

SCCT 2024 WINTER MINI-MESTER: General Information and FAQs

South Carolina Children's Theatre endeavors to be a place where young people are empowered, encouraged, and at home. The Board of Directors and Staff of SCCT are committed to creating this experience of inclusion and belonging for all young people. We are dedicated to being an organization that represents the uniqueness in our community and where all children and adults are welcomed, embraced, and feel safe in our theatre and programs.

Enrollment in SCCT Winter Mini-mester is open to children ages 2 through 12th grade. Registrants ages 3-5 attending classes without a parent present during class must be fully potty-trained and independent in the restroom.

Any questions or needs regarding SCCT Classes can be addressed with **SCCT Education Associate, Anna Bowman** at **864.235.2885 ext 105** or by email at anna@scchildrenstheatre.org.

LOCATION

Classes take place at South Carolina Children's Theatre at 153 Augusta Street. The entrance for classes is around the back of the building. Look for the DROP OFF sign and the colorful breezeway to the EDUCATION door.

REGISTRATION and NOTIFICATIONS

Registration begins November 1, 2023. As this is a 5-week session and the classes are already deeply discounted, there is no early enrollment discount. To register online, please visit scchildrenstheatre.org and click on the EDUCATION tab, then CLASSES on the drop-down menu. Online payment must be made with a credit card. You may also register by phone. **Our classes tend to sell-out so don't delay in enrolling in the ones that you like.**

Following registration, you will receive a confirmation email as well as a reminder email the week before your class starts. Please pay close attention to the details of your class.

DROP-OFF/PICK-UP PROCEDURES

Our Parking Lot is a Pay Lot except for SCCT Students WITH a dash card displayed—your child will be given one on the first-class day, otherwise please walk to the Education Door and request one from a staff member. Parking Passes are to be used for the whole semester. If you elect to park to go to dinner or explore downtown **before or after your child's class**, you will need to pay to park via the App – signs with instructions are at the entrance – the attendant does ticket.

ON THE FIRST CLASS DAY (week of Jan 8-12)

We will post the SCCT Parking Only sign so only cars with SCCT business will be allowed to park. Your child will be given a parking pass at the end of their first class and will bring it to you at pick-up. For all remaining class weeks, please put that card on your dash during your child's class. There will be no one at the curb, so if your child is not familiar & confident with our drop off procedure, you should plan to park in a space and escort your child into the Education Lobby to sign them in—also a great chance to meet the teacher and assistant for your child's class. We have discovered that very young kids who may not be familiar with public restrooms, benefit from their parent showing them how our self-flushing toilets work.

DROP OFF SCCT staff is prepared to accept students 5 minutes before YOUR class start time. Beginning at that time, you may pull through the car line and drop your child off, or park and escort them to the Education door. Please drop off no earlier than 5 minutes before YOUR class starts.

PICKUP All students will be walked out to the car pick up line at the end of their class. Please line up for your class pickup no earlier than 5 minutes before YOUR class **end** time—we have multiple classes releasing every day and a fairly small area for cars to line up without blocking traffic on Augusta St. When possible, simply park in our lot until it is time to line up. We do not allow students to walk to a parked car without a parent to escort them from the sidewalk. And we do not allow a student to leave the property without written permission from the parent—please send that directly to your teacher.

In the event of School closing due to weather—we will determine if the roads seem safe for our afternoon classes.

We DO NOT NECESSARILY cancel classes when schools do, as we don't have buses that need to run early in the morning. Your teacher will email you the afternoon of your class if we are canceling and send you the plan for the make-up class.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Students should dress comfortably – skirts and dresses are not recommended—light layers are ideal. For young students, please make sure they are in clothes that allow them to successfully undress/redress themselves as needed to go to the bathroom. Students should wear shoes that remain securely on their feet—**NO FLIP-FLOPS OR CLOGS PLEASE!** Water bottles are encouraged, and some teachers will request students to bring a notebook & pencil.

ATTENDANCE

If you know in advance that your child will be absent for a class, please directly email the instructor. Because each class builds on skills and activities from the previous week, absences affect preparation for the recorded sharing at the end of the semester. There are no refunds or make-up classes for days your student is absent.

SHARINGS—**VERY FEW WINTER CLASSES WILL PREPARE A SHARING AT THE DISCRETION OF THE INSTRUCTOR**

Due to the brief semester, most class formats benefit from a focus on intense skill-building rather than preparing for a sharing. Due to limited space for audiences in our classrooms, we will record the end-of-semester “sharing” for all classes and send parent’s the video link allowing each family to celebrate their child’s performance at a time convenient for everyone in the family and making it possible to easily share with distant family members. The student is also able to see their performance on screen! And you can opt to download the video directly from the link provided to keep forever. Our “sharings” are informal performances. Our goal is to engage the students in preparing for the low-pressure performance, without causing undue anxiety and also not spending every minute of class time solely repeating rehearsals. The “sharings” will not be highly polished and will be very low tech as our primary goal is to provide a safe and enjoyable class experience, filled with group interaction and fun.

PARENT ATTENDANCE

Parents and siblings are allowed into the Education Lobby during class times (though not allowed in the actual classrooms—except for Pick Three and Play Date classes). Parents are welcome to escort their child into the building and meet the teacher at the check-in table, but if you elect to remain during your child’s class, please make chairs in the Education Lobby available for our students waiting for their class to start—it’s a busy place! Parents may also elect to wait at the end of the breezeway to receive their child at the end of class, but please note, we do not allow students to walk to a parked car without a parent to escort them from the sidewalk and across the traffic lanes.

SPECIAL NEEDS

There is a field on the online registration form to list allergies and any other special considerations from physical to developmental. You may also email specifics to your instructor (when you receive your reminder email which includes their email address a week before your camp starts) of any medical conditions, allergies (especially food allergies), learning/processing issues or special needs that were listed on your registration. Open communication with families helps us create a successful class environment for every student.

CHANGES and REFUNDS

If you cancel no later than 10 days before your first class, tuition less a \$30 class cancellation fee will be refunded. If you cancel less than 10 days before class begins, no refund or credit will be issued. Fees for classes cannot be transferred to other sessions. SCCT reserves the right to cancel classes that have not met enrollment minimums before the first class.

GETTING INTO A SHOW AT SCCT

If you are interested in auditioning for an upcoming show, please go to our website and under the “ABOUT” tab on the far right, on the drop-down click on AUDITIONS. Each audition will be different based on the type of show, the cast needed, and the director’s requirements. Therefore, you will need to check the specific Audition Call for each specific production you are interested in. Audition requirements will be posted on the audition page of our website. You are not required to take SCCT classes to audition or be cast in a production. We do, however, encourage participating in theatre training. It’s like any other form of training. It takes practice to hone the craft – the more you do it, the better you get.