

Stage Stars®
5 Polzeath Gardens
Plymouth, Devon, PL2 3SZ

Telephone. 0800 710 11 44
Fax. 0800 910 11 44



Saturday, 12 January 2013

Email. team@stage-stars.co.uk
Website. www.stage-stars.co.uk

Well, well, well, what can I say to start of this half term other than AMAZING! I am of course talking about the show that nearly 100 of our members were involved in during the last week of October. Initially we had planned this as a fundraiser but I am so glad we instead went down the route of a celebration show because I can honestly say I have never felt more proud of what was started 10 years ago. We have a massive amount planned over the next year, and this will be released at different points, but I would like to thank every single person involved in our 10 Years of Magic production for making it such a special week for me, and everyone else who came to see it. There is quite a lot to tell you about so I shall try not to waffle, although as most of you know I normally do.

IMPORTANT: Timetable Collapse, Saturday 23rd November

For the first time ever in our history, we are planning a day where we will completely collapse our normal Saturday timetable and instead run a variety of workshops. The day could be a massive success, or just a lot of fun, but either way we know you are going to love it! Two important points:

Firstly, although the cost remains the same, students are welcome to attend from 11am – 4pm even if they are normally only in one group. Secondly, if you are not able to attend for longer due to prior commitments, students can attend exactly the same times as normal, and still take part in two workshops during normal class hours.

The brief outline for the day will be that every hour there will be a workshop lasting 50 minutes, followed by a 10 minute break. This will mean that, if students wish, they can attend 5 workshops in total (one at 11am, 12noon, 1pm, 2pm and 3pm) although they are also welcome to just attend a few, or ones that interest them. The workshops will be run by our staff and include a massive variety of exercises from Street Dance, Musical Dance, Accents, Stage Fighting, Games, Audition Technique, Working For Film/Tv and a whole host of others. Some of these sessions will be limited numbers (although they will run twice during the day) but we can guarantee there will always be space in one of the sessions.

We are currently finalising the exact titles and descriptions of the workshops but we will be sending you all our a letter next week with this information on. We will also be posting this information in a special blog post on our website (www.stage-stars.co.uk) and on our Facebook page.

New Members

We are now accepting new members in all our classes. This will last from now until February when we close the classes however spaces are becoming limited. We intend to cast the new shows in the coming month so now really is the best time for them to join. If you do have any friend or family that wish to attend please bring them along to a session, we can help them complete enrolment forms whilst here or they can fill these out online.

New Shows

We will be announcing the three new shows we will put on next year on Saturday 23rd November. Whilst we know for definite the childrens group show we are just waiting for the final confirmation on the Junior and Youth group shows which is the cause of the delay. We can however confirm the dates for next years shows will be as follows, so please keep these weeks free as it is essential students are able to attend each of the rehearsals during show week to be able to take part:

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Childrens Groups: 4th – 10th May 2014

Juniors Group: 11th – 17th May 2014

Youth Group: 18th – 24th May 2014

New Network

We are currently installing a new network at Notre Dame to enable us to deliver our sessions in a quicker and more efficient way. The New Server which runs on the latest Microsoft software will allow us to do a number of things, but most importantly will allow students to login and download music from our shows onto their devices. More details on this will follow in the coming weeks.

Student Information

We are updating all our contact details for you, especially the emergency contact details. This will also allow us to keep better track of attendance, and reward students with our new reward system. Please can we ask you return the update form to us ASAP as students will not be present on our new system until this has been done.

Stage Stars ME

The site is currently being updated and we will be putting the back tracks and vocal tracks for the three new shows on there in November. Remember Stage Stars ME is a free service for our members, and exclusively available to them by visiting www.stagestars.me

10 Years Of Magic

Initially the 10 Years of Magic show was planned as a fundraiser to get some more capital to invest into equipment. We made the decision in August to turn it into more of a celebration show and therefore added in the extra Wednesday rehearsal and purchased t-shirts and some new sound equipment. This obviously had an effect on the shows revenue however we are pleased to announce the show did make a small profit. This profit has now been earmarked for purchasing some more radio and static microphone to ensure the sound quality in future shows continued to improve. Working with radio microphones will always be a dangerous game as inevitably at some point we will get a bad battery or frequency with interference however we still strongly believe using them gives students the best possible experience of what a 'professional production' is like, and so we will continue to do all we can to improve our use of them.

Budget 2013

After the positive feedback I received from many of you after releasing the great news for the first time in 10 years Stage Stars actually made a slight profit in 2012/13 I thought I would keep you updated with how that was being used. Obviously as I have said previously up until now we have typically lost or broke even each year so we were puzzled with what to do with this increase. We have now decided, after speaking to a number of you, that 50% of the profit (£250) will be kept in a saving account and used in case an issue ever arises we aren't prepared for (we also hope to slowly add to this each year). The other money, along with profit made from the 10 Years show will be invested initially in new radio microphones and feedback destroyer. We are also now in a position where we think we can afford to completely replace all our cabling which should hopefully mean again audio is improved for future shows. We are also looking for your feedback on what to do with any other profit made in future, so would very much welcome your input and suggestions.

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Pantomime Tickets

The tickets for this year's pantomime are now on sale. These can be purchased from our front desk at every session or www.etikit.co.uk online any day or time. There are a massive number of you involved in the show, and we would love to have some very big audience to enjoy, what is often described, as the funniest pantomime in the South West.

DVD

DVDs for Splash, A Little Princess and Mrs Leaf are still on sale from the front desk and can be ordered directly from here. They cost just £10 each.

10 Years DVD

The DVD for our '10 Years of Magic' show is also now available and is a lovely watch, including a very special audio commentary with the staff. Again the cost is just £10 and these can be purchased and ordered from the front desk.

Photos

We were lucky enough to have a professional photographer come in to take pictures for the 10 Years of Magic show and he has given us a DVD with all the pictures on. We are going to make these available for £5 per disc with the money split between the photographer and the Stage Stars fund. The pictures are extremely high quality and the disc can be taken in to any photo outlet for you to print your own photos.

New This Is Us DVD

We are updating our prospectus DVD to celebrate our 10 Years so there will be a number of cameras around the site over the next few weeks to capture all our sessions. We will share with you the link once this has been completed so you can see all the amazing things our students get up to, and why we have continued to grow over the last 10 years.

Theatre Royal Trips

Please remember if you have purchased tickets for Our House the show is the end of this month (please ask me for details). We do have a very limited number of tickets left for this show, and also Lion King and the theatre royal panto which again are available by asking Scott.

Well, a lot more than I was expecting to write but there is just so much that goes on at Stage Stars and we always try to keep you as up to date as possible.

Here's to an amazing 6 weeks as we lead up to our pantomime, casting the new shows, welcoming new members, and CHRISTMAS!

Scott, Sophie, Joe, Becky and Jess