



Bye Bye Birdie!

Transport yourself back to the 1950's with ACT's summer production of *Bye, Bye Birdie*. Over 104 children from 17 Boston area communities are involved in the production, and will bring the fifties alive in this musical comedy Friday, July 29th through Saturday, August 6th at the newly renovated Regent Theater, 7 Medford Street, Arlington.

This year's production is artfully led by Colleen Rua, director of ACT's wildly successful productions of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (2004) and *Oliver!* (2003). Colleen says that although *Bye Bye Birdie* is a comedy, "the characters struggle with the complexity of parent-child relationships, war, love, and rapidly changing times. On the surface, it's all sweetness and light, but there's much more to it underneath."

Tickets are \$8 (\$6 for groups of 20 or more) and can be reserved in advance by calling 781-860-0742. Advance purchase available at Henry Bear's Park (781-646-9400) and Clay Dreams (781-641-3000) in Arlington and Michelson's Shoes in Lexington (781-862-1034). For more information, call 781-721-2176 or visit the ACT website (<http://ACT.arlington.ma.us>).

ACT's Third Annual Young Playwrights' Competition

As we have over the last two years, ACT is accepting submissions to our **Third Annual Young Playwriting Competition**. Past winners have included the scripts for *The Replacement*, *The Well in the Woods*, and *Loving Louisa*. ACT will award \$100 to the winning script and will produce the show in the winter. N. B.: The deadline for submissions has been moved back to September 1st. For information, go to the ACT website (<http://ACT.arlington.ma.us>).

ACT Announces Fall Show: *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*

ACT is pleased to announce that our Fall Show for 2005 will be *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. The story, based on the classic children's book by Roald Dahl, is a classic known to millions, and even more with the release of Disney's version this summer. The show will be directed by the eminent and esteemed Colleen Rua and will feature over 25 children, aged 7 to 12. Auditions will be in early September; performances will be in late October or early November. Watch the website for more details!

ACT Joins with GoCityKids for Fundraiser



Great news! ACT is collaborating with **GoCityKids.com** to offer parents and friends a special fundraising opportunity which will help ACT. **GoCityKids.com** is the ultimate guide to family activities in the city and surrounding metropolitan areas. Our arrangement with **GoCityKids.com** is set for the month of August, and during that period ACT will receive \$10 for each \$19.95 annual membership subscription attributed to us. This really is a terrific service!

We hope you'll find this fundraiser beneficial to you, as well as to ACT. Go to www.gocitykids.com, click on the Newsletter Signup button on the orange sidebar, and sign up today! Be sure to choose **Arlington Children's Theater** in the fundraising dropdown on the subscription form!

ACT's Fall Workshop Schedule

JR Discovery Theatre for the Younger Artist

Instructor: Jacqueline Rossi Ages: 4-6

Saturdays, 9:30 AM to 10:15

Session I: Sept 10th- Oct 1st

Cost: \$60

Through theatrical play, music, yoga and movement, children learn to sing in different languages, act out musical stories, practice simple yoga moves, work collaboratively with each other and, most importantly, have fun.

ACT Playwriting Workshop

Instructor: Steve Smith Ages: 10-12

Tuesdays 4 to 6 PM, Sept 20th-Dec 13th.

Cost: \$75

In this workshop, students will learn the elements of playwriting, focusing on conflict, stage time, monologue, dialogue, and characterization. By the end of the ten weeks, the workshop will have collaborated to produce a short play, to be produced during ACT's February Vacation Week Camp.

Advanced Playwriting Workshop

Instructor: Steve Smith Ages: 13-17

Sunday evenings, 7 to 9 PM, Sept 11th-Nov 20th

Cost: \$75 Limited to six students

For those who have taken ACT's Playwriting Workshop (or by permission of the instructor). Students will concentrate on using journal writing, songs, and poetry to create monologues and short scenes.

Magic Carpet Riding

Instructor: Medina Mahfuz Ages: 6-8

Tuesdays 4 to 5:30 PM, Sept 12th-Nov 8th

Cost: \$100

Hop on Medina's magic carpet as the class lands in a new place each week and explore myths, creative movement, props, scenes, games and much, much more!

Theater in Motion

Instructor: Medina Mahfuz Ages: 5-8

Tuesdays, 9 AM-10:15 AM, Sept 13th-Nov 8th

Cost: \$100

This is an introductory class for homeschooling children, ages 5-8. Children will learn the basics of movement and acting. Each week they will create new adventures using music, poetry, and art as an inspiration for theater. By the end they will be creating their own adventures.



