

Summer Stage '24 Family Handbook

Session I
June 15, 22, & 29
June 19 - July 3
(Grades 1 - 9)



July 1 - 3

Session II
June 24 - July 12
(Grades 8 - 12)



July 9 - 12

Session III
July 15 - August 2
(Grades 1 - 12)



Jul. 30 - Aug. 2

Session IV
August 5 - 23
(Grades 1 - 12)



August 20 - 23

Our 19th Summer Of Hosting Our Award-Winning Musical Theater Camp!

Moorestown Theater Company

MTC Studio • 5 W. Main St. // MTC Theater @ First Methodist Church • 446 E. Camden Ave. • Moorestown, NJ 08057
MoorestownTheaterCompany.org • Info@MoorestownTheaterCompany.org • 856 / 778 - 8357

Table Of Contents

Table Of Contents.....	2
Welcome Letter.....	3
About Summer Stage '24 Musical Theater Camp	4
Drop-Off / Pick-Up Procedures	4
ABC's Of Summer Stage '24	5 - 7
Auditions, Behavior, Classes,.....	5
Classes (continued), Cell Phones, Clothing, Contact Info, Costumes, Lunch.....	6
Lunch (continued), Medications, Music & Dance, Photos, Program Book	7
Recording Of Shows, Remind Text Messaging, Snacks, Shows / Tickets, Theme Song.....	7
Calendars:	8 - 10

Welcome Letter

SUMMER STAGE '24

“Where Musical Theater Is A Team Sport!”

June 2024

Dear Families,

Welcome to the non-profit **Moorestown Theater Company's Summer Stage '24**, our award-winning **Musical Theater Camp**, which we are now hosting for our 19th straight year. We hope by the end of each Session that you, and more importantly, your child, will agree that we have provided a well-rounded introduction to the performing arts in general, and musical theater in particular. We have again hired a staff of young educators, all of whom are high school graduates (i.e., no high school 'counselors in training'), who are all involved in performing arts and / or interested in teaching as a profession, and most of whom have grown up with, and performed with, **MTC**. All staff members have had background checks, and numerous staff members are qualified in CPR.

Take a few minutes to read through our Family Handbook, which will give you all of the info about **Summer Stage '24**. We also want to emphasize to you that we never forget the importance of safety, especially as we come out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please feel free to call us if you have any questions about anything in this Family Handbook. Also please feel free to visit anytime while **Summer Stage '24** is in session.

Finally, thank you for entrusting your most important gift to us: your child!

Welcome to the magical world of musical theater and to **MTC's Summer Stage '24!**

Sincerely,

Mark

Mark Morgan
SS '24 Director
MTC Producing Artistic Director

Cell: **609 / 923-2506**

Carol Ann

Carol Ann Murray
SS '24 Associate Director
MTC Managing Director

Cell: **609 / 519-3764**

Annette

Annette De Rosa
SS '24 Assistant Director
MTC Administrative Director
(Off-site)

Cell: **609 / 923-2149**

Moorestown Theater Company

First Methodist Church • 446 E. Camden Avenue • Moorestown, NJ 08057
Info@MoorestownTheaterCompany.org • 856 / 778 - 8357

About Summer Stage '24 Musical Theater Camp

Summer Stage '24 Musical Theater Camp is an all-day (8:30 AM – 4:30 PM) Summer Camp (with four different sessions) that focuses solely on Musical Theater. It is held entirely at First Methodist Church (FMC) at 446 E. Camden Avenue in Moorestown.

Drop-Off / Pick-Up Procedures

Arrival: **Summer Stage '24** hours are 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM. There are three entrances to FMC from Camden Avenue, Pleasant Valley Avenue, and Kings Highway. In a change from last summer, once you are in the parking lot, get in the Drop-Off / Pick-Up Line that ends by the flagpole. Walk up the asphalt walkway past the the yellow **MTC** sign and enter through the door at the end of this asphalt walkway. Turn right and check in with Camp Director **Mark Morgan** in the Summer Stage '24 Office on the left. Or if you prefer, you can park in a space and walk your Camper into this door.

Feel free to stop in any time if you have a question or to see what is going on at **Summer Stage '24**.

