

TAG

CITIZENS THEATRE



WEEKLY DRAMA CLASSES
INFORMATION PACK
SPRING 2010

ABOUT US

The Citizens Company was founded in 1943 on the premise that it would be a 'Citizens theatre in the fullest sense' and would 'produce plays which Glasgow playgoers would otherwise not have the opportunity of seeing'. Based at the Royal Princess' Theatre on Gorbals Street, a 10-minute walk south of Glasgow city centre, the theatre was renamed the Citizens Theatre in 1945.

Today, the Citizens Theatre is the major producing theatre for Glasgow and the West of Scotland and is internationally renowned for the quality of its productions and its year round programme of education and outreach activity.

The Citizens Learning & TAG department produces a wide range of educational activities for both adults and children. They also run two non-professional theatre companies: the Community Company and Young Co..



TAG

TAG is a key player in Scotland's children and young people's theatre sector. TAG offers a broad range of high quality productions and participatory projects designed to engage and inspire Scotland's children and young people.

TAG was originally developed as the outreach arm of the Citizens Theatre in Glasgow in 1967, and was known as the Citizens Theatre for Youth. The company changed its name in the 1970s and became TAG, which stood for Theatre About Glasgow. Now operating on a Scotland-wide remit, we simply use the initials "TAG".



WEEKLY CLASSES

Our weekly drama class programme is split into several different age groups. These classes run as follows:

Saturday Classes

4-5 years	10.30-11.30am, 2-3pm
6-8 years	11.45am-12.45pm, 3.15-4.15pm & 3.45-5pm
9-12 years	2-3.30pm
13-15 years	3.45-5.15pm

Sunday Classes

4-5 years	12 noon-1pm, 3-4pm
6-8 years	1:30-2:30pm, 2-3.15pm, 4:30-5:30pm
9-10 years	12 noon-1:30pm, 2-3:30pm
11-12 years	12 noon-1:30pm, 4-5:30pm
13-15 years	4-5:30pm

There are 3 terms per year, each usually lasting 8-10 weeks. The classes don't run during school holidays. The **Spring 2010** term will run from **Saturday 9th January to Sunday 21st March**. There will be no classes running on the 13-14 February. See the list of dates at the back of this booklet.

Each class is run by a lead drama tutor and an assistant drama tutor. All of our tutors are fully qualified and hold Disclosure Scotland certificates. There will always be a staff member available to deal with any issues and to show children to the toilets if they need to go during the class.

The content of the classes for each group has been developed so that all activities are age-appropriate. The following pages contain a brief description of what we aim to cover and achieve in each group during a term.

PERFORMANCES

At the end of each term there will be a sharing of work that will take place in the Citizens Theatre. The aim of this is to allow parents to see what their children have been up to during the term in the drama class. Information about such sharings will be given out 2-3 weeks before the end of term.

Please note that these 'sharings' are very informal and are not large-scale performances with costumes, sets, etc. We run an Easter and Summer Academy where participants can take part in a more formal performance.

4-5 YEAR OLDS

The class for 4-5 year olds takes storytelling, creative play and story-acting as its focus. The benefits of this kind of activity for children of this age are vast and the areas we aim to work on are listed below:

- **Social Skills:** Learning how to work as part of a team, and the importance of taking turns and sharing.
- **Vocal Skills:** The children are encouraged to speak about their thoughts and feelings in a way that can be understood by the rest of the group.
- **Movement and Co-ordination:** Activities help the children to develop an awareness of their own bodies in relation to the space around them.
- **Use of Imagination:** In exploring stories and imaginary worlds, the children engage in simple role-play and basic tutor led improvisations, as well as being encouraged to tell their own stories.
- **Listening and Responding:** Understanding when it is their turn to speak and when it is a time to listen.



6-8 YEAR OLDS

While many of the skills listed for the 4-5 age-group are carried into the 6-8 years group, we work at a more advanced level and also incorporate the following:

- **Characterisation Skills:** Through role-play and improvisation the children learn how to develop characters through voice, movement and facial expression.
- **Storytelling Techniques:** The children explore different ways of telling their stories, using mime, narrators, chorus work and still images/tableaux.
- **Concentration Skills:** Through focusing activities we aim to develop concentration skills.