Homeschoolers: Words Alive!

Instructor: Medina Mahfuz Ages: 9-12

Tuesdays, 10:45-12 PM Sept 13th-Nov 8th

Cost: \$100

Students will learn the basics of acting and create and perform monologues, scenes and adventures to perform in front of the class.

The Art of Play, a.k.a. Drama for the Energetic

Instructor: Medina Mahfuz Ages: 10-12

Wednesdays, 4-5:30PM, Sept 14th-Nov 9th

Cost: \$100

The Art of Play (a.k.a. Drama for the Energetic) is a more advanced drama class for kids who have worked with theater basics before (maybe even taken Magic Carpet Riding). We will learn the art of improvisation and use it to play games, write monologues, scenes and get comfortable on stage.

Directing

Instructor: Colleen Rua Ages: 12-17

Six week series, **Thurs**, 7:45-9:15 PM,

Sept 13th-Oct 20th

Cost: \$100

This workshop will cover the basics of directing including use of space, working with text, working with actors, inventing a design and the rehearsal and production process.



Advanced Directing/Assistant Directing Internship

Instructor: Colleen Rua Ages: 14-17

Time: Any full rehearsal period for an ACT show.

Cost: \$100 Limited to two students

The students will work alongside a professional director for the entire production process for one show, beginning with the first production meeting.

Acting

Instructor: Colleen Rua Ages: 10-13

Thursdays, 6-7:30 PM, Sept 13th-Oct 20th

Cost: \$100

This workshop series focuses on working with a scene partner and developing a character through improvisation and scene work.

Advanced Acting/Scene Study

Instructor: Colleen Rua Ages: 10-13

Thursdays, 6-7:30 PM, Nov 3rd-Dec 10th.

Cost: \$100

Students will use text from famous plays to develop character, learn about intention and motivation and explore character history. They will work to develop a scene with a partner as well as a monologue for presentation.

Stage Management

Instructor: Colleen Rua Ages: 14-17

Four Monday evenings, 7 to 9 PM, Nov 7th-Dec 5th

Cost: \$100

Students will learn the basics of stage management, including organization of rehearsal schedule and materials, how to "call a show, and how to take staging notation. After taking this workshop, a student would be able to Assistant Stage Manage the summer production or Stage Manage a smaller show during the year.

Workshop Schedule (continued)

Public Speaking for Homeschoolers

Instructor: Medina Mahfuz Ages: 13-16
 Wednesdays, 1pm-2:30pm, Sept 14th-Nov 9th
 Cost: \$100

Public Speaking for homeschoolers is designed to help homeschoolers learn to speak in front of people. Students will learn the basics of using their voices and will learn how to write effective speeches in all different settings.

Dance for Musical Theatre with Lisa Morse

Clowning with Lisa Morse

Comedy Improv with Lisa Morse



ONE DAY WORKSHOPS:

Auditioning

Instructor: Colleen Rua Ages : 7-17
 Saturday, September 10th, 3 to 6 PM.
 Cost: \$60

This one day workshop focuses on preparing ACTors to audition for productions, and includes work on monologues, introductions and confidence building.

Prop-making for "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory"

Instructors: Suffolk University Props Master Wayne Chin
 Ages : 7-17
 Saturday, October 8th, 3 to 6 PM.
 Cost: \$60

This workshop will cover how to make simple props for an upcoming ACT production. These may be items that are specific to a time period or that can't be easily found elsewhere. It may be one big prop that everyone works on together or several small ones.

Set Design

Instructor: Colleen Rua Ages : 12-17
 Saturday, November 19th, 3 to 6 PM.
 Cost: \$60

Students will learn the basics of simple set design including the layout of different types of stages, researching time period of a script, designing on a low budget with minimal elements and stage composition.

Beginning Costume Design

Instructors: Colleen Rua and Seth Bodie Ages : 7-17
 Saturday, December 3rd, 3 to 6 PM.
 Cost: \$60

In this workshop, students will learn the basics of drawing a costume plot, researching costumes relevant to a specific production and putting together costumes from found pieces.

For information about these and other workshops, go to the ACT website or call 781-721-2176.

Become a Member of ACT!