Please call the **Summer Stage '24** Office (856 / 778-8357) in the morning (if possible) if your Child will not attend camp on any day, if your child will be arriving late to camp (after 9 AM), or if you need to pick up your child before 4 PM. You can also send a text to Camp Director **Mark Morgan** at 609 / 922-2506.

Early Drop-Off: You may leave your Camper off as early as 8 AM, any day for an additional \$5 per Camper per day. If you will be doing this occasionally, please send the \$5 in with your Camper on the early drop-off day. If you will be dropping off your Camper early every day or most days each week, you may pay for this service at the end of the week on Friday morning. We accept credit cards, checks, Venmo and cash for this service. If you know that you will be dropping off your Camper early most days, please let us know.

MTC Staff Members will be outside to greet your Camper from 8:30 to 9 AM, so please walk them in if you arrive before 8:30 AM. If you are doing an early drop-off, Camp Director **Mark Morgan** will be inside the building monitoring the early drop-off Campers. Your early drop-off Camper may bring breakfast with them, if this is helpful to you.

Pick-up: When picking up your Camper, again please pull into the Drop-Off / Pick-Up Line by the flagpole, or park in a space and walk in to get your Camper. Tell the Staff Member in the Drop-Off / Pick-Up Line the name of your Camper and he / she / they will be retrieved for you. Once again, for the safety of the Campers, please exit the Drop-Off / Pick-Up Line slowly and carefully.

On the first day of each Camp Session, your Camper will receive two copies of our Pick-Up Dashboard Placard. Please display this placard whenever you are picking up your Camper at **Summer Stage '24**. Campers will not be released to anyone who doesn't have our Pick-Up Dashboard Placard. Please stop into the Summer Stage '24 Office if you need additional placards.

Late Pick-Up: **MTC** will offer, at an additional charge of \$5 per half hour per day per Camper, a late pick-up period from 4:30 to 5 PM. If you arrive after 5 PM to pick-up your Camper, there will be an additional charge of \$10 for pick-ups between 5:01 – 5:10 PM, \$20 for pick-ups between 5:11 – 5:20 PM, etc. We will mark off the time that your Camper is dropped off and picked up each day. You will be presented with a weekly bill for the time that your Camper has been dropped off early or picked up late.

Payments for early Drop-Offs / Late Pick-Ups should be paid at the end of each week, and must be paid before the first performance of any Session.

Please call **Summer Stage '24** at 856 / 778-8357 if you have any questions about any of these procedures!

Moorestown Theater Company

First Methodist Church • 446 E. Camden Avenue • Moorestown, NJ 08057
Info@MoorestownTheaterCompany.org • 856 / 778 - 8357

The ABC's of MTC's Summer Stage '24

Auditions: If not before, on the first day of each Session (and possibly the second), audition material will be taught during the morning, with auditions held as soon as possible that first morning. For Session I (*Cinderella YE*), there will be a separate Audition Days on Monday, June 10 and Tuesday, June 11 from 4 to 6 PM at **MTC's Performing Arts Studio at 5 West Main Street**. For Session II (*Grease, School* Version), there will be a separate Audition Day on Saturday, June 22 from 1 to 4 PM, also at **MTC's Performing Arts Studio at 5 West Main Street**. Audition materials are posted on the **MTC** website as they become available. Please be sure to print and complete an Audition Form, attach a small photo of your Camper in the space in the top-right corner, and bring it to the Audition / First Day of your Session! The Audition Form can be found on the Summer Stage Page of the **MTC** Website.

The goal is to cast each show by the end of each Session's first day if possible, and by lunchtime of the second day at the latest. If your Camper wants to audition for a lead role, he / she / they will sing a song from that Session's show, learn a dance combination, and possibly read from the script. If your Camper does not want to audition for a lead role, and wants to be in the Chorus, he / she / they does / do not have to audition vocally; he / she / they will automatically be in the show. Audition questions should go to the show's Director.

