

# THEATER PUPPETS CERAMICS AND MORE!

Summer camps at the Arts Center



Forget the sleeping bags and bug spray. Young aspiring actors will get the star treatment this summer at the Arts Center of Coastal Carolina's theater camps for kids.

Children will learn basic acting skills, play-writing and dance in each of four one-week sessions being offered in June and July. On the last day of the session, they'll present a mini-production for parents and friends.

The theater camps are part of a full schedule of summer classes and workshops focusing on the visual and performing arts. This year's lineup covers a wide-range of disciplines from ceramics to puppeteering to painting with watercolors.

"Students not only learn a skill, they come away with a better understanding of the art process," said Arts Center Director of

Education Alana Adams. "Experiencing the work and creativity that goes into producing a play or fabricating a piece of pottery gives them a whole new appreciation of what artists do."

Two of the camps will tie into the Arts Center's production of *Smokey Joe's Café*, a Broadway musical featuring hits from the '50s and '60s. "Pop! Performing Arts Camp" will explore the music and dance of the era. In the "Pop! Visual Arts Camp," participants will study the American pop art movement.

Cast members from the show and dance teacher Patti Maurer will teach the theater camp June 27-July 1. The week of July 18-22, the professional actors will team up with Jay Apking, a Cincinnati director specializing in children's theater, to teach "Take the Stage! Performing Arts Camp." Class hours run 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. for ages 5-7 and 1-3 p.m. for ages 8-12. Cost is \$100 for each weeklong session.

Apking also will lead the July 11-15 session of "Theatre Camp," offering students 9-14 the opportunity to write, produce and perform an original one-act play. Harry Culpepper, theatre arts teacher at Hilton Head Island School for the Creative Arts, will teach a second "Theatre Camp" session set for July 25-29.

Several weeklong camps are also available in the visual arts. They include "Kids N' Clay," offering instruction on ceramic hand-building techniques; "Mixed-Up Masterpieces," a session covering mediums such as painting, sculpture, printmaking and found objects; and "Big Top Art," where students will create two- and three-dimensional art inspired by the circus.

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Jack Spierth



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In addition to the camps, the Arts Center has scheduled several workshops, among them “Palm Bark Puppets,” open to kids 5-12, and “Creating Characters Through Improvisation” for students 11-15.

New this year is “Musical Kazoocicles” taught by Lowcountry outsider artist Amos Hummell. Participants ages 5-12 will craft a

“kazoosaphone,” a one-of-a-kind kazoo that’s as much a work of art as an instrument.

ArtStart classes for preschoolers 2-5 also will be offered Thursdays from 10 to 11 a.m. throughout the summer.

Pre-registration is required for all workshops and camps. Call the education office at 843-686-3945, ext. 233, to sign up.