Arts Adventure” - hands-on visual arts projects connected to the theme of the week. Themes this summer are “On the High Seas” and “Out of this World!”

Music Movers **NEW PROGRAM**

Get ready to move and groove! Students will make their own music exploring rhythm and vocal dynamics such as loud/soft, high/low, and fast/slow. Through creative movement inspired by favorite animals, students will explore different ways of moving in a celebration of self expression. In our “Music Movers” classes, dancing to the beat of your own drum is encouraged! The morning will be spent engaging in music making and movement and the second half of the day will be our “Afternoon Arts Adventure” - hands-on visual arts projects connected to the theme of the week. Themes this summer are “Barneyard Boogie” and “Jurassic Jive”.

programs for grades 2-3

Our 1 and 2 week programs offer an exciting variety! Students will use their Actor's Tools to create characters who tell stories through acting, singing, dancing, and design! Demonstrations for all classes in this age group are on the final Friday of the program at 2:00pm.

Characters Take the Stage

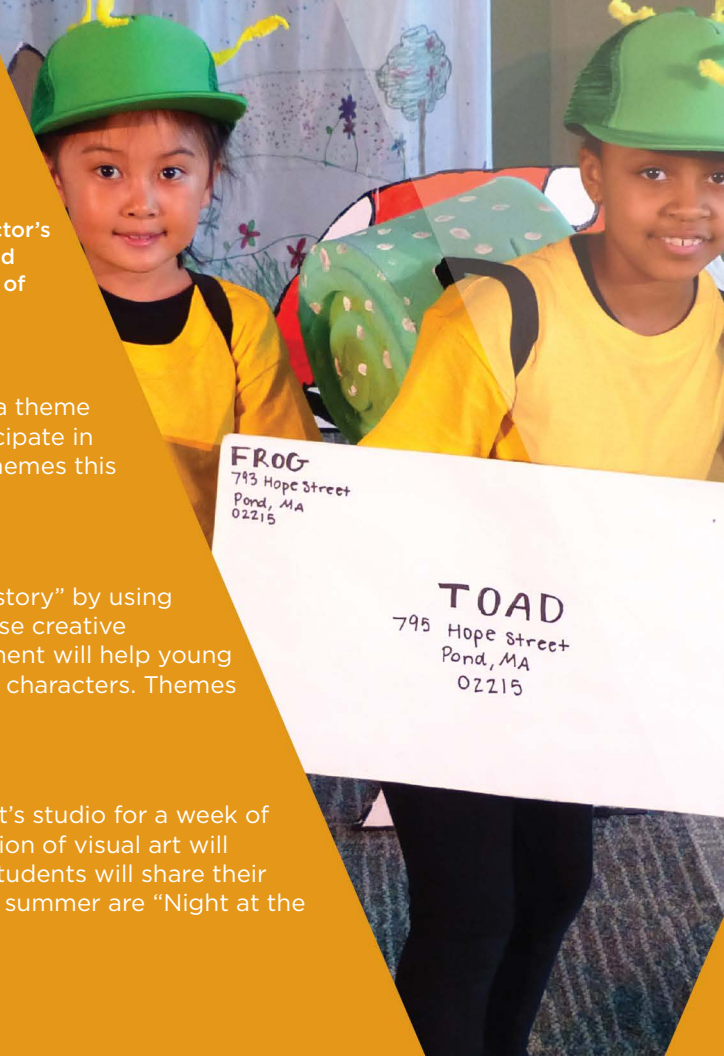
A fun and physical introduction to the building blocks of drama. With a theme selected to spark and support the creative process, students will participate in movement exercises, story reenactments, theatre games, and more! Themes this summer are "Comic Capers" and "Courageous Quests".

