

AGM REPORT - MYST

Our Musical Youth Summer Theatre (MYST) program was a success! This year we had 33 youth ages 8-16 participate in our presentation of Peter Pan Jr. These students attend camp daily 9:00-3:00 Monday-Friday. At the end of just 3 weeks they presented 4 performances to very full audiences (2 shows sold out) at the Shuswap Community Theatre.

This program is the only one of its kind operating in Salmon Arm and surrounding area. MYST is a joint partnership between Shuswap Community Theatre and Moving Theatre Performing Arts (MTPA). We give young people the opportunity to perform in a fully staged production of a junior version of a Broadway musical. The participants work with industry professionals and are held to a high standard to which they rise and surpass. Because of the experience gained through MYST, our students have gone on to perform in other Shuswap Community Theatre mainstage productions. We offer a safe space for youth of different ages, genders, sexual orientation, race and diverse needs. We accept all registrations in the order they are received and there is no audition process as part of the program.

Notable things this year:

- Increase in the number of participants – 33 (typically the cut off is 25). This was a result of a high volume of registrations being received in a very short time – we had 17 juniors register in less than an hour of registration opening – we usually cut off juniors (ages 8-12) at 12 participants.
- Increase in number of staff – in order to accommodate the increased enrollment, we brought on an assistant choreographer, Brooke Richardson to the staff alongside Lynette Lightfoot, choreographer; Chris Iverson, Director; and myself, Kelly Coubrough, Musical Director.
- Entirety of the program was at Shuswap Theatre
- Rental of extra space for the rehearsal period (July 9-18) at Song Sparrow Hall
- Dedicated costume person and a summer student.

Our activities included daily rehearsals in Drama, Music, and Choreography/Movement culminating in a final performance of a fully staged and costumed production of Peter Pan Jr.

