

## BRAND NEW TO STAGE KIDS?

Welcome! We are so glad you're here—and we're here to help! You can find lots of information about Stage Kids at [www.stagekidswa.org](http://www.stagekidswa.org), but the best way to stay informed is to subscribe to our e-newsletter and follow us on Facebook and Instagram @StageKidsWA. You can reach out to us anytime at [info@stagekidswa.org](mailto:info@stagekidswa.org) or 509-663-6996.

## Why Stage Kids?

If you're reading this, you probably already know that participation in performing arts is one of the most impactful investments you can make in your child's wellbeing and development. Research shows that participation in performing arts opportunities improves a child's sense of self and self-confidence; it helps them develop a growth mindset as they are positively encouraged to practice resilience and creative problem-solving; it trains them in what good teamwork looks like—embracing diversity of skills and perspectives; it improves their academic and social-emotional outcomes; and it increases an appreciation for arts and culture as well as civic engagement.

But you already knew all that! Perhaps what you don't know is that, for the very reasons above, Stage Kids' mission is not performing arts; our mission is to equip your child with life skills, character, and relationships for a bright future. The performing arts are simply our incredibly fun, incredibly effective medium for doing so!

## Our Programs

Stage Kids' programs are offered year-round and include performing arts opportunities for kids ages 4-19.

- **CLASSES:** Education is the core of Stage Kids' programs—this is where kids develop most! That's why participation in a Stage Kids class is a requirement for being in a show. Classes are primarily geared toward kids 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade, but we sometimes have classes for preK-2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders, too. Classes generally take place once per week and last 45-120 minutes, depending on the class. Classes run for 6, 7 or 8 weeks (depending on the class) and are offered each winter (Jan-Feb), spring (Apr-May), and fall (Sep-Oct).
  - Our Intro to Theater-1 Class is the best place to start if you are new to Stage Kids! Enrollment in or completion of Intro to Theater-1 is required in order to participate in a show, and Intro to Theater-1 and -2 are typically prerequisites for taking other elective Stage Kids classes. Stage Kids is an educational organization first and foremost. Our desire is to see kids grow in skills and character. The knowledge and abilities kids develop in Stage Kids classes will enhance their growth and experience during Stage Kids shows, and also help them develop life skills which they will use off of the stage.
  - Elective Classes are for those Stage Kids who have completed Intro to Theater-1 and -2, and want to continue enjoying the exciting variety of theater classes we consistently offer, as well as fulfill the class requirement to participate in a show. Our elective topics include a wide range of theater subjects (i.e. dance, sewing, acting, prop construction, stage makeup, voice, set building, puppetry, etc.)
  - Performance Classes (i.e. "Showstoppers") offer kids the opportunity to perform a dedicated ensemble role in a Spotlight Production! They learn their roles in a class format (once per week), but do participate in tech/show week as their hard work is incorporated into the show. This is a great "preparatory" step for kids (and parents!) who are looking forward to being in the cast of a Spotlight Production as it eases them into the commitment of rehearsals 2-3x/week, rehearsing at home, parent volunteer hours, etc.
- **SHOWS:** Stage performances provide kids with the opportunity to apply what they learn in Stage Kids classes. These experiences are only possible with the help of parent volunteers and the whole Stage Kids community coming together to make it happen! Coming up in 2025, we are planning on these show offerings:
  - Spring Spotlight Show for kids in 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade (March - May)
  - Summer Teen Show for kids 13-19 years old (July)
  - Fall Spotlight Show for kids in 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade (September - October)
- **SUMMER CAMPS:**
  - Our 5- or 6-day Showcase Camps for preK-8<sup>th</sup> graders are another great way to get an introduction to Stage Kids, where kids have a blast with arts activities, games, and crafts while learning the fundamentals of theater, vocal projection/singing, and choreographed movement. Camp culminates with a "showcase" performance for family and friends!
  - Our 10-day Production Camps for 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders give kids a condensed opportunity to learn to perform a dedicated role in a full stage musical theater production put up in just a week-and-a-half! Kids not only learn their assigned parts, but also work together to create props, costumes and set pieces. Ticketed performances take place on the final Friday of the camp.