



Thank you for being a part of Main Street Theater!
SUMMER CAMP INFORMATION and POLICIES 2012

THE SHLENKER SCHOOL CAMPUS
5600 N. Braeswood Blvd. – Houston, Texas 77096

Session 1 (Full-Day)
 June 11 – 29, 2012
 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Session 1 (Half-Day)
 June 18 – 29, 2012
 9 a.m. – noon

Questions or concerns? We are happy to help.

Director of Education: Troy Scheid
Shlenker School Site Director for MST: TBD
Assistant Site Director: TBD

Education Department: 713-524-9196 x 104 or troy@mainstreettheater.com

Please do not call The Shlenker School or any other MST number with summer camp business. The only staff members equipped to answer your questions and get a message to your child during the day are at the number above.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please read these policies and share the information with your son/daughter and any adults involved in your child’s care. By signing the release forms, you agree that you have read and will follow our policies.

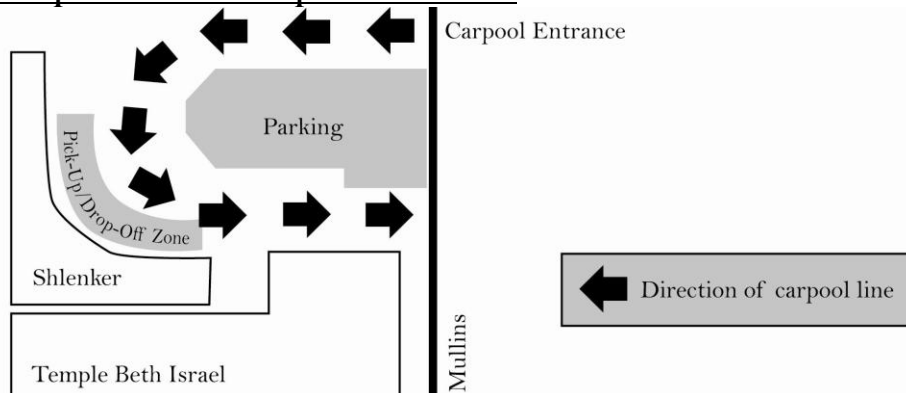
Release forms and immunization records should be turned in on the first day of class (not before).

Release forms will be available at www.MainStreetTheater.com/ed after May 1. Extra copies will be available on the first day of class. If the person dropping your student off on the first day is a caregiver, grandparent, or non-guardian relative, please provide him/her with the **COMPLETED, SIGNED FORMS IN ADVANCE.**

For obvious security reasons, we are very strict about checking IDs during pick-up. Please have your ID ready. Instructors are required to identify drivers based on the approved list provided by the student’s parent/guardian on the release forms. If the person picking up your child is not on the list or cannot show ID, a parent/guardian must be contacted for approval, **even if the child identifies this person as a parent, relative or friend.** Changes must be made in writing.

As on a sports team, all students are important to their performing arts team’s practices and final product. **Students should attend every day. If you must be absent, arrive late, or leave early, advance notice by email is required.** We do our best to accommodate conflicts (please communicate with us); however, absences may affect your student’s participation in the final performance.

Carpool Map – See Drop-Off and Pick-Up Details Below



THINGS TO KNOW FOR THE FIRST DAY

- **Please park and walk your student in** on the first day—please do not drop your student off.
- **First-day check-in starts at roughly 8:40 and ends at 9:15.** (Students registered for **Before-Care** may arrive starting at 8:15 a.m.) **Check-in lines are organized by last name.** You should turn in your **signed release forms and immunization records** when you check in. You will be given a **green card** with your student’s group letter and number, and your student will join his/her group. After your student has checked in, we invite you to stay through our group warm-up. (Because students need to draw on their own resources during class, parents should not stay after warm-up.)
- **T-Shirts:** If you have pre-ordered a t-shirt, you can pick it up from the pre-ordered line at the t-shirt table. If you have not pre-ordered, t-shirts will be available for \$10 cash or check while supplies last.
- **Live Q&A:** The site director will be available throughout check-in to answer questions.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures

