



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **CATCO is Kids Summer 2020 Theatre Camp Sessions Go Virtual June 29**

### *Camps available for ages 8-18*

CATCO is Kids today announced registration is open for its **virtual** summer 2020 theatre camp sessions, which begin June 29, 2020. Classes and camps use theatrical techniques to reinforce values, empathy, and understanding, as well as important life lessons, while providing children with the chance to explore their creative side.

More than 750 kids participate in CATCO is Kids' camps and classes annually, resulting in more than 13,000 hours of interaction with performing arts educators.

“While this year’s sessions are in a new format, as in previous years, parents can count on CATCO is Kids to provide enriching and engaging theatrical experiences for central Ohio kids,” said Andrew Protopapas, CATCO’s interim education director. “Our virtual summer offerings will be consistent with the kind of creative, quality instruction that is synonymous with CATCO is Kids.”

Each week covers a different theme and will end with a short showcase or presentation of what the students worked on or created throughout the week. This showcase or presentation will be recorded via Zoom and shared with registrants at a later date.

Weekly camps for kids ages 8-12 will be held 1 p.m.-3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Sessions will be capped at 14 campers each. Costs are \$125 per student per week; \$425 per student for a four-week flex experience; and \$575 per student for all six weekly sessions.

CATCO is Kids also will offer a two-week Virtual Teen Intensive camp for campers ages 13-18. The camp will run from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday through Friday, with a 30-minute break for lunch. The cost is \$400 per student.

CATCO is Kids is waiving the \$25 registration fee for virtual camp offerings this summer; however, all tuition sales are final unless minimum enrollment is not reached, in which case, that particular session will be cancelled and refunds will be issued. The registration link can be found at:

<https://www.catco.org/summer-camps/>

Theatre camp instructors will include Protopapas and Krista Lively Stauffer, CATCO is Kids' artist educator. Protopapas, who enjoys acting, directing, and writing for the stage. Earlier this season, he directed CATCO is Kids' production of *Press Start!* and *Alice in Wonderland JR*. Other directing credits at CATCO is Kids include *Babe*, *The Sheep-Pig*, *Garfield: The Musical With Catitude*, and *A Seussified Christmas Carol*. Acting credits at CATCO and CATCO is Kids include *Breaking The Code*; *A Christmas Carol*; *Peter and the Starcatcher*; *Master Class*; *Jungle Book*; and *Honk!* Acting credits at other central Ohio theatres include *Les Misérables*; *Company*; and *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*.

Lively Stauffer is a graduate of Otterbein University's Theatre Department, and a local professional actor on stage and screen. A casting associate/in-house artist with Boxland Media, Krista has been seen and heard in several commercials and voice-overs. Some of her favorite stage credits include *Avenue Q* (Kate/Lucy), *Sunday in the Park with George* (Nurse/Harriet/Mrs.), and *She Kills Monsters* (Agnes). Krista directs CATCO is Kids' Saturday Morning Musical experiences.

Below is a listing of 2020 virtual camps and dates:

### **Virtual Camps (ages 8-12)**

**June 29-July 3 – Playwriting Bootcamp** – Working with industry professionals, students will learn the basics of story building, create a class play, and discover the triumphs and challenges of playwriting.

**July 20-24 – Improv Adventures** – Hilarity is bound to ensue in this class where students will learn the rules and comedic strategies of improvisation.

**July 27-31 – Welcome to My Wicked World** – The worlds of heroes and villains collide in this camp where students will learn original choreography and explore the excitement of acting through scenes inspired by the Disney's Descendants films.

**August 3-7 – Be Our Guest** – It is with deepest pride and greatest pleasure that we invite you to learn original choreography and learn the basics of acting through scenes inspired by Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*.

**August 10-14 – All the World's a Stage** – There's a lot more to theatre than acting on a stage. In this camp, students will learn the fundamentals of stagecraft by exploring set design, lighting, costuming, props, and other areas that bring a play to life.

**August 17-21 – You're a Wizard** – If you have been waiting for your letter from a particular school of magic, wait no longer. Students will explore acting through the wizarding world's untold stories in this spellbinding camp.

### **Teen Virtual Intensive (ages 13-18)**

**July 6-10; July 13-17** – In this two-week intensive program, which will be capped at 16, middle and high school students, will gain the skills they need to be well-rounded performers and succeed in the audition room and on stage. Students will receive individual monologue coaching, vocal coaching, dance fundamentals training, and will participate in one combined production number from a recent Broadway hit.

Students will also have sessions with guest industry professionals on a variety of topics such as self-taping. CATCO will record student monologues, songs, and choreography to create a virtual showcase that will be shared with parents and students at a later date. Students will leave this camp with an audition package ready for use and audition footage that can be used in the future as a filmed audition package. Students will work with Artist Educators Que Jones, Heidi Kok, and Lively Stauffer.

CATCO and CATCO is Kids' 35th season is sponsored by support from The Ohio Arts Council, which helps fund the theatre with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, education excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans, and supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

CATCO also appreciates the support of the Bernhart J. Mertz and Barbara B. Coons funds of The Columbus Foundation, assisting donors and others in strengthening our community for the benefit of all of its citizens, and the Greater Columbus Arts Council, supporting the city's artists and arts organizations since 1973. Other supporters include The Shubert Foundation Inc. and Nationwide Insurance Foundation.

CATCO and CATCO is Kids' season sponsor is L Brands; presenting sponsor is the Columbus Metropolitan Library. CATCO is Kids' presenting partner is The City of Columbus Recreation and Parks; media partner is WOSU Public Media. For more information, visit [catco.org](http://catco.org).

### **About CATCO**

CATCO is central Ohio's professional Equity theatre company, providing quality theatre and educational programs for all ages with CATCO is Kids, CATCO's imaginative, captivating theatre program for central Ohio's young theatre lovers and their families. Together, the theatres have adopted an innovative strategy, building creative alliances that can sustain growth and development.

### **CATCO Mission Statement**

Theatre is a shared experience that illuminates the mysteries of our humanity. Its magic has the power to transform us whether on stage, in the classroom or in our diverse communities. CATCO creates theatre that delights, challenges, and transports. For more information, visit [catcoistheatre.org](http://catcoistheatre.org).

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