Please help support ACT and help us provide low-cost, accessible theater for children of all ages and backgrounds by becoming a member of ACT for as little as \$25. Join today!

Visit the ACT website for details or call Membership Chair Stephanie Martin at 781-641-2626.

Renew Your ACT Membership Today!

The ACT Membership Year is up on August 15th. Renew today and help ACT build for the future, while getting benefits and discounts for your family. For more information, go to the Membership page on the ACT website or contact Stephanie Martin at 781-641-2626. If you're not a member yet, fill out the form below and mail to:

ACT
 POBox 1076
 Arlington, MA 02474

ACT Membership application

_____/_____/_____
 First Name / Last Name / phone

_____/_____/_____
 Street Address / Town / Zip

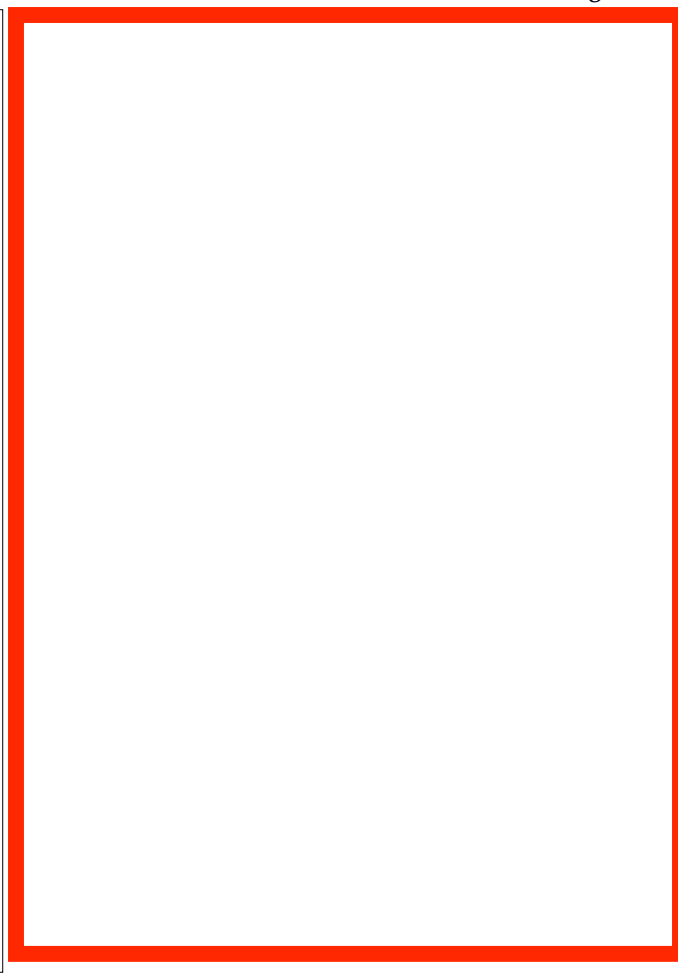
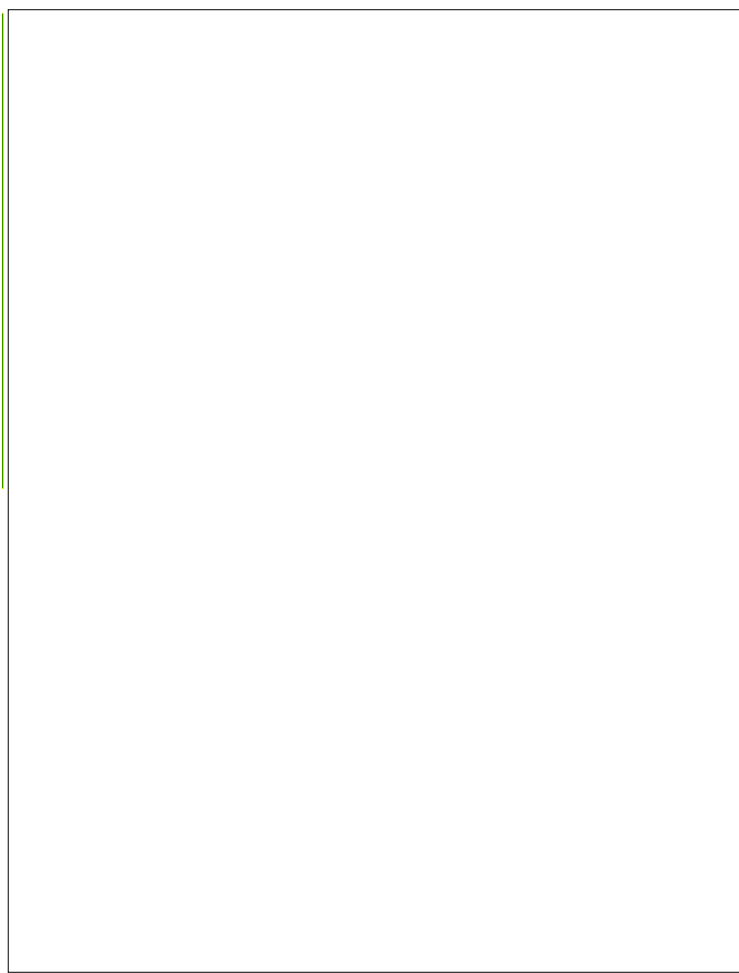
 Email Address

