

# HOW TO INCLUDE MCT IN YOUR DAY CAMP

## DAY CAMP

By "day camp" we mean situations where students are pre-registered for a fee, and/or are expecting scheduled activities for all students for the entire week. The MCT residency week may fit well into a day camp situation, but is not a day camp in and of itself. Not all students are required for all rehearsals, especially the first three days of the residency when the MCT Tour Actor/Directors are working independently with smaller groups. Presenters should consider providing quality activities and personnel to conduct additional activities for those students who are registered for the full week of day camp, but not involved in a given rehearsal session.

## FEE INFORMATION

If your residency involves a fee/registration, please have additional personnel on site to deal with registration and to collect the fees. Registration should begin at least 15-30 minutes before the scheduled audition time. The MCT Tour Actor/Directors cannot take on the administrative responsibility. Also note that although some Presenters need to charge a fee to keep their particular residency week financially viable, please take into consideration that an exorbitant fee may be limiting for students of lesser financial means. Please consider offering a scholarship through a local business or club for those students who are eager to be involved, yet hindered by the fee. In addition, we recommend against charging the Assistant Directors a participation fee. While their participation is key to the success of the week, their experience is very different from those appearing on stage. **Please keep all information regarding your specific fee/registration completely separate from the letter the Tour Actor/Directors send home with the students during the week.** Finally, include a telephone number and/or contact person for questions regarding the fee/registration in your community.

## T-SHIRTS/ MUSIC

The MCT Tour Actor/Directors may have show T-shirts and/or music available for sale. Proceeds from the sale of these concessions are a part of the Tour Actor/Directors weekly income. This supplemental income helps maintain low residency fees. Presenter may not use MCT logos or photos to create T-shirts. A \$300 penalty shall be assessed if: 1) T-shirts are produced by Presenter or its agents using MCT logos or photos; 2) the MCT Tour Actor/Directors are prohibited from selling their T-shirts by Presenter. If Presenter has an in-house policy on commissions, the Tour Actor/Directors must be informed of that policy during their call on the Tuesday two weeks before the residency, so they may alter the prices accordingly. Commissions will not exceed 30% and will not apply if this notification is not given. MCT logos are copyrighted, and thus may not be reproduced on any items to be sold or distributed. Logos can be used for show program and advertising purposes only.

If you'd like to include a T-shirt as part of your week, please inform the Tour Marketing Department at least 3 weeks in advance of your residency so we can put you in touch with the Tour Team to place an order prior to their arrival in your community.

## REHEARSALS/ WORKSHOPS

The MCT Tour Actor/Directors will supervise the students involved in specific rehearsal sessions, as indicated on their rehearsal schedule, and those staying for the break in-between rehearsals. **They will not be available to supervise students before or after scheduled rehearsal sessions and cannot be responsible for students not on the schedule for that rehearsal.** Three Enrichment Workshops are included in your residency. You may want to use these as part of your daily activities. However, the workshops must be conducted outside of rehearsal times. Additional workshops may be purchased at a rate of \$75 each.

## OUTDOOR VENUES

If you choose to schedule an outdoor venue for performances, please secure indoor locations for auditions and rehearsals throughout the week. All rehearsals must take place at an indoor location. The Tour Actor/Directors may choose to move the cast outdoors for the final day of rehearsals to familiarize them with the performance space, weather permitting. Also, please secure an alternate performance location in the case of inclement weather. The unpredictability of weather makes this step essential in any location. We cannot give you a refund if it rains on your show day.

## DAY CAMP ACTIVITIES

If you would like all the cast members to attend the entire time, consider hiring additional professionals or enlisting volunteers that have theatre experience for your day camp. The extra cast members should not sit and watch a rehearsal, this is very distracting for the cast members trying to learn their parts and the MCT Tour Actor/Directors cannot be responsible for extra children not on the schedule. The following is a list of suggested activities for cast members not involved in rehearsal to do in another space with additional staff members. These are not requirements, they are simply ideas to help get you started.

- Acting sessions – Teach basic stage awareness, stage directions and terms. Acting classes for the youngest participants might consist of showing basic emotions with your whole body and how to turn a story into a play. Older students can work on monologues.
- Dance sessions – Teach basic movement and technique! The students are divided into groups by dance experience. One option is to have a cast member with a background in dance teach classes to younger students. Basic movement in tap, jazz, and ballet is appropriate for younger casts. For older students, a musical theatre class is a good choice. In this session children are taught basic combinations required for a theatre dance audition.
- Creative movement – Creative movement focuses on becoming aware of body movement in the pursuit of acting with the whole body. For example, ask the students to walk or dance across the room like a troll, or have them physically illustrate happy, sad, grumpy, or excited using only their feet. Play a variety of music (western, classical, swing, African, etc.) and ask students to move across the floor in a manner indicative of the music.
- Voice lessons – Even the youngest children can be taught how to sing and breathe properly. Train students to accurately project their voices. This can dramatically improve stage performance.
- Technical theatre – Teach the students how to operate technical equipment (lights, sound, spotlight, stage managing, fly crew, etc.).
- House operations – Educate students in the process of creating tickets, programs, ushering, etc. The kids can actually create the tickets and program.
- Comparing and Contrasting – Find the Missoula Children's Theatre play the students are working on in book format. There may be several versions of the play. Read the book or books to the students and discuss the differences between the book(s) and the play. What are the similarities? What is the difficulty in transferring a book to a play?
- Characterization – Help the kids analyze their characters in the play and create an age, birthday, life history, etc.
- Crafts – For one or two sessions, the children can complete arts and crafts that pertain to the show. Display the items in the foyer or hallway outside the performance space.

If you need further explanation or have any questions or concerns regarding the above, please feel free to contact the Tour Marketing Department at [tour@MCTinc.org](mailto:tour@MCTinc.org).