



The Backyard Theatre Company

The Steinbach Arts Council would like to welcome you to another exciting year with the Backyard Theatre Company sponsored by The Steinbach Arts Council.

Our Board of Directors, Staff and Volunteers are very excited about our studios and classes - there are a few important details and reminders as we start the season:

The Backyard Theatre Company's Goals for this Season

- Build your confidence and explore your creativity
- Participate actively in the Southeastern Music Festival and community events
- Have fun! Develop strong theatre skills and build community partnerships

Meet Our Creative Team



Jeremy Plett – Artistic Director



Alan Fehr – Director

2020-2021 Season Schedule

No Classes December 22, 29 and March 30

*Dramatic Discovery, The Actor's Studio, The Audition and The Young Company will not run on October 27, 2020.

Class	Age	Location	Time	Dates
Acting Out!	5-8	Studio B	6:45pm - 7:30 pm	Sep 15 – April 21
Dramatic Discovery	9-11	SCU Studio	5:00pm – 6:00pm	Sep 15 – April 27*
The Actor's Studio	10-12	SCU Studio	6:15pm - 7:15pm	Sep 15 – April 27*
The Audition	12-15	SCU Studio	7:15pm – 8:30pm	Sep 15 – April 27*
The Young Company	16+	SCU Studio	8:30pm - 9:30pm	Sep 15 – April 27*

Parent Advisory Committee

- a. This committee will represent the parents and oversee the program activities, with specific attention to the Christmas and year end shows. They will receive feedback and offer direction to make this year productive and successful.
- b. If you are interested in serving on this Committee in the winter, call Roxie, Administrative Assistant at (204) 346-1077 or email roxie@steinbacharts.ca.
- c. **Due to COVID, the parent committee will not be running in the fall term.** The committee may be run in the winter depending on the final production.

Attendance

- a. Students are requested to attend all classes and be on time for class.
- b. If a child has several absences, it is at the discretion of the Instructors if they will be allowed to participate in performances (ie. Festival & Showcase). Speak to the Instructor in advance if there will be times of absence.
- c. Students should stay home when experiencing symptoms, even if the symptoms are mild. Please contact the office in by 2 pm on the day of the class if student is unable to attend.
- d. By signing into class, students and parents will indicate that they have self screened according to public health recommendations.

Southeastern Manitoba Festival

- a. We encourage everyone to participate in this Festival! It is a celebration of the arts and provides wonderful performance and learning opportunities. The two senior groups of Backyard Theatre are entered into Festival to perform group plays created and learned during their lesson classes.
- b. We encourage all students of other classes to participate as well. Individuals can enter to complete monologues and spoken poetry; duos, trios, and individuals can enter to do short skits, plays, etc.. Please ask, Jeremy or Alan about the Festival and how you can get involved.
- c. Festival dates, times and locations subject to change due to COVID.

Boots and Shoes students are required to remove outer footwear before entering studios.

- a. Students are required to remove outer footwear before entering studios
- b. NO OUTDOOR SHOES AND BOOTS TO BE WORN IN CLASS. Leave all outer boots at BACK entrance during the winter/spring season. During fall/dry season, they may bring their shoes into the studios and leave them on the rug runners. BRING INDOOR SHOES OR ATTEND CLASS IN SOCKS.
- c. **No bare feet please.** Thanks for helping to protect our specialized studio floors.

Schedule/Classes

- a. Classes may be changed to best accommodate size and interest; students will be notified of changes by phone and/or email in advance.
- b. There are no classes on December 22,29 and March 30. Dramatic Discovery, Actor's Studio, The Audition and Young Company will not have class on October 27, 2020.
- c. Storm dates/sick days are scheduled within the 28-week schedule; 25 classes are guaranteed. Make up classes will be scheduled by SAC.
- d. The Backyard Theatre Calendar will be issued to everyone at start of season.

Observation Classes

- a. Only on scheduled days, parents may attend with the following conditions upon speaking to the instructors for approval:
*No in & out of class allowed *No talking/visiting * No disruptive siblings *Please note that due to COVID we may chose to not include any observation classes this year *May view from inside studios, on lower level in Studio A, on chairs in Studio B
- b. Please note: Due to COVID, there will be no observation classes this year. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. This policy is subject to change based on Public Health recommendation.

