



INFO SHEET: PERFORMANCE CLASS

KMC Onstage Performance Classes offer kids high-quality theatre education through experiential learning.

Goals: Kids who complete KMC Onstage Performance Classes will deepen their understanding of performance skills in acting, voice projection and control, movement and body awareness, and musicality (when applicable); as well as gain a solid foundation in the theatre production process, from casting, rehearsals, and performances, through collaboration, repetition, imagination, and research.

Who: Any child within the age range for each Performance Class may audition. There are no prerequisites, however, parents are advised that Performance Classes are advanced-level classes, requiring significant time and energy commitment from the performers and their families. Parents are **STRONGLY** encouraged to review the expectations with the instructor prior to their child accepting a role. Theatre is a collaborative process, requiring a strong commitment and discipline to learning and practicing not only one's individual part, but also where each individual fits together within the whole.

What: Performance Classes offer kids advanced level training in theatre performance and production through hands-on experiential learning. Kids who audition and are cast in Performance Classes will learn, rehearse, and perform a fully-mounted high-quality live theatre youth production as part of the KMC Onstage season.

Where: Auditions, classes, rehearsals, and performances will be held at either the KMC Onstage Mainstage (Bldg 3232, Kleber Kaserne) or the KMC Onstage Studio (Bldg 3109, Daenner Kaserne)

When: Entry to the class is by audition only. There is no cost to audition! Children who are cast from auditions will be offered a role. Once a child has accepted a role, the parents must enroll them in the Performance Class at KMC Onstage and pay tuition (see below). There will be a mandatory parents information meeting before the first Performance Class.

Classes will consist primarily of rehearsals, and will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30-6:30pm until tech week. In cases where the Performance Classes will be joining an adult cast, the Performance Class may meet on weekends or evenings prior to tech week, in order to facilitate safety and rehearse with the entire cast. Tech week: The week before performances, ALL technical elements of the show come together, and rehearsals must happen **EXACTLY** as performances are planned. Tech week rehearsals will start at 5:30pm and go until the rehearsals finish. This may result in some late nights, although all efforts are made to ensure kids are released as soon as possible. See Tech Week Info Sheet.

How much? Tuition for the 2023-24 season is set at \$14 per class, for two 2-hour classes per week, plus 4 classes during tech week. Final tuition rate is based on how many total class encounters (including tech week) each production requires, typically 8-13 weeks. This usually averages out to \$130-\$140 per month, similar to other recreation activity tuition.



FAQs

How old does my child have to be to participate?

Ages for each class are determined by the roles in the show. Typically 6-18. There is NO COST to audition. Tuition applies if a child accepts a role and enrolls in the class.

My child has never performed before—can they still try out?

Yes! Auditions are open to all levels of experience! There is no prerequisite for a child to audition, and roles will be offered based on who best fits the needs of each production.

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My child is interested in theatre, but not ready for the pressure of a show. Is there anything they can do to get involved?

Yes! Check out our [Technique Classes](#), open to all levels of performers. These classes are once a week, for an hour, with no performance and no pressure! Kids spend their time learning through theatre games and exercises to help them get familiar with being on stage, using their bodies and voices, and developing their imaginations. Registration is open through SKIES Unlimited via Webtrac or Parent Central Services. NO auditions are required!

My child wants to be involved in theatre, but they don't like to be in front of people. Is there a way for them to be involved backstage?

Yes! Absolutely! Contact KMC Onstage to discuss what opportunities we have for your child's age, abilities, and interests.

What is your absence policy?

At auditions, and again during the first week of rehearsals, you will be asked to list all conflicts within the rehearsal schedule. Please be VERY thorough in listing your conflicts, because the director plans rehearsals for the entire cast based on listed conflicts. Your child's absence affects the entire cast, so it is very important that we can plan on when they will be at rehearsals!

-NO CONFLICTS during tech week or performances.

-No rehearsals will be held during DODEA school breaks or on federal holidays.

-Absences due to illness or emergencies must be reported to the stage manager as soon as you become aware of them. These are excused absences.

-Absences by choice due to conflicts NOT listed on the conflict sheet are unexcused. Three or more unexcused absences may result in the removal of your child from the cast. Refunds are not issued for unexcused absences. Absences by choice may be excused at the director's discretion, so parents are encouraged to speak to the director about any unlisted conflicts that arise.



How is the cost of tuition set?

Tuition is set with a base rate of \$14/class, which is in the medium range of SKIES classes. We strive to provide affordable programming that also meets high standards of theatre instructional pedagogy and covers our costs.