- After the first day, we do NOT require students to be signed in.
- To help drop-off and pick-up move smoothly, please put the **green card** you received on the first day on your dashboard. (You will still need to show ID.) The green card is not required, but it will help to know your student’s group letter and number.
- **REGULAR DROP-OFF:** You may drop off your student in the carpool lane beginning at 8:45. If your student is not registered for Before-Care, please do not drop off your child before 8:45. Other Shlenker camps start earlier, so carpool may appear to be in full swing. However, MST staff will not be able to supervise students until 8:45. MST staff will help students out of their cars and ensure they join their class (entering through the side door to the All-Purpose Room). **Please make sure your kids get out on the car’s passenger side, not the driver’s side.** It is dangerous for them to walk between cars.
- **REGULAR PICK-UP:** During pick-up, all teachers will have lists of students and authorized drivers provided on the release form. Students will stand with other members of their groups. **Please be patient with us as we take the time to send our students home safely. You can help us create a safe and aggravation-free carpool experience by doing the following:**
 1. **Pull up as far as you can** around the traffic curve, even if you drive past your group.
 2. **Stay in your car.** Do not leave your car unattended in the carpool lane, and please set up your car seat, etc., so your child can get in on the passenger side, not the driver’s side. The entire carpool line is delayed when parents get out of their cars.
 3. **Have your ID ready.** Instructors are required to identify drivers based the list you provide on the release form. If the person picking up your child is not on the list or cannot show ID, a parent/guardian must be telephoned for approval, **even if the child identifies this person as a parent, relative or friend.** Changes to the list must be made in writing.
 4. Our carpool lane is a **no-phone zone:** For the safety of our students, please don’t talk or text.
- **ADDITIONAL INFO FOR HALF-DAY PICK-UP:** Several summer camps take place at Shlenker, and some have carpool around the same time as our half-day classes. Our half-day carpool takes place between 12:00 and 12:15. We recommend NOT arriving any earlier than 12. If you arrive a little later, you will wait in line less! Please follow the above instructions, and if you are asked to circle to the back of the line, please do so—the security officer will not allow the carpool line to pass parked cars.
- **PICKING UP EARLY:** If you need to pick up your student before the end of the camp day, **advance notice by email is required.** Please park in the lot and come inside with your ID. Please do not pick up a student without checking in with staff.
- **PICKING UP LATE:** Parents arriving for pick-up after 12:15 p.m. (half-day students) or 3:45 p.m. (full-day students not enrolled in After-Care) will be charged a late fee of \$10 for every 15 minutes, rounding up. If you need to schedule a late pick-up in advance for your full-day student, please see **“How do I sign up for Before-/After-Care?”** below.
- **BEFORE-CARE DROP-OFF:** Please park and walk your student in through the main entrance (glass double doors by the office) and escort him/her to the Atrium, which you can reach by taking the hallway to the right of the library. To pick up your student during the camp day or from After-Care, please park and come inside through the main doors (glass double doors by the office).
- **Park with care:** Some parking spaces at Shlenker are reserved, and there are some “no parking” zones.

EXPECTATIONS FOR MST PARTICIPANTS & PARENTS

Main Street Theater offers students a performing arts playground where professional theater artists serve as mentors. With an emphasis on creativity and collaboration, we provide hands-on opportunities for students to make original contributions in all aspects of play and dance production. This unique format of student/artist driven performance has proved popular with kids and parents alike. Of course with this freedom comes responsibility: Each student needs to come with a positive attitude and a generous spirit.

In each group, students become play- and dance-creators as well as actors. Each student commits to respecting and listening to other people's ideas, focusing on the task at hand, and abiding by the class rules as set forth by the instructor. As with a sports team, students should attend every day, contribute to the class and give 100% of their energy. This includes keeping focus on the play/dance and respecting your director and teammates. Positive attitudes keep things fun for everyone and produce the best final shows.