Registration

- a. Space is secured upon receipt of payment; a payment plan option is accepted with post-dated cheques which **must accompany each registration form along with volunteer & fundraising cheques or payment in order to be enrolled**. Cash, cheque, debit, or credit card for one-time payments.
- b. Regarding the payment plan, the first half of the BTC Class fee, administration fee and membership fee are due during registration, the second half of the registration fee is due November 18, 2020
- c. A \$25 volunteer waiver is required at the time of registration dated April 6, 2021. Once volunteering duty (4 hours) is complete, the \$25 cheque will be void/shredded. If you choose not to volunteer, \$25 will be collected at time of registration.
- d. Due to COVID, there is a maximum number of students that will be allowed in each class. There will be no registrations taken after this point, although a waiting list will be made in case of withdrawals

Bring a Friend!

- a. Students may bring a friend during September at no cost to encourage numbers.
- b. Please note that this rule is subject to change due to COVID, and the request to bring a friend must be put through the office

Class changes/cancellations

SAC friendly policy allows student to try the class for 3 weeks; if not suitable, class fees will be refunded

NO REFUNDS AFTER SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

- a. In case of injury or long-term illness, refunds will be made for remaining classes with a medical note
- b. The membership fee and administration fee are non refundable
- c. Classes with insufficient numbers will be cancelled and all fees will be refunded
- d. Classes cancelled by the Steinbach Arts Council will result in a refund of all fees

Fundraising/Volunteering

- a. All families are required to participate in the theatre's fundraising project and requested to sell/purchase a minimum of **\$300** for the chosen fundraiser by SAC; a \$50 cheque post-dated April 1, 2021 is collected at registration. Once the participation is complete, the cheque is void/shredded. Those wishing not to participate may pay the \$50 waiver at time of registration.
- b. The Fundraising Campaign will be announced in Winter 2021.

Volunteer Duties

- a. Each student/family is required to volunteer in some capacity within the theatre year. This could include fundraising, costumes, costume buyers, etc.
- b. A \$25 volunteer waiver is required at the time of registration dated April 1, 2021. Once four hours of volunteering have been completed, the \$25 cheque will be void/shredded. If you choose not to volunteer, \$25 will be collected at time of registration.

Facility

- a. Washrooms are located near the front entrance. Please leave outside shoes and boots at the back entrance during snow, or wet weather.
- b. SAC is not responsible lost or damaged items; there is a Lost & Found box at the back door.
- c. Fire exit routes will be practiced during first month of classes with instructor.
- d. Absolutely no outdoor shoes in studio allowed.
- e. Parking – in outside lot (suggested towards the back-entrance area for back door access) or on the street. Parking along the fence on the east end of the parking lot is reserved for Staff only.
- f. Due to COVID, the water fountain is not available for use. Students are welcome to bring their own water bottles for individual use.

Zero Tolerance

- a. Bullying, harassment, foul language, vandalism, or disruptive behaviour will not be tolerated. If issues cannot be resolved, parties involved will be suspended. Complaints should be made in writing to the SAC office. Instructors reserve the right to remove students from class upon their discretion.

Performance/Mentoring opportunities

- a. All dress rehearsals and final show will be held at the SRSS – times to be confirmed. Opportunities to perform in festivals, competitions, and other events available as arranged with the instructors on a class by class basis. Mentoring is encouraged; older or advanced students may arrange with instructor to participate in classes in this way. We are pleased to have 2 interns assisting in the program this year. We will encourage individuals and small groups to also enter the festival in performances in March; we will work to encourage other community and school shows as well.
- b. Rehearsal dates, times, and locations subject to change or cancellation due to COVID.

Communication

- a. All information regarding the program, instructors, administration, scheduling, etc. should be directed to **Roxie, Administrative Assistant at (204) 346-1077 or email programs@steinbachartscouncil.ca** (email subject to change)