

TOUCHING HUMANITY'S ARTS and THEATRE PROGRAMS

(T.H.A.T. Program)

And WellPlay, Inc. offer

Performing Arts WORKSHOPS for children with and without disability

SUMMER/FALL 2011

Developed by Dr. Michael A. Pizzi, OTR/L

Occupational therapist and actor

Classes are being formed for children with **Autism Spectrum Disorder, children with physical challenges, neurological impairments or other children with and without disability** focusing on the use of the performing arts to enable participation, increase self esteem and develop social skills. Our acting and movement workshops include programs that introduce your child to warm-ups, improv games, character building exercises and scene study. This interactive, **non-competitive program** is structured so the students work with each other to build social confidence. We work with the concept of inclusion and providing opportunities for ALL children to experience the arts.

The arts, particularly the performing arts, assist in the development of the child in emotional, physical, social, intellectual and psychological areas. The arts programs are non-competitive and focus on developmental and personal growth. Whether on a one to one basis or within a group setting, arts programming can

- (1) assist in social skill building and teach appropriate interactions with others;
- (2) engage children in self expression through a non-threatening medium;
- (3) improves abilities such as Skills for Expressing Feelings, Social Relationship Skills, Organizational Skills, Decision Making, Problem Solving Skills and Conflict Management Skills;
- (4) provides an outlet for creativity, joy and hope;
- (5) engages children in developing collaboration and sharing;
- (6) increase and improve self-esteem

Your child will work with professional actors and therapists for all sessions. There will be 4 teachers in each class with a maximum of 12 participants !

Objectives:

- To increase childrens' social skills and social confidence and awareness
- To develop creativity
- To increase self esteem and self confidence
- To facilitate individual expression as well as instill a sense of teamwork
- To create a sense of goal achievement
- To develop engagement in meaningful activity

Other objectives that can be realized through this program:

- Invite imagination
- Promote social interactions
- Develop communication skills
- Improve memorization skills
- Increase vocal skills
- Develop sensory skills
- Improve patterns of movement and sequencing
- Promote emotional expression
- Have fun !

Length of sessions: We will offer WORKSHOPS in the performing arts for 2 hour sessions (July 29 is one 3 hour session). Dates are June 25 and 26, July 16, 17 and 29 and August 6 and 7.

Cost: \$75 per child for each workshop (July 29 is \$99)

(\$20 credit will be provided per workshop that is missed for any reason)

Location: Pearl Studios in Midtown Manhattan near Macys

500 Eighth Ave between 35th/36th St (212) 904-1850

Time: See chart on next page

Profiles and consent: We will be asking parents for brief profiles of their children and we will set up interviews via face to face or skype. All information is confidential.

Workshop name	Date	Time	Participants	Cost
Music and movement	Saturday June 25	10-noon	Highly challenged 6-12 years old	\$75
Music and movement	Saturday June 25	1-3pm	Aspergers and neurotypical children only	\$75
Playwrighting and Acting	Sunday June 26	10-noon	ALL	\$75
Improvisation	Sunday June 26	1-3pm	ALL	\$75 (both acting and improv may include music)
Saturday July 16	Playwrighting and Acting	10-noon	ALL	\$75
Saturday July 16	Improvisation	1-3pm	ALL	\$75
Sunday July 17	Music and movement	10-noon	Highly challenged 12-18 years old	\$75
Sunday July 17	Music and Movement	1-3pm	Autism only 6-18 years old	\$75
Friday July 29	Music, movement and Acting	10-1pm	Aspergers or high functioning autism and neurotypical children	\$99
Saturday August 6	Music and Movement	10-noon	Highly challenged 6-12 years old	\$75

Saturday August 6	Music and Movement	1-3pm	Autism only	\$75
Sunday August 7	Playwrighting and Acting	10-noon	ALL	\$75
Sunday August 7	Improvisation	1-3pm	ALL	\$75

Our autism and creative, expressive and performing arts programming also include:

- **private classes for individuals**
- **all day intensive creative and performing arts workshops**
- **siblings workshops**
- **Parent/caregiver sessions to develop creativity in your child and help them with social skill development**

Dr. Pizzi also offers wellness coaching for children and adults (and parents, siblings, and others). Call for information.

Please email us about your interest.

Contact with questions or to register:

Maegan Pachomski

mpachom@gmail.com and

Dr. Michael A. Pizzi 347-385-4207 mptouchinghumanity@gmail.com

Website: www.touchinghumanityinc.org

Pay by Paypal: mptouchinghumanity

Our motto: Given opportunity, always able