Type of membership desired(circle one)

Friend Sponsor Sustaining
 Patron Benefactor
 Angel

Payment enclosed: _____ (Please make checks payable to **Arlington Children's Theater**)

Does your company offer matching funds for charitable donations? Yes/No



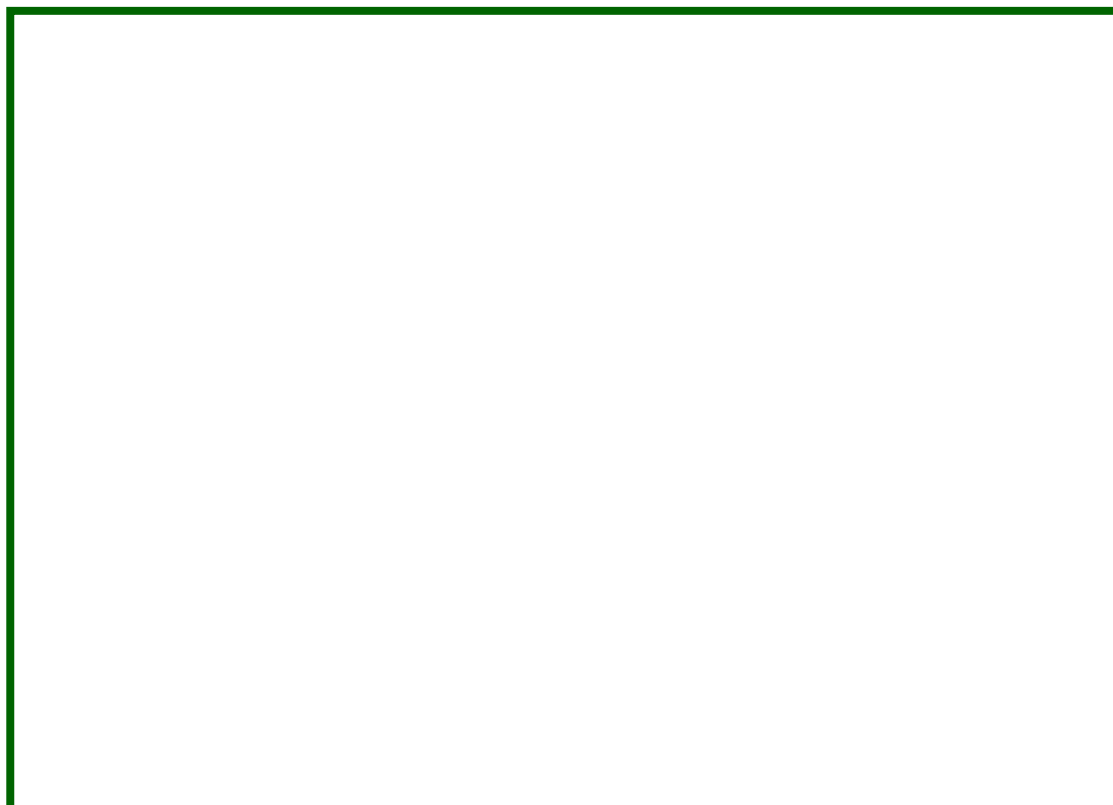
P.O.Box 1076
Arlington, MA 02474

Inside:

**Bye Bye
Birdie*
opens at the
Regent on
July 29th!!

*** Fall Show
announced**

*** Fall
Workshop
Schedule**



We need your help! Become a Member of ACT today!