We value challenging each student to exceed his or her own expectations: to take risks, be bold, be silly, be dramatic, and HAVE FUN! Every student will be featured in the final performance, which represents only a fraction of the fun and learning that happen at camp.

We ask that parents support and guide their children in keeping the MST Student Pledge they will take in class, in following the MST student policies, and in ensuring students are present and prompt each day. Parents should actively support students in valuing their own ideas and resources in creating their final pieces, and foster collaboration rather than competition among team members. If a conflict arises with another camper, a student should not hesitate to tell her/his teacher or TA. If the conflict is with a teacher/TA, please contact the MST Education office. We are happy to address your concerns, and most conflicts can be worked out with communication.

In addition to the policies, each teacher introduces the class to his/her own classroom rules. A system of warnings and quiet times will be used with minor discipline problems. Further action will be determined in consultation with the Director. Main Street Theater enforces a zero-tolerance policy for some behavior/items. *Weapons, controlled substances, substances illegal for minors, theft, and behavior interpreted by the education director as violent, disruptive, destructive, harassing, bullying or aggressive will not be tolerated and may result in removal from the program.*

DAILY SCHEDULE AND GROUP BREAKDOWN

What is the daily schedule?

Half-Day (ages 4-5)		Full-Day (ages 6-14)	
8:45 – 9:00 a.m.	Arrival	8:45 – 9:00 a.m.	Arrival
9:00 – 9:15 a.m.	Assembly, Warm-Up	9:00 – 9:15 a.m.	Assembly, Warm-Up
9:15 – 10:30 a.m.	First Class	9:15 – 11 a.m.	First Class
10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	Snack break	11 a.m. – noon	Second Class, Part 1
10:45 a.m. – noon	Second Class	Noon – 12:30 p.m.	Lunch (Full-Day students)
Noon	Dismissal	12:30 – 12:45	Recess
		12:45 – 1:30	Second Class, Part 2
		1:30 – 3:15	Third Class
		3:15 – 3:30	Announcements/End of Day
		3:30	Dismissal

How are the age groups divided up?

AA: 4 – 5 years old; A: 6 – 7 years old; B: 8 – 9 years old; C: 10 – 11 years old; D (Summer Studio Company): 12 – 14 years old. Groups may have both letters and numbers, such as B2, A3, etc., if there is more than one group of a certain age. Know your group! On the registration form, you may request that your student be placed with a friend. If you did not make that request on the registration form, please do it in a timely manner before the beginning of a session. On the first day, we may not be able to accommodate placement requests.

EMERGENCIES AND MEDICAL NEEDS

How do I contact my student or his/her teacher?

During camp hours, call the Education Office at 713-524-9196 x 104 or email troy@mainstreettheater.com to ask questions about camp or have a message taken to your student. Voice mail and email are checked regularly, and you will receive a reply with minimal delay even if you do not reach a live person right away. Please do not call Shlenker or Congregation Beth Israel. Their staff members are not equipped to answer summer camp questions and cannot take a message to your student. Students' personal cell phones will be off.

To communicate with a teacher **outside of camp hours**, please use the contact information provided by the teacher in his/her first-day introductory letter, or leave a message at the Education Office line. If an issue *must* be addressed during pick-up, please park and come inside the building to speak with staff.

My child doesn't feel well. Should s/he go to theater class?

Though we encourage good attendance, please keep your child home for the health of the class (and notify the teacher or Education Director) when any of the following symptoms are observed: sore throat; eye infection/pink eye; ear ache; vomiting, diarrhea, or fever within last 24 hours; persistent cough and/or runny nose; or head lice.

Should a case of head lice be discovered, our policy is to check all students in the affected student's class and notify all the students at the affected location (without using names). Any affected student should remain at home until free of lice and nits. **We highly recommend that all parents check students for lice before the first day of class, communicate with us, and keep affected students home until the problem is gone!** It will be easier for students to miss days at the beginning of camp than to be removed closer to the showcase.