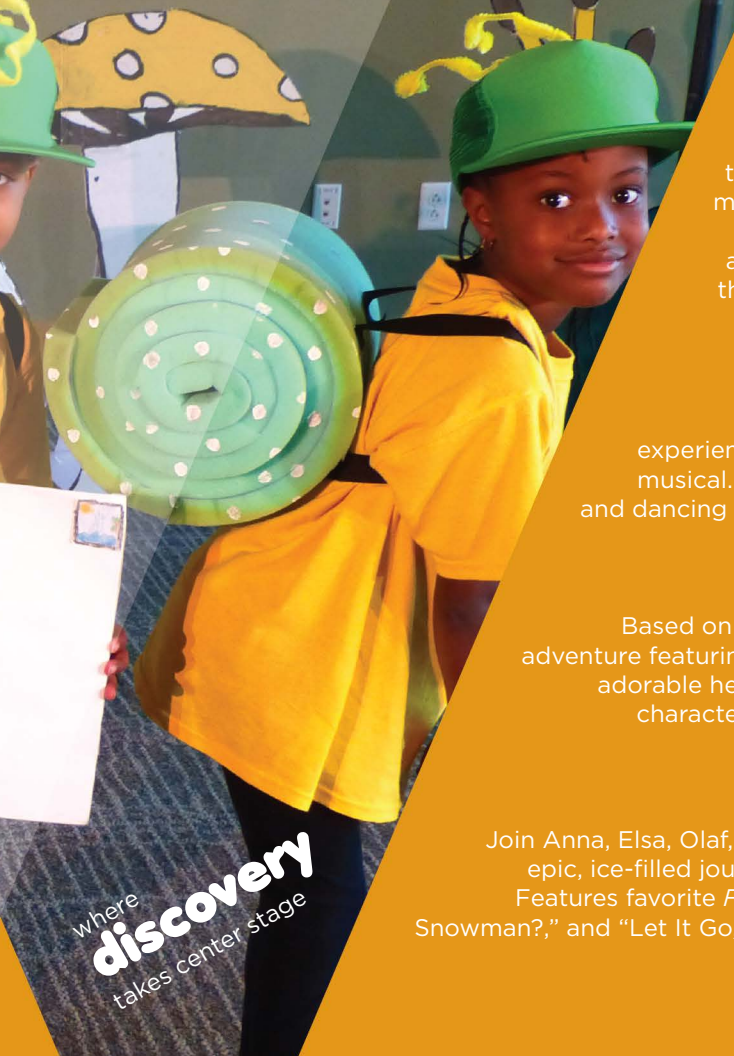
Sing & Dance a Story

Inspired by favorite musical adaptations, students will learn to "sing a story" by using appropriate vocal technique. They will "dance a story" by learning to use creative movement to bring a story to life. Learning how to use creative movement will help young actors feel more confident on stage and develop physically interesting characters. Themes this summer are "On Land & On Sea" and "Unlikely Heroes".

Arts Alive! **NEW PROGRAM**

Students will let their unique artistry out to play as they enter the artist's studio for a week of creative self-expression in this new class offering. A hands-on exploration of visual art will provide the spark for a series of drama experiences and much more! Students will share their newfound skills and masterpieces on the last day of class. Themes this summer are "Night at the Museum", "Out of the Box", and "Shoebox Theatre".





Play Production Jr. **TWO WEEK PROGRAM**

Sparked by the wacky and wonderfully silly fractured fairy tales in this collection, students will develop characters through improvisation, movement and vocal exercises to bring an original scripted story to life.

In addition, they will learn about the behind-the-scenes work (design and create set pieces, costumes, and props) for a final presentation on the last day of class. This summer's play is "The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales".

Mini Musical **TWO WEEK PROGRAM**

A fast-paced intensive program for young people with previous stage experience. In two weeks, students will work together to perform a 30-minute musical. While working on this musical, they will advance their acting, singing, and dancing skills while also learning more about production elements such as set, props, costumes, and sound and light design. There are two sessions.

Session I: *Disney's 101 Dalmations KIDS*

Based on the classic animated film, *Disney's 101 Dalmations KIDS* is a fur-raising adventure featuring Cruella De Vil, Disney's most outrageous villain, and 101 of the most adorable heroes to set their paws onstage. With a high-spirited score and lovable characters, this stage adaptation is certain to charm and delight all audiences.

(from MTIshows.com)

Session II: *Disney's Frozen KIDS*

Join Anna, Elsa, Olaf, Sven, and all of your favorite *Frozen* characters as they embark on an epic, ice-filled journey of self-discovery, camaraderie, and the real meaning of true love.

Features favorite *Frozen* songs such as "Love Is an Open Door," "Do You Want to Build a Snowman?," and "Let It Go," as well as heart warming new songs from the Broadway production.

(from MTIshows.com)

where
discovery
takes center stage

programs for grades 4-8

Our 1-week and 2-week full-day programs for students in grades 4-8 introduce specialty skills and continue to build on the fundamentals of drama through a variety of theatrical styles. Demonstrations for 1-week & 2-week programs in this age group are on the final Friday of the program at 3:00pm unless otherwise noted.

