

EDUCATION HANDBOOK



2025

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WELCOME MESSAGE

WELCOME TO THE MTVARTS EDUCATION EXPERIENCE. PERFORMING IN A LIVE THEATRE PRODUCTION IS AN EXPERIENCE THAT YOUNG PEOPLE WILL REMEMBER FOR THE REST OF THEIR LIVES, AND IT IS TRULY OUR PLEASURE TO WORK WITH YOUR CHILD ON THIS EXCITING PROJECT. WE WANT EVERYONE INVOLVED TO UNDERSTAND BOTH THE BENEFITS AND RESPONSIBILITIES THAT GO ALONG WITH PARTICIPATING IN ARTS EDUCATION, SO WE HAVE DETAILED SOME OF THE BASICS HERE.



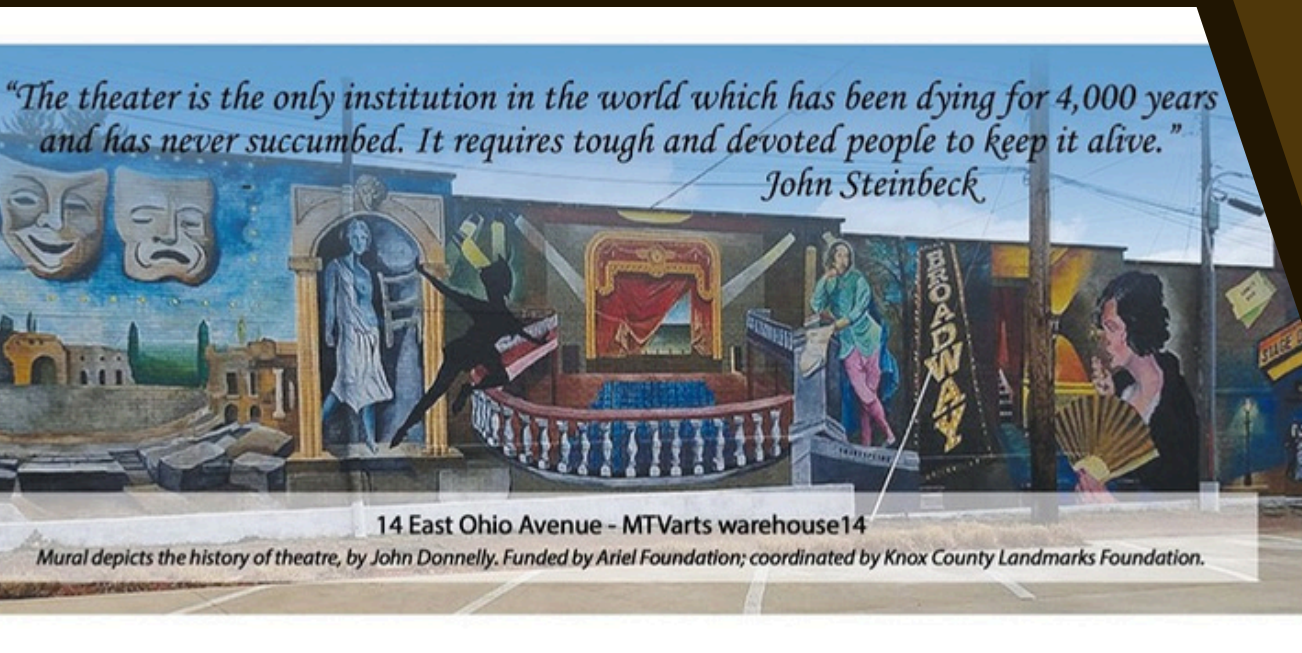
OUR MISSION

MTVARTS IS MAKING LIVE, LOCAL THEATRE CONTRIBUTING TO A THRIVING ARTS COMMUNITY, AVAILABLE TO ALL.

WE WILL INSPIRE OUR COMMUNITY TO DREAM, GIVE THEM THE COURAGE TO PURSUE THOSE DREAMS, AND INSTILL CONFIDENCE THAT COMES FROM ACQUIRING THE NECESSARY SKILLS TO FULFILL THEIR DREAMS.

OUR EDUCATION MISSION IS TO ENCOURAGE INNOVATION AND QUALITY BY NURTURING EMPATHY, RESPECT, AND RESPONSIBILITY IN AN ENVIRONMENT FOR GROWTH.

ABOUT



MTVarts is making theatre and making a difference. We are engaged, inclusive, strong, sustainable. Our brick-and-mortar home, warehouse14, is steps away from the banks of the Kokosing River and at the very heart of the vision for riverfront and downtown development in Mount Vernon. Along historic Blackberry Alley the west wall of our building boasts a stunning mural depicting the history of theatre.