What if my child needs to take medication during the camp day?

Main Street Theater cannot dispense, monitor or maintain medication (except in the case of an allergic reaction; see below). It is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian to inform the MST staff of any illness, injury, chronic condition, disability, allergy or special needs affecting a student's participation in the program. **Please disclose any allergies or medical or behavioral issues in the designated space in the release packet.** This information will be kept confidential except in the case of a medical emergency.

My child has a food allergy. What steps should I take to alert the staff?

Please communicate with us verbally about the allergy, and provide us with a **written** allergy action plan that details allergens, symptoms of a reaction, and steps to be taken in case of emergency. Provide the Director with the necessary medications (such as Benadryl tabs, an Epi-Pen or Emergency Response Kit). Main Street Theater cannot dispense, monitor, or maintain medication for any student **EXCEPT** in the event of an allergic reaction for which we have received an Allergy Action Plan and the necessary medication. In the liability release, you have specifically released us from liability resulting from actions taken in case of emergency.

WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD WEAR AND BRING

What should students wear?

We welcome individuality and know that summer is a relaxed time; however, clothes should not prevent students from participating by being uncomfortable, too short, too revealing or too tight. Clothes that would be ruined by being on the floor or doing messy production work should be avoided. Biking shorts or leggings must be worn under skirts ("Boy short"-style undies are not sufficient). Students should wear closed-toe, flat shoes that stay on their feet. No flip-flops, crocs, heels or clogs. If we feel that a student's clothing is inappropriate, parents will be asked to bring a change of clothes from home.

Does my child need to bring a lunch, a snack, or something to drink?

- **Full-day students should bring a lunch each day.** Lunches should not require reheating or refrigeration.
- **We have a morning and afternoon snack break, and students should provide small, non-sugary snacks from home.**

- Please help us by not turning your kids into sugar monsters! Make sure that their meals are balanced, filling and healthy—if the kids are washing down their PB&J and M&Ms with Coke, they all turn into Spider-Man (or –Woman) after lunch! Please, no gum.
- On show day, we will order Domino’s pizza. If your student wishes to eat pizza, s/he will need to contribute \$3 in cash (we’ll send home a note during the last week of each session). We order two toppings (pepperoni/cheese and cheese). For their \$3, students get 2 slices, with extras available if there are leftovers. If this does not meet your student’s dietary needs, please pack a lunch that day. Ordering pizza is not required, but it is a fun show day treat! (Students should bring their snacks as usual.)
- Details about a pizza option for students who keep kosher will be sent out during camp. The once-a-week treats the camp provides (Freezer Pops and Dum-Dums) bear the kosher label.
- While water fountains are available, it is helpful for students to bring bottled water. (No glass, please!)
- **Please alert us to any dietary restrictions or food allergies.**

What should students bring from home, and what should they leave behind?

If issued a script, students should bring it every day, as well as a pencil to record notes. Students are often asked to bring clothing or props from home for the production, though most of our showcases do not require elaborate costume construction or purchase. Any items brought for use in the production should be labeled with the student’s name. **We take good care of these items, but please do not send ANYTHING that is irreplaceable (for sentimental reasons or any other reasons!).** Please make sure your student removes all of his/her belongings from the theater and backstage areas following the showcase performance.

Students should not bring personal items like video games, jewelry, or mp3 players. Main Street Theater is not responsible for lost or stolen items. The use of cell phones is allowed *only* in case of an emergency. **Cell phones must be turned off and put away before the beginning of class.** If texting during class becomes an issue, teachers may collect phones at the beginning of class and return them at the end.