Make ‘Em Laugh: Comedy on Stage

What makes something funny? Learn about the structure of comedy and how comedic actors create characters, develop comic timing, and make big and bold choices — all designed to connect with an audience in a way that makes ‘em laugh!

Musical Theatre: Movie Musicals & Best of Broadway

An action-packed, one-week journey through scenes, song and dance numbers from popular musicals of stage and screen! With an emphasis on developing strong ensemble skills, this class engages all three of the student’s musical theatre skills: acting, singing, and dancing!

Making a Scene: Devising, Writing, Acting

Students will put their acting skills to work as they rehearse short scenes with fellow classmates. Students will focus on understanding the meaning and given circumstances of a scene, as well as their character’s objective. Taking direction and receiving feedback will be an important part of the work as well.





Thank you for being a kind
and very fun place where I
was understood for who I was.

WFT STUDENT

Playwriting

Creating Five Minute Plays. A concise introduction to the playwriting process. Students will explore the most effective way to tell stories through exploration of the basic elements of drama (action, character, conflict, dialogue). Students will build on initial ideas through improvisation, develop short scripts, then produce and perform their original works.

Stage Combat: Famous Fictional Fights

Spotlights techniques for safely and realistically creating dangerous battles and heroic struggles. Emphasizes the combination of physical and mental discipline needed for memorable clashes onstage!

Activate Your Voice:

Through exercises and preliminary scene work, actors will connect the voice to posture, gesture, and full-body movement to create clear characters on stage and apply this work to monologues and scenes. Students will also be introduced to a variety of dialects. Whether you are new to the stage or a seasoned pro, continued voice work is the foundation of any actor's process.

where
imagination
takes center stage

summer 2022	June 20-24 4-day week	June 27-July 1	July 5-8 4-day week	July 11-15
grades k-1	all ages Puppet Academy (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$360/week or \$90/day	Story Explorers: Book a Trip (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	Treasure Trunk Theatre: On the High Seas (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$360	Story Explorers: Appetizing Adventures (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450
grades 2-3		Arts Alive!: Night at the Museum (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	Characters Take the Stage: Comic Capers (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$360	Sing & Dance-a-Story: Unlikely Heroes (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450
			Play Production Jr.: The Stinky Cheeseman & Other Fairly Stupid Tales (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$765	
grades 4-5		Activate Your Voice (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	Stage Combat: Famous Fictional Fights (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$360	Musical Theatre: Best of Broadway (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450
			Play Production: Mythic Quests (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$765	
grades 4-8			Musical Theatre Production: Mary Poppins Jr. (9am to 3:30pm) <i>Final performance on Thursday, July 21 at 7PM</i>	
grades 6-8		Activate Your Voice (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	Make 'em Laugh: Comedy on Stage (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$360	Musical Theatre: Hollywood Blockbusters (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450
grades 6-12			Theatre Design Intensive I (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition \$850 <i>Previous experience suggested but not required</i>	
			Shakespeare on the Green: Title TBA (12 to 6:30pm) Tuition: \$765 <i>Final performance on 7/15 at 7pm</i>	
grades 9-12		Musical Theatre Showcase: Journeys Untold (12pm to 6:30pm) Tuition: \$765 <i>Final performance on Friday, July 8 at 7PM</i>		

July 18-22	July 25-29	August 1-5	August 8-12	August 15-19
Music Movers: Barnyard Boogie (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	Treasure Trunk Theatre: Out of this World (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	Story Explorers: Lost & Found (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	Music Movers: Jurassic Jive (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	<div>all ages</div> <div>Under the Big Top: A High Flying Circus (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450</div>
Arts Alive!: Out of the Box (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	Sing & Dance-a-Story: On Land & On Sea (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	Characters Take the Stage: Courageous Quests (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	Arts Alive!: Shoebox Theatre (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	
Mini Musical: Disney’s 101 Dalmations KIDS (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$850		Mini Musical: Disney’s Frozen KIDS (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$850		
Make ’em Laugh: Comedy on Stage (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	Musical Theatre: Hollywood Blockbusters (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	Playwriting (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	Making a Scene: Devising, Directing, Acting (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	
Play Production: Wizarding Worlds (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$850				
) Tuition: \$1120				
Stage Combat: Famous Fictional Fights (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	Musical Theatre: Best of Broadway (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	Making a Scene: Devising, Directing, Acting (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	Playwriting (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$450	
	Theatre Design Intensive II (9am to 3:30pm) Tuition: \$1200 <i>Previous experience suggested but not required</i>			
Shakespeare on the Green: Title TBA (12 to 6:30pm) Tuition: \$850 <i>Final performance on 7/29 at 7pm</i>				
		Advanced Performance Intensive (12pm to 6:45pm) Tuition: \$850 for students in Grades 8 to 12 by audition only <i>Final Performance on Friday, August 12 at 7pm</i>		

