

Bravo Company THEATRE CLASSES

COME PLAY WITH US AND LET YOUR IMAGINATION SOAR!

By: Amy Sowers



"The theatre is my home away from home. I am so glad I chose it with Bravo Company," Rayne Brown, 12, enthusiastically states. Her mom Nikie Brown concurs, stating, "My daughter has been with Bravo Company and the historic Crighton Theatre for the past six years and she has enjoyed every minute of it. All of the teachers are very knowledgeable in their craft and we are looking forward to another year and more with Bravo Company."

Bravo Company Performing Arts School provides theatre classes at the Crighton Theatre in downtown Conroe and is the educational wing of Stage Right, the residential theatre company of the theatre. Classes are offered for children ages 5 years through high school. Class size is limited which provides more personal instruction. Bravo Company students will have the opportunity to perform onstage in the magnificent Crighton Theatre.

Why study dramatic arts? Dramatic arts or theatre classes allow a student to explore new and various roles, try out and experiment with a variety of personal choices and solutions to problems in a safe environment. This develops creative problem solving abilities that carry over to every day life. The center of all acting is communication. Drama allows students to communicate with and understand others more readily. This can impact a child's life in many positive ways. They may be less likely to have difficulty with public speaking and may become more persuasive in their communications, both verbal and written. Theatre classes enable a person to be better able to put themselves in others' shoes and

empathize with them. After all, the dramatic arts is the study of the way human beings interact. Through that dramatic interaction, children learn collaboration and teamwork along with self-control and discipline.

Bravo Company students will learn basic theatre vocabulary, voice projection and auditioning techniques. Characterization, structured improvisation and scene studies are included as well. Game type activities are utilized to teach these skills in a creative and entertaining manner.

Bravo Company is proud to welcome its newest instructor, Tommy Hunter. Tommy has been actively involved in theatre and acting since 1973 when he performed in his first musical, *Annie Get Your Gun*. Tommy trained with Ms. Ellen Baker-Baltz in the Texas touring company Theatre-On-Wheels from 1976-1981. He also trained at the prestigious High School for the Performing and Visual Arts located in Houston where he studied music and dance. Tommy has directed and choreographed several children's theatre productions with Lufkin Community. In addition to performing with Kingwood Community Theatre, he is familiar to Stage Right audiences at the Crighton Theatre where he was last seen at Rooster Hannigan in *Annie*. He has also performed with the Stage Right productions of *Vaudeville Comes to the Crighton-Finally* and *Lend Me a Tenor*. Tommy will be teaching the classes for those 8-11 and 12-17 age groups.

Amy Sowers, founder, director and instructor of Bravo Company is a speech pathologist and holds a masters degree in Com-





munication Disorders from the University of Houston. She has worked with children for more than twenty years and has been acting for seventeen years. She most recently directed the Bravo Company production *The Ever After*. Amy is also familiar to Stage Right audiences, having portrayed Honey Raye Futrelle in a trilogy of plays, *Dearly Beloved*, *Southern Hospitality* and *Christmas Belles*. Other favorite roles include Diana in *Lend Me a Tenor*, Elaine in *The Miss Firecracker Contest* and Marmee in *Little Women*. She serves on the board of directors of Stage Right and of the Crighton Theatre Foundation. Amy teaches the class for students 5-7 years of age.

Tuition is \$50.00 per month for one child and \$35.00 per month for the second child in a family. Class times: ages 5-7 years on Tuesdays from 5:00-6:00, 8-11 years on Tuesdays from 5:00-6:30 and ages 12-17 on Thursdays from 5:00-6:30. For more information or to register for class, call Amy Sowers at (936)520-7525 or email amybsowers@msn.com. For more information on Stage Right productions, visit our website: www.stage-right.org.

Playwright Eugene Ionesco states, "I personally would like to bring a tortoise onto the stage, turn it into a racehorse, then into a hat, a song a dragon and a fountain of water. One can dare anything in the theatre..." Come join Bravo Company and let your imagination soar.

Where else can you turn a tortoise into a racehorse? ♦

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