Behavior: Polite behavior, respect, and kindness for others is expected of Campers and Staff Members. Cursing, bullying (both in-person and via social media), smoking, gambling, alcoholic beverages, and illegal substances of any kind are **STRICTLY PROHIBITED**. **Campers will be given (either in person or via email) the MTC Board Approved 'Cast / Staff Conduct Contract' on / by the first day of each Session. This Contract must be read and signed by parents and students and then returned the next day.** Parents will be notified of any violation of these Camp Rules. **MTC** reserves the right to dismiss and send home any Campers whose conduct is deemed detrimental to the Camp and its other Campers. **MTC** policy is not to refund the tuition fee of any Camper who is sent home under these circumstances. Also, there will be no refund of the tuition fee for withdrawal from Camp because your child is disappointed with the role they have been given, or if they are selected for the "Chorus" rather than a "Lead" role. **All MTC Staff is also required to sign the contract.**

Cell Phones: We would prefer that Campers do not carry cell phones to **Summer Stage '24**, since they do tend to be a distraction to other Campers, but we know that is not realistic. We reserve the right to collect phones in our 'Cell Phone Locker' if Campers are using them when they are not supposed to. Campers should only be using their phones during lunch. The Camp Director and each Session's Production Team will always have their cell phones available if any phone calls are needed from Campers to Parents, or vice-versa.

Classes: We will hold Acting, Music, and Dance Classes in the mornings of each Session's first few days.

Acting: Various theater techniques and games will be used to teach different aspects of the art of Acting. Classes might start with warm-up exercises like stretching and tongue-twisters. Games such as the 'Mirror Game', 'Slow-Motion Freeze Tag', and 'Stage Directions', might be used to show how the skills used in these games can transfer to the stage. Activities such as pantomimed phone calls, soundless conversations, using the five senses to show how you behave differently in the same situation, could be used to show the Campers how to bring their real life experiences to the world of acting. Scenes from the Session's show may also be reviewed in the class so that Campers will be better prepared for the rehearsals.

Music: Different types of modern music, including folk songs and rounds, could be studied to help Campers appreciate the fundamentals of musical composition and performance. Creative instruction in vocal music is used to develop melodic, rhythmic, singing, and performing skills, with an emphasis given on the importance of dynamics, tonality, and rhythm in relation to singing. A demonstration and history of various musical instruments might be given, with Campers possibly getting to try the instruments. Various songs from the Session's show may also be reviewed in the class so Campers will be better prepared for the rehearsals.

- Continued On Next Page -

Moorestown Theater Company

First Methodist Church • 446 E. Camden Avenue • Moorestown, NJ 08057
Info@MoorestownTheaterCompany.org • 856 / 778 - 8357

The ABC's of Summer Stage '24 (Continued)

Dance: Different types of modern dance, listed below, could be studied, depending on the experience of the Session's Choreographer, to help Campers appreciate the fundamentals of various genres. Various types of dance might be explored, such as:

Ballet: Each dance class will begin with a warm-up of the arms, legs, neck, back, ankles, and knees. Students will learn the basic positions of Ballet, which will be used throughout camp (and beyond). Introductory steps will be demonstrated and taught. Various dance pieces for the Session's show will also be taught (and broken down) in the class so that Campers will be better prepared for the Session's rehearsals.

Jazz: Each class will begin with a warm-up of the arms, legs, neck, back, ankles, and knees. Students will learn the basics of Jazz, which will be used throughout camp (and beyond). These introductory steps will include, among others, ball changes, pas de bourrées, kick ball changes, jazz squares, pirouettes, grapevines, etc. There might also be dance games played, including 'Dance Simon Says' and 'Freeze Dance'. Techniques such as 'spotting' will also be demonstrated and taught. Various dance pieces for the Session's show will also be taught (and broken down) in the class so that Campers will be better prepared for the Session's rehearsals.

Tap: The very specific art of Tap will begin with a warm-up of stretching all of the necessary body parts. The five basic steps of Tap will be taught first: toe, heel, stomp, flap, and shuffle. Once the basic steps are mastered, then the Campers will learn how to put them together to make different advanced combinations. Since this is a very specific dance form, the students will be taught with a 'See and Respond' method. The teacher will demonstrate the steps, and the Campers will try to repeat the steps and recreate the proper 'sound' of the step. Other dance games will be used to help the Campers learn the basics. Depending what style of dance is being used for the show, Tap may not be taught.