programs for grades 4-8

Play Production

TWO WEEK PROGRAM

A chance to experience the whole production experience from beginning to end! Students will design, produce, and perform a short, one-act play inspired by popular book series. In this two week program, students will spend part of each day developing and rehearsing the one-act while also building individual and ensemble acting skills. In the afternoons, students will receive instruction from visiting theatre design artists, and try their hand at technical theatre elements such as prop, set and costume design. This summer's themes are "Mythic Quests" and "Wizarding Worlds".

The Summer sessions were so good,
my children had an incredible time.
We're all still reliving the countless memories and
look forward to participating in future classes!

WFT PARENT





where
camaraderie
takes center stage

Musical Theatre Production

Focuses on coordinating the instruments of voice and body to create dynamic musical characters. In this 3-week program, students will participate in classes on acting, dancing, singing and puppetry each morning, while spending each afternoon applying those to the rehearsal of a musical production. This program is open to anyone interested in deepening their musical theatre experience. The program will culminate in a Thursday evening performance the final week. There are two sessions.

Session I: *Mary Poppins Jr.*

Based on one of the most popular Disney movies of all time and the Broadway musical that played for over 2,500 performances and received multiple Olivier and Tony Awards nominations, Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's *Mary Poppins* is capturing hearts in a whole new way: as a practically perfect Broadway Junior musical!

(from MTIshows.com)

Session II: *Shrek Jr.*

Once upon a time, in a far away swamp, there lived an ogre named Shrek. One day, Shrek finds his swamp invaded by banished fairytale misfits who have been cast off by Lord Farquaad, a tiny terror with big ambitions. When Shrek sets off with a wisecracking donkey to confront Farquaad, he's handed a task — if he rescues feisty princess Fiona, his swamp will be righted. Shrek tries to win Fiona's love and vanquish Lord Farquaad, but a fairytale wouldn't be complete without a few twists and turns along the way.

(from MTIshows.com)

programs for grades 6-12

These multi-week programs provide opportunities for our oldest students to pursue (or discover) a passion for classical theatre and theatre design.

Theatre Design Intensive

A dynamic immersion in the theatre crafts that are vital to professional stage productions for students in grades 6-12. This three-week course balances theory with practical experience through the study of scenic, prop, costume, lighting, and sound design. Students will work with WFT's professional technical staff to design and build technical elements for our performance based programming. (Two three-week sessions)

I had a wonderful time this summer in the Theatre Design Intensive. It was truly a great experience for me.

WFT STUDENT





where
craft
takes center stage



No matter what she pursues in life from this point, this experience of learning what's involved in carrying one's imagination into reality will remain with her. It's hard to express how grateful we are for that.

WFT PARENT

Shakespeare on the Green

NEW TWO WEEK PROGRAM

In the tradition of *Shakespeare in the Park*, students in this two-week program will perform an abridged version of a Shakespearean drama or comedy on the WFT@BU Green.

Over the course of the two weeks, this class will decode the sometimes perplexing language of Shakespeare to help students find meaning, humor, and more behind the words. Students will delve into some of the Bard's most famous scenes and characters, making connections with their own experiences. Families are invited to bring a blanket or lawn chair and join us on the Green for a classic tale of mischief, mishap and magic. The program culminates in a Thursday evening performance the final week.

programs for grades 9-12

Our 2-week performance based programs for students in grades 9-12 are designed to challenge experienced students to take the next step in their training as young performers.

Musical Theatre Showcase: Journeys Untold

Find your own voice through song. Together, we will develop a musical theatre song cycle woven together with monologues and storytelling that tells a unique and compelling story. Through collaboration and small ensemble work, we will discover lesser-known composers/musical theatre shows, as a way to spark our artistic voice and tell untold stories. Previous musical theatre experience recommended. We will culminate the two weeks with an original musical theatre showcase on Friday, July 8 at 7pm.