Performance Classes are 2-hour classes, twice a week:

4 hours of class x 2 days a week at \$7 per hour

Tech week rehearsals are included as \$14 per class, although tech rehearsals often run longer than 4 hours. There is no extra charge for any additional rehearsals, if necessary.

Tuition fees are used to pay for KMC Onstage class supplies, production supplies, and operational expenses to keep our programs open and available to the community.

Do you offer payment plans?

Yes! Tuition defaults to a monthly payment plan. If you prefer to pay for your entire tuition in one lump sum, we can process your single payment at registration. Just let us know when you register which option you prefer.

Do you have financial aid available?

Yes. We have a limited amount of need-based scholarships provided by the KMC Theater Guild. Please reach out to KMC Onstage if you would like to apply for a need-based scholarship.

Do you offer discounts?

Parent Volunteer Discount Program

Parents who volunteer a minimum of 10 hours backstage in support of the production (parent liaison, set construction/painting, costume construction, props construction, sound crew, run crew, backstage parent, etc) will receive a 10% discount per enrolled child. The 10 hours may be completed at any time between the first Performance Class and final performance.

Parents who wish to use the Volunteer Discount Program must sign up with KMC Onstage in advance, and must log and submit their hours each month using our volunteer tracking tool, the written log sheets in the theatre shops, or VMIS (through MilitaryOneSource). Parents who do not complete the 10 hours will be automatically charged the 10% balance at the end of the show.

Do I have to pay to see my child perform?

- For our Performance Classes, the final dress rehearsal is an Invitational Preview free for cast and crew friends and families! In addition, each member of the cast and production team receives 2 comp tickets that can be used for any of the 6 performances.
- Parents who do NOT sign up for the 10% Volunteer Discount program, but who volunteer a minimum of 8 hours in support of the production (sets, costumes, backstage assistance during tech week/shows) are eligible for our regular 2 volunteer comp tickets that may be used for any of the 6 performances.



Learning Objectives:

1. Breathing

Breathing is foundational to all performance work. Students will learn breathing exercises to emphasize proper diaphragmatic breath, and increase strength, and control, while simultaneously learning exercises to calm, center, and focus.

Relevance: Breath support is the foundation of singing, dancing, and vocal projection. It also correlates to mental, physical, and emotional resilience, stamina, and strength.

2. Voice

Students will learn to explore and know their own voices through exercises and practice to help them understand vocal breath support, control, tone, pitch, volume, and blend with others within a group. Emphasis is placed on vocal projection, learning how to be heard on stage, and using the voice safely and intuitively. Theatre classes are LOUD! Teaching is through a combination of vocal exercises and modeling of vocal techniques by adults.

Relevance: Students will learn to hear themselves project, use their voices in atypical ways, modulate tone and pitch, and not to be afraid of making noise. Students will also learn how to balance their voices within a group, when to stand out and when to pull back.

3. Body movement

Students will explore their bodies through physical movement, including dance, but also learning spatial awareness, physical control, and attention to details. Theatre is a visual art, and students will learn how to use their bodies to tell stories. Emphasis is on students developing awareness of their own bodies, learning to pay attention to movement details, and creating safe and healthy physical habits.

Relevance: Students will become more comfortable and familiar with their bodies, and develop gross and fine motor control while building physical strength and stamina.

4. Memorization

Lines, music, and movement all require memorization. Students will be exposed to a broad variety of memorization techniques, including reading, verbal, auditory, kinetic, and repetition. Class rehearsals will help kids learn how to build muscle memory in preparation for performances.

Relevance: Students will learn to identify which type of learner they are, and gain skills to improve their ability to learn and retain new knowledge.

5. Interpersonal relations

Theatre is a collaborative art form, and students learn to work within an ensemble where each individual has a specific task to execute and the group is interdependent upon each other to create a performance.



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Relevance: Students build social skills, communication, and trust and reliance on each other, both on and off stage. Acting exercises build capacity for verbal and nonverbal communication, improved listening and eye contact, and empathy.

6. Feedback. A core part of the production process is notes, or feedback from the director, choreographer, or music director, given after a rehearsal, to correct and improve any mistakes in order to achieve the performance. Notes are ONLY given on things that need to be corrected, and students are welcome to ask for help or clarifying questions privately after notes are completed. Instructors are always happy to help!

Relevance: Students learn to work collaboratively to complete a large group project, and how to receive constructive feedback and self-correct in order to achieve a community goal. Students learn how to individually take responsibility for their work, and how to cooperate within a larger group. Students learn that it's ok and valued to ask appropriate questions in order to gain understanding.