Clothing: All Campers (and Staff Members) should wear loose, comfortable clothing. This would include T-Shirts and Shorts. There should be nothing offensive printed on any T-Shirts (or you will receive a phone call asking you to bring a change of clothes for your Camper). Sneakers or some kind of tied shoes are required. **(This means no flip flops, sandals, slides, crocs, or any other open-toed shoes.)** If your Camper owns dance shoes (jazz and / or tap), please feel free to send them in - but be sure to add your Camper's name to each shoe (as we wind up with many unclaimed shoes at the end of each Session).

Contact Phone Number: The MTC phone number is **856 / 778-8357**. Please call this number if you need to reach a Staff Member or your child. Camp Director **Mark Morgan's** Cell Number is **609 / 923-2506**. Call this number if for some reason no ones answers the MTC phone.

Costumes: Once the auditions are over, a costume list will be posted on the website and emailed to you. While MTC provides most costuming pieces that your Camper will wear in the Session's show, you may have to supply a component. Dance shoes are required and will be listed on the Costume Plot. If you can sew, we may ask for your assistance with this very important area of the show. Please feel free to speak to Summer Stage Associate Director **Carol Ann Murray** if you have any costume questions.

Lunch: Campers must bring their lunch from home every day. We will not be able to cook or 'heat up' any lunches. Please use freezer packs if you would like to keep your child's lunch cold. (We do not have refrigerator space to store lunches that need to be kept cold.) Campers will put their lunches in bins each morning.

Please be sure that your Camper's name is on his or her lunch bag or lunch box. If by chance your Camper forgets his or her lunch, you will be called to see if you can bring it in before we get to lunch.

- Continued On Next Page -

Moorestown Theater Company

First Methodist Church • 446 E. Camden Avenue • Moorestown, NJ 08057
Info@MoorestownTheaterCompany.org • 856 / 778 - 8357

The ABC's of Summer Stage '24 (Continued)

Chick-Fil-A Thursdays: If you Camper wants to order Chick-fil-A sandwiches or 8-count nuggets, they need to bring \$8 per camper (cash) by Wednesday of each week (when orders will be sent to Chick-Fil-A). You must still supply your own drink and sides on Chick-fil-a Thursdays.

Medication: If you need to leave medication with us, please come into the building and give the medication and any directions to Camp Director **Mark Morgan**. The medicine will be stored safely on-site.

Music & Dance: A link will be provided to a Google Drive that will contain all rehearsal tracks and rehearsal videos for home practice.

Photos: When you registered for **MTC's Summer Stage '24**, you read and agreed to the terms of our Medical & Media Release, which allows **MTC** to use photographs of all Campers for advertising purposes.

Production Partners: If your Family, or your Business, would like to be a Production Partner for your Camper's Summer Stage Show, please speak with Camp Director **Mark Morgan** at the beginning of a Session.

Program / Ads / Bios: We produce a program book for each Session's show either via a QR Code (for the Audience) or in print (for Cast Members). This program will include information about the show (scenes, songs, story, etc.), as well as bios for the Staff and Cast. We will take a picture of your Camper on the first or second day of camp, and we will place it next to a short "bio" of your Camper that you can submit through our website, **MoorestownTheaterCompany.org** (clicking on the **Summer Stage** logo, and then clicking "**Submit a bio for the program book**"). If you wish to purchase an ad in any / all program (s), follow the same links mentioned above, and then click on "**Submit an ad for the program book**" and scroll down to the option you want. **All Ads and Bios are due on the first Friday of each Session.**

Recording Of Shows: We will record a performance of each show and then post instructions on the website how you can purchase a copy.

Remind Text Messaging System: If you have not already done so please sign up for our Remind Text Messaging System. We have a unique group for each session, so if your child is in multiple sessions, you need to sign up multiple times.

Enter **81010** and text the show code below. Trouble using 81010? Try entering to **(201) 654-0606** instead.

Session I: **@24-ss-i** / Session II: **@24-ss-ii** / Session III: **@24-ss-iii** / Session IV: **@24-ss-iv**

Snacks: There will be a snack break in the afternoon every day from 2:25 to 2:35 PM. **MTC** will usually provide "Freeze Pops" for every Camper every afternoon. If your Camper wants or needs to bring in a different kind of snack for this break, that is permissible. And if your Camper has a birthday during his / her / their Session, please call Camp Director **Mark Morgan** at **856 / 778-8357** if you would like to send in birthday snacks. Also, if you would like to provide the snack on any camp day, please call **Mark**.

