



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

**TURBO CAMPS at MST – CHELSEA MARKET**  
**4617 Montrose at US-59 – Houston 77006**

**Hours: 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

June 4, 5, 6, 7, 8; August 20, 21, 22, 23, 24

**Director of Education:** Troy Scheid

**Assistant Director of Education:** Jonathan Gonzalez

*Questions or concerns? We are happy to help.*

**Education Department: 713-524-9196 x 104 or [troy@mainstreettheater.com](mailto:troy@mainstreettheater.com)**

*Please do not call any other MST numbers 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 note that the policies for Turbo Camp and our regular camps are VERY DIFFERENT. If your student is enrolled in both, please make sure you read both sets of policies!**

**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](http://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.

**There are NO final performances for Turbo Camps.** Students may attend as many or as few days as they like and as their schedule permits. However, for the best possible experience, students should arrive at 9 a.m. (earlier if enrolled in Before-Care) and plan on staying for the whole day.

**DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP**

**DROP-OFF:** On the first day the students attend Turbo Camp, parents should park and walk inside with their children to check in. Because students need to draw on their own resources during class, we ask that parents **not** sit in on classes beyond the first few minutes of the first class. If students are attending several days of Turbo Camp, they may be dropped off at the door after their first day.

**PICK-UP:** Adults should come into the theater lobby to pick up students from Turbo Camp. During pick-up, instructors are required to identify drivers based on an approved list provided by the student's parent/guardian. Please have your photo ID ready. 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. **We do not assume that parents/guardians**

**are automatically authorized.** Please make sure anyone involved in picking your child up from class is aware of these policies.

If a student needs to leave early, arrive late, or leave and return for any reason, please give us advance notice *in writing*. This allows minimal disruption to the class.

## **EXPECTATIONS FOR 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 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.

The goal of each day of Turbo Camp is to create a “play-in-a-day” sketch, where each morning’s ideas turn into a short skit by the afternoon. At the end of each day, each class has the opportunity to share their day’s work with students in other classes. For the same reason we ask parents not to sit in on our classes, we emphasize that these “play-in-a-day” sketches are performed by students for students as a “rough draft” that resulted from their brainstorming and experimentation. Students will have their pick of props and costumes from our trunks, and they can make any other items they might need. Though we do not have a public final performance, students are part of a team (their class) just as for our longer camps.

In each group, students become play-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. For the best possible experience, students should attend all 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!

We ask that parents support and guide their children in following the Main Street Theater policies, and in ensuring students are prompt each day. Parents should actively support students in valuing their own ideas and resources, 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 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 Director as violent, disruptive, destructive, harassing, bullying or aggressive will not be tolerated and may result in removal from the program.*

## **DAILY SCHEDULE AND AGE GROUP BREAKDOWN**

### **What is the daily schedule?**

8:45 – 9:00 a.m.	Arrival
9:00 – 9:15 a.m.	Morning Assembly, Group Warm-Up
9:15 – 10:50 a.m.	First Class
10:50 – noon	Second Class, Part 1
Noon – 12:30 p.m.	Lunch
12:30 – 12:45	Recess
12:45 – 1:10	Second Class, Part 2
1:10 – 2:45	Third Class
2:45 – 3:15	Daily Presentations
3:15 – 3:30	Afternoon Assembly, Announcements, Dismissal

### How are the age groups divided up?

A: 6 – 7 years old; B: 8 – 9 years old; C: 10 – 11 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. 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](mailto: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 any other MST numbers to attempt to reach your student. Students' personal cell phones will be off.

### My child doesn't feel well. Should s/he go to camp today?

Please keep your child home for the health of the class (and notify his/her teacher or the Education Director) when any of the following symptoms are observed: sore throat; eye infection/pink eye; ear ache; vomiting or diarrhea within last 24 hours; persistent cough and/or runny nose; fever within last 24 hours; 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!**

### 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, Epi-Pen, and/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 the case of an 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?

- **Each student should bring a lunch every 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.
- While water is always 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?**

Students should not bring personal items like video games, jewelry, or iPods. 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 daily and return them at the end of class.

While props and costumes will be needed for each day’s “play-in-a-day” sketch, students should plan on making what they need in stagecraft class or finding it in our costume/prop boxes. Students will be deciding on each day’s sketch as a group, so **please do not send costumes or props from home.**

## **EXTENDED-DAY, CANCELLATIONS, REFUNDS, AND RECEIPTS**

### **How do I sign up for Before-Care or After-Care?**

At MST – Chelsea Market, Before-Care is from 7:30 – 8:45 a.m. and After-Care is from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. Download an Extended Day form at [www.MainStreetTheater.com/ed](http://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](mailto: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. All refunds will be made by check.
- If you cancel your registration less than one month before class begins, no refund will be given.
- 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 issued by check.
- We want all students to be satisfied with their experience at MST. 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](mailto:troy@mainstreettheater.com).

## **MAIN STREET THEATER CLASSES DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR**

In addition to our summer curriculum, Main Street Theater offers year-round skills and performance classes for students of all ages. Check our website at [www.MainStreetTheater.com/ed](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:troy@mainstreettheater.com). Thanks for being a part of Main Street Theater!