Inside we have accessible rehearsal space, scene shop, costume shop, ADA compliant rest room, and storage.

Our business plan (audience-driven, fluid, adapting) steers our course. With a keen eye to the bottom line, we pursue professional standards and community spirit, staying true to our mission.

Imagine more, together!

BENEFITS

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE ARTS:

Participating in the arts provides young people with a chance to explore their creativity and imagination in a structured and safe environment. Musical theatre is specifically remarkable because it is the only art form that combines all areas of the fine arts: acting, singing, dancing, music, and visual arts.

IMPROVING LITERACY SKILLS

From reading scripts to memorizing lines to learning to tell a story, young people continually improve their literacy skills while rehearsing and performing in a musical.

BECOMING A CONFIDENT PUBLIC SPEAKER:

It takes a lot of guts to stand up and sing or dance in front of your family, peers, and what may seem like the entire community. Experience with public speaking at a young age gives students confidence that will be important to them for the rest of their lives.

GAINING CRITICAL THINKING & PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS:

Putting on a musical, or participating in a class, is a group effort, and every member of the team must work together to make it happen. Throughout the rehearsal/class process, the students will learn to solve challenges as they arise. Students will learn to trust and depend on themselves and their castmates.

RESPONSIBILITIES

PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT FOR SHOWS:

MTVarts currently uses Jackrabbit software to manage all classes and workshops. Registration can be done through the parent portal @ MTVarts.com. Contact Education@MTVarts.com for further information.

Once education-based productions are cast contact switches to an online-based production management system, Virtual Call Board or CUR8. You will receive an invitation to join. Please enter all necessary information especially email and cell phone. Check that your (or your child's) name is spelled correctly.

It is extremely important that you sign up for email and text. There will have the basic rehearsal schedule under calendar. Calls will be emailed for each rehearsal but things change and human error occurs so we encourage you to check the online production management system.

ATTENDANCE:

Please look over the basic calendar for rehearsals, tech week, and show dates. If there are conflicts, please enter them. If you need help, let the production team know as soon as possible.

Students are expected to attend all rehearsals they are called for unless prior approval has been given. Failure to do so can result in dismissal from production casts. No conflicts are allowed for tech week or performances.

If you are unable to attend an after-school class, please contact your instructor via Jackrabbit.

Please have your child to the rehearsal/class prior to start time. Early is on-time, on-time is late.

RESPONSIBILITIES

REHEARSALS:

Typically rehearsals will typically be evenings during the week (Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays) 5:30-7:30, and Saturday mornings 9 AM-12 PM. These are subject to change. All rehearsals will be at the warehouse¹⁴ until TECH WEEK when we move into our rented venues, Knox Memorial Theater or The Woodward Opera House.

Students should bring their scripts, a pencil, and a snack, and they should wear appropriate shoes and clothes for movement. No flip flops or slide on shoes.

There may be some down time at rehearsals. Plan to bring homework or quiet games.

Also, please make sure you have arranged for your child to be picked up on time from each rehearsal.

ATTITUDE:

The rehearsal room and theater are safe spaces where young people can take positive risks and be themselves without the fear of being laughed at or alienated. This principle is essential to artistic growth and exploration. Participants are expected to respect these ideas and are encouraged to remember it themselves when trying new things.

HOMEWORK:

Students will have some homework for the show, including memorizing lines and songs, rehearsing their dances, researching their character, etc. Work with your child to create a schedule so they have time to finish both their school homework and their homework from the musical.

VOLUNTEERING

TEAMWORK:

The most important thing you can do to help us with arts education is make sure your child commits to everything listed in this handbook.

If you want to volunteer additional time or resources to the production, simply email prodmanager@MTVarts.com and we will contact you when assistance is needed. We are still in the process of compiling a list of everything that needs to be done, but don't worry, when we have tasks that need to be done, we will let you know.

CLASSES

SUMMER WORKSHOP \$150-\$250

**AFTER SCHOOL CLASSES AND
WORKSHOPS \$60 -\$125**

Currently classes take place at warehouse14 or the 719 Annex and are taught by accredited instructors.

Summer workshop will be off site, location to be announced.

MEET OUR TEAM

For a complete list of instructors and production team members, visit MTVarts.com.



CONTACT US

Finally, please remember that musicals and plays are living, breathing entities. Things don't always go exactly as planned, so changes to the plan will most likely be made throughout the rehearsal process. We promise to give you as much advance notice as possible on all changes that arise. If you have any questions, please get in touch.

- **JACKRABBIT**
- **VCB**
- **CUR8**
- **EMAIL**



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