This is my child's first theater class and we are so impressed by WFT's positive approach, creativity and your commitment to inclusivity and access.

WFT PARENT





Not only has WFT taught me about acting, singing, and dancing, it has also taught me to take risks and improve my confidence.

WFT STUDENT

Advanced Performance Intensive: Teen Intensive: Raising the Bar Exploring the Actor's Process

AUDITION REQUIRED

This program is designed for teens entering high school with prior training and performance experience committed to deepening their acting skills and knowledge of the craft. Through challenging exercises in vocal, movement, and character work and exploration of scenes from outstanding plays, students will experience the actor's process in depth. This unique theatre program culminates in a public showcase! AUDITION REQUIRED. Visit our website for more information.

where
passion
takes center stage

frequently asked questions

How many students are in each class?

Class sizes range from 8-25 students depending on the age group, content, and number of teachers and assistants in the class. Class size maximums are strictly enforced to ensure the best possible learning environment for your student. Register early to secure your spot. All classes are subject to cancellation if minimum enrollment is not met.

Who are the faculty?

All of our faculty are professional educators and artists. Our teaching artists work all over Greater Boston with institutions such as Actors' Shakespeare Project, Boston University, Emerson College, Lesley University, New Repertory Theatre, Wellesley Rep and our very own mainstage acting company, among others. We regularly run background checks on all faculty.

What should I bring to class?

Students in all classes should wear clothes and shoes they are comfortable jumping, crawling, and rolling in. Additionally, some classes include messy art projects. Students should bring a lunch, water bottle, and two small snacks (one for mid-morning and one for mid-afternoon). Students do not have access to a refrigerator or a way to warm food. Please note: to ensure the safety of all of our students, we have a strict no-nut policy for both peanuts and tree-nuts (including hazelnut products such as Nutella) and products that "may contain" peanuts and tree-nuts. Younger students will take quiet time after lunch and are encouraged to bring a favorite toy, book and a blanket.

What if my student wants to be in a younger or older class?

We understand that some students thrive in an environment including students either younger or older than their peer group. Please reach out to the WFT Education staff if you would like to discuss your child's placement.

Is there a play at the end of class?

The majority of our programs end in demonstrations and not performances. These sharings usually take place in your student's classroom and are an opportunity to showcase the skill building that has occurred over the course of the program. Those programs that end in a more formal final performance are noted in the summer grid and descriptions.

Is there tuition assistance available?

Yes! WFT has never turned away a student from our classes for the inability to pay tuition. For information: wheelockfamilytheatre.org/education/tuition-assistance

Can I drop off my student early?

Beforecare is available starting at 8am and costs \$10/day or \$50/week. You can sign-up for this online or by calling a member of the WFT Education staff.

Can I pick-up my student late?

Aftercare is available for all full-day programs ending at 3:30pm. Aftercare ends at 5pm and costs \$15/day or \$75/week. Please note this is structured free-time supervised by WFT staff. The theatre will provide art activities, games, and play age-appropriate movies or television series. Students are also encouraged to bring a favorite book, toy, or game to play. You can sign-up for this online or by calling a member of the WFT Education staff.

How does pick up and drop off work?

Drop off and pick up occur along Pilgrim Road behind the Theatre. A comprehensive guide to our pickup and dropoff procedures is available on our website. If your child needs to leave early from class, you must pick them up from the classroom door regardless of grade. Please refer to additional instructions in welcome emails sent prior to the start of each program.

How do you ensure child safety?

There is nothing more important to us than the well-being of the young people we serve. In support of that priority, we have created a comprehensive set of practices designed to keep children safe. Those practices have worked for our young actors and for all of our organization's participants; they continue to be a centerpiece of our culture and our day-to-day activities. This is an area where we will never say "enough" but will instead strive to be better today than we were yesterday and even better tomorrow. Among the key elements of our protections:

- Mandatory background checks, including criminal history and the national sex offender database, for every paid position prior to starting work and on an ongoing basis;
- A "rule of 3" so that no staff should ever be alone with a student in a private space;
- Socializing with children outside of scheduled rehearsals, performances, classes, or WFT-sanctioned professional activities is strictly limited;
- We are a mandatory reporting organization, which means any staff member must report any suspicion or knowledge of abuse or neglect.

For most updated Covid-19 protocols:
wheelockfamilytheatre.org/education/policies/

wheelockfamilytheatre.org



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