

Charlotte Performing Arts Center

~ PRESS RELEASE ~

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CPAC 2010 Summer Musical Theatre Camp a Huge Success

The 50 participants in the 2010 Charlotte Performing Arts Center's Musical Theatre Camp had an exciting theatrical experience that included workshops in how to audition, projection and diction, and Shakespeare to name a few. The two week session culminated in a final performance of skits, musical numbers, and *Disney's Aladdin Kids* which was attended by nearly 200 people.

The Broadway Kids participants, who were in grades 2 through 6, learned about the different aspects of putting together a musical. They spent most of their time preparing to perform *Disney's Aladdin Kids*, which was no easy task. Auditions were held on the first day so that parts could be assigned, and every day they worked on a different part of the show. Many of the participants had lines to memorize and all had songs and dances to learn. It was a fun and challenging task for everyone involved.

The Broadway Teens participants, who were in grades 7 through 12, had a different camp experience. Their days consisted in part of "scene work" which involved learning various songs from musicals and preparing to act, sing, and dance them during the final performance. The pieces that were selected consisted of solos, duets, and group songs that showcased the many talents within the Broadway Teens group. The other part of their days was spent on a group project to write a 10-minute musical. The Teens were instructed to select 1 or 2 fairy tales and create a new story featuring the characters. They had to include several things that were featured in workshops throughout the 2 weeks such as theatrical sword fighting, a Shakespeare quote/reference, and an original song 16 measures long to name a few. The final project was performed in costume during a performance on the last day.

This year's camp saw increased attendance over the 2007, 2008, and 2009 camps. Reaction from campers and parents was extremely positive. Numerous parents commented that their children were demonstrating lessons learned at camp while at home, and were already looking forward to next year's theatre camp experience. Camp co-directors Amanda Wells and Hollie Auten, and assistant director Sarah

Shoemaker were very pleased with the outcome and are already starting to make plans for the camp in 2011.

“We learned many things from this year’s camp experience that we will attempt to incorporate into future camps”, says Auten. “The overwhelming amount of positive feedback we have received from campers and parents has been amazing! We hope to continue this tradition for many years to come!”

Along with Wells, Auten, and Shoemaker, camp was facilitated by student counselors Stephanie Shaffer, Libby Timmis, Sheridan Saunders, Courtney Heisler, Cecilia Corbin, and Cam, Chris, and Casey Eldridge. Production assistance was also given by Catie Eldridge, Amy Jo Kinyon, Alex Dartt, and Gavin Smith.

Information on the 2011 Summer Musical Theatre Camp will be announced in late Spring 2011.

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