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### **Fulfill your children's 'Broadway Dreams'**

Summer workshop gives students the chance to hone their skills for stardom

By Melissa S. Treacy  
Executive Editor

Many students in the Greater Philadelphia area have bright dreams for their futures. They may long to be in the spotlight of the stage, but Broadway can seem like a far distance from Philadelphia when you are still in high school.

The Kimmel Center is about to bring it closer for those students. A Broadway Dreams Foundation workshop is set to run from Aug. 4 to 9, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. "Let the Sun Shine In!" will be the theme of the week's work, giving students "access to Broadway's elite" with instruction in acting, vocal performance, song selection and theatrical dance.

Students visiting the Kimmel Center for this special program will have instruction from some of the best in the business.

"Past Broadway Dreams Foundation faculty have included Gavin Creel, Shoshana Bean, Jodi Benson, Matt Bogart, Adam Guettel, Tyler Hanes, Nikki Snelson, Paul Canaan, Norm Lewis, Jenn Gambatese and Amanda Watkins," said a release on the workshop.

"During the course of the week, students attend educational classes which include perfecting their audition skills, vocal coaching, pop styling, song selection, how to cold read, career planning, college prep, dance, pictures and resume writing," said the release.

The week-long workshop will end with a performance.

"They also practice and prepare for a revue-style show at the end of the week, performing alongside Broadway faculty for 'One Night Only,'" said the release. "This concert is so much more than just a show. During the rehearsal period, students see first-hand the dedication and talent required to pull off a show of this magnitude in just four short days."

Being in the show alone may be some performer's chance at a big break.

"Broadway Dreams brings casting professionals from New York and invites local talent agents and casting directors to the show," said the workshop's release. "The day after the event, the students all audition with the skills they have acquired for the panel, and attend student's choice question-and-answer [sessions] with the faculty and classes of their choice."

The program will be individualized to each student's own needs.

"Each student's track is an individual placement to provide the best possible learning experience," said the release. "Students also receive resume credit alongside a favorite Broadway star. The preparation and evaluation of each student is unprecedented in summer theater programs."

The cost is \$1,095 per student for the week. However, early registration (prior to June 21) will include a discount. Scholarships are also available.

“Two types of auditions are held, neither of which is required for acceptance into the program,” said the release. “Saturday, June 27, [there will be] auditions for those applicants interested in a ‘feature role’ at the end-of-program concert. Sunday, June 28, [there will be] auditions for those applying for a scholarship.”

Otherwise, auditions are not necessary for applicants.

Auditions will be held at the Merck Multi-Purpose Room at the Kimmel Center, 260 S. Broad St., Philadelphia.

For more information on the workshop, or to register, visit [www.mybroadwaydreams.com](http://www.mybroadwaydreams.com) or the Kimmel Center’s Web site at [www.kimmelcenter.org/events/broadwaydreams.php](http://www.kimmelcenter.org/events/broadwaydreams.php).

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