Shows / Tickets: The dates / times for the session's show are listed on **MTC** Website and on the calendars on the following pages. To purchase tickets, please visit [MoorestownTheaterCompany.org](https://www.moorestowntheatercompany.org).

Theme Song: We sing 'Warts And All' from **Honk! JR.** (our first Summer Stage production in 2006) before the final performance of each Session's show, inviting Summer Stage Alums in the audience to join the Cast.

Moorestown Theater Company

First Methodist Church • 446 E. Camden Avenue • Moorestown, NJ 08057
Info@MoorestownTheaterCompany.org • 856 / 778 - 8357

June 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						June 1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Audition for Cinderella YE At MTC Studio 4 PM - 6 PM	11 Audition for Cinderella YE At MTC Studio 4 PM - 6 PM	12	13	14	15 Session I / Day 1 Cinderella YE
16 Fathers' Day	No Summer Stage	No Summer Stage	19 Session I / Day 2 Cinderella YE C-F-A Money Due	20 Chick-Fil-A Day	21 Freaky Friday Pajama Day Session I Ads & Bios due	22 Session I / Day 5 Cinderella YE
23 Session II / Day 1 Grease School Version	24	25	26 Wacky Wednesday Nationality Day C-F-A Money Due	27 Chick-Fil-A Day	28 Freaky Friday: Red White & Blue Day Session II Ads & Bios due	29

Moorestown Theater Company

First Methodist Church • 446 E. Camden Avenue • Moorestown, NJ 08057
 Info@MoorestownTheaterCompany.org • 856 / 778 - 8357

July 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					28 Freaky Friday: Red White & Blue Day Session II Ads & Bios due	29
30	1 Session I SHOW WEEK Show #1 - 2 PM Show #2 - 7 PM	2 Show #3 - 11 AM Show #4 - 7 PM	3 Wacky Wednesday Mismatched Clothes (Session II) Show #5 - 10 AM Show #6 - 2 PM	4 Independence Day Camp Closed Session I & II Casts will march in Moorestown's Independence Day	5 Independence Day Camp Closed	6
7	8 Session II SHOW WEEK	9 Show #1 - 7 PM	10 CFA Money due Show #2 - 11 AM Show #3 - 7 PM	11 Chick-Fil-A Day Show #4 - 11 AM Show #5 - 7 PM	12 Show #6 - 11 AM	13
14	15 Session III Willy Wonka JR	16	17 Wacky Wednesday Crazy Hat Day CFA Money Due Fiddler On The Roof Opening Night - 7 PM	18 Chick-Fil-A Day	19 Freaky Friday Backwards Day Session III Ads & Bios Due	20
21	22	23	24 Wacky Wednesday Sports Team CFA Money Due	25 Chick-Fil-A Day	26 Freaky Friday Pajama Day	27

Moorestown Theater Company

First Methodist Church • 446 E. Camden Avenue • Moorestown, NJ 08057
Info@MoorestownTheaterCompany.org • 856 / 778 - 8357

August 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

28	29 Session III SHOW WEEK	30 Show #1 - 7 PM	31 CFA Money due Show #2 - 11 AM Show #3 - 7 PM	August 1 Chick-Fil-A Day Show #4 - 11 AM Show #5 - 7 PM	2 Show #6 - 11 AM	3
4	5 Session IV Beauty And The Beast JR	6 Rent (PG-13) Opening Night 7 PM	7 Wacky Wednesday Crazy Hair Day CFA Money Due	8 Chick-Fil-A Day	9 Freaky Friday Pajama Day Session IV Ads & Bios Due	10
11	12	13	14 Wacky Wednesday Mismatched Shoe or Sock Day CFA Money due	15 Chick-Fil-A Day	16 Freaky Friday Favorite Character Day	17
18	19 Session IV SHOW WEEK	20 Show #1 - 7 PM	21 CFA Money Due Show #2 - 11 AM Show #3 - 7 PM	22 Chick-Fil-A Day Show #4 - 11 AM Show #5 - 7 PM	23 Last Day Of SS Show #6 - 11 AM	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Moorestown Theater Company

First Methodist Church • 446 E. Camden Avenue • Moorestown, NJ 08057
 Info@MoorestownTheaterCompany.org • 856 / 778 - 8357