FINAL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

For each session, performances take place on the **last day of class**. Friends and family attend free of charge and no tickets are needed. **The final performance always takes place on a Main Street Theater stage**, so on the final day of each session, students should be dropped off at their **showcase location** at 9:00 a.m. (Before-Care students may arrive starting at 8:15.) **No students should go to Shlenker on performance day, and students should remain at their showcase location until their performance is over.** Details about performance day will be distributed in-hand and by email by the last Monday of class, and a letter from your child’s teacher will let you know if any simple costume pieces or props are needed.

Final Performance Information for The Shlenker School – HALF-DAY & FULL-DAY	
Session 1 Performance Date	Friday, June 29
Perf. Time & Location (All sessions)	AA (ages 4-5): 11:30 a.m. at MST – Rice Village (Lasts 15 – 20 minutes) A-B (ages 6-9): 4:00 p.m. at MST – Chelsea Market (Lasts 50 minutes) C-D (Summer Studio Company) (ages 10-14): 5:00 p.m. at MST – Chelsea Market (Lasts 30 minutes)
Where is my performance location?	MST – Rice Village is located at 2540 Times Blvd., Houston 77005. MST – Chelsea Market is located at 4617 Montrose, Houston 77006.

On show day, do I need to pick up my student at 3:30 and bring him/her back before the show?

No! On performance day, please DO NOT pick up your full-day student at 3:30. Instead, s/he should stay at the theater until the performance for that age group has been completed. This ensures that all students are at the theater in time for their show, and allows extra rehearsal time.

How do I get a DVD of the performance?

Please **do not film** our final full-day showcases (though you may film half-day showcases). We employ a professional filmmaking company to record each full-day showcase, edit the footage, and create a DVD, so you can enjoy watching it live and share it with family later! Order forms will be available at each showcase.

EXTENDED-DAY, CANCELLATIONS, REFUNDS, AND RECEIPTS

How do I sign up for Extended-Day Care?

At Shlenker, Before-Care is from 8:15 – 8:45 a.m. and After-Care is from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. Extended-Day Care is available to full-day students. Download an Extended Day form at www.MainStreetTheater.com/ed. Before-Care and After-Care are handled by MST's Business Manager, Angela Harris. She can be contacted during business hours or extended day hours at 713-443-9674 or extnday@yahoo.com. Payment for these programs is not included in the camp tuition, and must be made by separate check payable to Angela Harris.

What do I do if I need to cancel my registration?

- Each registration includes a \$50.00 non-refundable processing fee.
- If you cancel your registration less than one month before class begins, no refund will be given.
- There is no fee to move your registration to another session. If the session you are trying to join is full, your student will be placed on the waiting list.
- No full or partial refunds/credits will be given if class is canceled due to circumstances beyond the control of Main Street Theater (*force majeure*), including but not limited to weather events or epidemics.
- If a student must be removed from camp due to an excessively disruptive health or behavioral problem of which the staff was not notified, there will not be any refund/credit for any portion of the tuition.
- Main Street Theater may cancel a class if enrollment is insufficient. If a class is cancelled, any payment will be refunded in full. All refunds will be made by check.
- We want all students to be satisfied with their experience at Main Street Theater. If, after attending the first day of class, a student decides that s/he does not want to continue, let us know within 24 hours to receive a credit toward a future MST class. No monetary refunds can be given.

How do I get a receipt or tax ID number?

We are happy to provide you with a receipt and/or tax ID at the end of each session. You must request this information—it will **not** be provided automatically. Please email your request to troy@mainstreettheater.com.

MST CLASSES DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

In addition to our summer curriculum, MST offers year-round skills and performance classes for students of all ages. Check our website at www.MainStreetTheater.com/ed around mid-July for details. Our satellite programs—MST classes that come to your child's school—can take the form of after-school enrichment classes or in-school residencies. For information on how your school can set up a Main Street Theater satellite class, please contact the Education Office at 713-524-9196 x 104 or email troy@mainstreettheater.com.

If you have a question not answered in the policies, or if a concern arises, please don't hesitate to contact the Education Office at 713-524-9196 x 104 or troy@mainstreettheater.com. Thanks for being a part of Main Street Theater!