9-12 and 13-15 YEAR OLDS

The classes for 9-12 year olds and 13-15 year olds focus much more on drama and performance skills and are delivered at a level to suit those age groups.

There is scope for these two older age groups to work towards performances. These will be developed through negotiation with each group of participants. If there is a demand from the young people to do more performance based work, we will address that and accommodate the groups as best we can.

Please feel free to speak to any staff member if you would like to know anything more about the classes or if you wish to discuss your child's progress.



PAYMENT OF CLASSES

All of our weekend drama classes cost just £5.50, regardless of your child's age. We try to keep our costs as low as we can, to offer value for money and to make our classes accessible to as many people as possible.

Full term costs must be paid in one instalment before the term begins.

The Citizens Theatre box office deals with all payments. The box office can be contacted on 0141 429 0022. Payment for weekend classes can be made either in person or by card between 10am-6pm Monday - Saturday.

For more information about payments, or to discuss issues you may have, please phone the box office on 0141 429 0022.

REFRESHMENTS

We are keen for parents to feel as welcome in our building as their children are whilst the drama classes are running. We also appreciate that participants may have younger brothers or sisters who won't be taking part in the drama classes.

We therefore provide free refreshments and newspapers for family members who wish to stay in the building during the drama classes.

You can enjoy a complimentary tea or coffee from the coffee bar and relax with a paper, safe in the knowledge that your child is having fun in the drama workshop. Your younger children can also read one of our story books in the STORY CORNER to stay occupied. We ask that parents keep an eye on any children who are not taking part in a drama class (as the foyer area can be seen by young children as a bit of an adventure playground).



I'M A CITIZEN DISCOUNT CARD

The Citizens Theatre is delighted to offer a discount card which has been specially created for the people who take part in Citizens or TAG activities at the theatre.

As a participant we would like to reward you and invite you to enjoy some of the theatre we have created here at the Citizens. Your **I'M A CITIZEN** card will be issued to you along with details of how you can use it in the building.

YOUNG AUDIENCES SCOTLAND

TAG supports Young Audiences Scotland.

You can visit www.youngaudiencesscotland.com to find theatre events for children and young people near you. You can use the search engine and/or sign up to a fantastic monthly e-newsletter.

FEEDBACK

Please feel free to talk to our staff anytime. This term we have also introduced a brand new place to feedback. You can now leave comments on the Weekly Drama Classes page on our brand new website. Just go to:

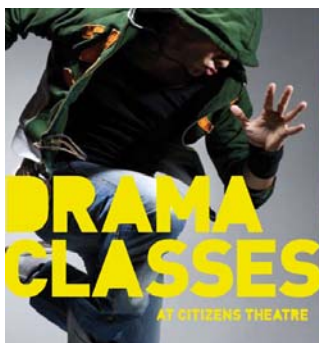
http://citz.co.uk/whatson/info/weekly_drama_classes/

