



### **First Stage Position Announcement**

School Year Academy Teaching Artist (Fall: 9/26-11/4; Winter: 1/16-2/24; Spring: 4/2-5/11)

This position is seasonally contracted and will report to the Academy Director

### **Position Description**

The School Year Academy Teaching Artist position is a 6-week contract, Tuesdays and/or Saturdays—times vary. For the School Year Academy Teaching Artist position you must believe in the mission of First Stage, to transform lives through theater, and work to create a safe, welcoming, inspiring and motivating environment for students, teachers and parents. We are seeking teaching artists with the expertise in any of the following disciplines for our K4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade programs: Musical Theater, Acting Theory, Improvisation, Story Drama and Playmakers.

### **Responsibilities for Academy Teaching Artist**

- Develop, document, and submit age and contextually appropriate lesson plans based on Academy guideposts
- Work with the Academy Director, other Teaching Artists on a continual basis to develop and facilitate theater curriculum to students in K4-12<sup>th</sup> grade
- Maintain a safe learning environment through supporting student well-being, confidence, and personal growth
- Manage classroom behavior, procedures, and assessments
- Attend all required meetings and training sessions
- Facilitate presentations as needed

### **Qualifications**

The School Year Academy Teaching Artist must be a team player, lead by example, exhibit a strong work ethic and be committed to the First Stage philosophy of teaching *life skills through stage skills* and *transforming lives through theater*. Excellent communication skills are critical, along with the ability to adjust communications styles to varied youth, parent and professional populations. Prior teaching and experience creating curriculum, managing a classroom, and writing lesson plans is required. The position will require local travel to our main campus, Milwaukee Youth Arts Center (325 W Walnut St, Milwaukee 53212) or other satellite locations. A Bachelor's degree in Education or Theatre Arts is preferred. The ability to pass a background check is required.

### **Compensation**

First Stage offers a mission you can stand behind and a positive work environment.

This is a contracted position, for Tuesdays and/or Saturdays in Fall, Winter, and/or Spring (see dates and times below). Lead Teaching Artists are paid \$65 per class taught.

### **About First Stage**

First Stage is Milwaukee's premiere non-profit theater for young people and families and has grown from a small theater group to a nationally acclaimed company drawing annual audiences of more than 135,000 people. With a season including six family series plays and one First Steps show (more than 300 performances annually), First Stage has become one of the largest programs in the nation. First Stage

offers arts-in-education programs, spending more than 2,000 hours annually in classrooms throughout southeastern Wisconsin, and the First Stage Theater Academy, a professional theater training program teaching "life skills through stage skills" to 3,000 enrollments of young people ages 3 - 18 each year. It is one of the largest and finest programs of its kind in the nation. For more information about First Stage visit [www.firststage.org](http://www.firststage.org).

**To Apply**

Please send cover letter and resume with your experience, sample lesson plan, availability for Fall, Winter, and/or Spring and any specific curriculum interest via email to Academy Director, J.T. Backes: [jtbackes@firststage.org](mailto:jtbackes@firststage.org).

FIRST STAGE is an equal opportunity employer and as such, we consider individuals for employment according to their abilities and performance. Employment decisions are made without regard to race, age, religion, color, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, physical or mental disability, marital or veteran status, or any other classification protected by law.

## **SCHOOL YEAR CLASS DESCRIPTIONS/TIMES:**

**FALL:** *Tuesdays 9/26-10/31; Saturdays 9/30-11/4*

**WINTER:** *Tuesdays 1/16-2/20; Saturdays 1/20-2/24*

**SPRING:** *Tuesdays 4/2-5/7; Saturdays 4/6-5/11*

**Story Drama (K4-1 grade) SATURDAYS: 9:30-10:15AM, 10:30-11:15AM-** Bring exciting tales to life through dramatic play! Young people begin to develop their actor tools of body, voice, and imagination by actively engaging in creative play, all while strengthening their ability to focus, cooperate with others, and solve problems. THEMES: *FALL: Super Stories-Unleash Your Inner Hero; WINTER: Friendship Fun! Elephant and Piggie Stories; SPRING: Proudly You, Uniquely True!*

**Playmakers (1-2 grade) TUESDAYS: 4:30-5:30PM; SATURDAYS 9:30-10:30AM, 10:45-11:45AM-** Young actors will go on a new adventure each week as they utilize creative thinking as a group to further develop their beginning acting skills. Students will work as a group to pull inspiration from popular themes, create their own stories, and act them out together! THEMES: *FALL: Minecraft Mastery: Unlock Your Creative Blocks!; WINTER: Time Trek: A Whirlwind Adventure Through Time!; SPRING: Jungle Jamboree: An Animal Adventure!*

**Musical Theater Fundamentals (3-4 grade) TUESDAYS: 4:30-5:30PM; SATURDAYS 11:00-12:00PM, 12:30-1:30PM-** Increase versatility and work on new vocal and dance techniques while exploring the art of telling stories through words, music, and movement.

**Musical Theater Fundamentals (5-12 grade) SATURDAYS 11:00-12:00PM, 12:30-1:30PM-** Increase versatility and work on new vocal and dance techniques while exploring the art of telling stories through words, music, and movement.

**Acting Fundamentals (3-4 grade) TUESDAYS: 4:30-5:30PM, SATURDAYS: 9:45-10:45AM, 11:00-12:00PM-** Explore characters, relationships, action and text while developing overall acting skills and confidence. THEMES: *FALL: Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical!; WINTER: Elephant and Piggie's "We Are In A Play!"; SPRING: Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Musical!*

**Acting Fundamentals (5-12 grade) TUESDAYS: 4:30-5:30PM; SATURDAYS: 12:00-1:00PM, 1:15-2:15PM-** Explore characters, relationships, action and text while developing overall acting skills and confidence. THEMES: *FALL: The Forgotten Girl; WINTER: The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical!; SPRING: Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Musical!*

**Improvisation Fundamentals (5-12 grade) SATURDAY: 11:00-12:00PM, 12:30-1:30PM-** Use of character and scene improvisational exercises develop expressiveness, spontaneity, effective partnering and honesty on stage.