WEEKLY DRAMA CLASSES

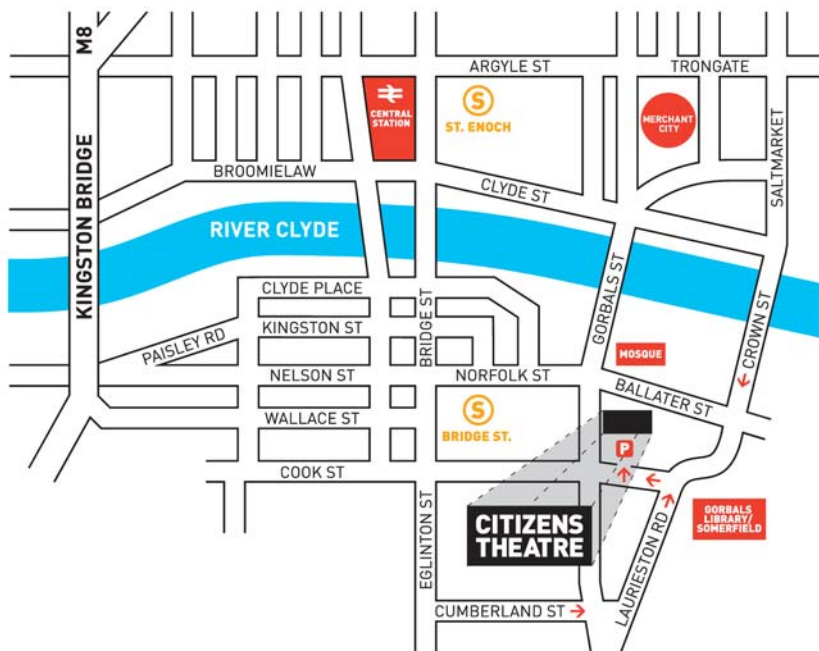
Guidelines

To make sure we have a safe and fun environment in our classes we have established some general guidelines that we would hope and expect all participants to follow.

1. All children should be brought to the class and picked up afterwards by a parent/guardian. If you have arranged for someone else to drop off or pick up your child you must let staff know. No children will be allowed to leave the building after the session unless accompanied by an adult. All children should be brought to classes in good time and collected promptly after the session ends.
2. All participants should wear appropriate clothing for a drama class, i.e. no jewellery that could catch or hurt people, no skirts etc. Soft shoes should be worn. No football colours will be allowed.
3. If your child is absent for two weeks with no explanation or advance notice their place will be given to the person at the top of the waiting list. Please let us know if your child is going to be absent, so they do not lose their place. Phone the box office on a Saturday (0141 429 0022) or stage door on a Sunday (0141 429 5561) to let us know about absences.
4. We operate on a 'three strikes and you are out' policy. Poor behaviour from one child can very quickly ruin the sessions for everyone else. If your child's behaviour gives cause for concern the drama leader will speak to you about it. If the problem persists we may have to take the regrettable step of asking your child to leave the group.
5. All children attending the weekly drama classes must respect the other participants and staff at all times.
6. Finally, the Citizens Theatre cannot be responsible for any belongings left by a child or their parent. Lost property will be kept at stage door for a limited period and then given to charity. Please ensure you take belongings home after each session.
7. Citizens Theatre staff are not responsible for younger siblings in the foyer. If a parent decides to stay in the building while the classes are running it is their responsibility to look after any other children they may have with them.



HOW TO FIND US



Citizens Theatre
119 Gorbals Street
Glasgow
G5 9DS

Box Office
(Weekdays & Saturday)
0141 429 0022

Stage Door
(Contact on Sunday only)
0141 429 5561

By Foot

A short walk from the Merchant City and Trongate, straight across Victoria Bridge.

Subway

The nearest underground stop is BRIDGE STREET which is 5 mins walk from the theatre.

Buses

A large number of buses stop outside the theatre on Gorbals Street including 5, 7, 12, 20, 31, 37, 66, 67, 74, 75 & 267.

Train

20 minute walk from Queen Street or Central Station, 10 minute walk from Argyle Street Station.

Car Park

FREE car parking is available in our own car park adjacent to the theatre building. Entry is via Crown Street.

WEEKLY DRAMA CLASSES

Spring Term Dates

9 January – 21 March 2010

Week 1 – Saturday 9th / Sunday 10th January

Week 2 – Saturday 16th / Sunday 17th January

Week 3 – Saturday 23rd / Sunday 24th January

Week 4 – Saturday 30th / Sunday 31st January

Week 5 – Saturday 6th / Sunday 7th February

Break – no sessions on 13th or 14th February

Week 6 – Saturday 20th / Sunday 21st February

Week 7 – Saturday 27th / Sunday 28th February

Week 8 – Saturday 6th / Sunday 7th March

Week 9 – Saturday 13th / Sunday 14th March

Week 10 – Saturday 20th / Sunday 21st March



ABSENCE - *If you cannot attend please phone the theatre to let us know. The number for a **Saturday** is 0141 429 0022. The number for a **Sunday** is 0141 429 5561. If your child is absent for 2 weeks without explanation we will give their place to the first person on the waiting list, with no refund of fees.*