



SUMMER 2026 GUEST ARTIST OPPORTUNITIES

Summer 2026 Programming Format *One Title, Two Production Experiences*

This summer, The Premiere Playhouse will bring together two dynamic youth programs that culminate in separate productions of the same musical, creating a vibrant and collaborative training environment for young artists and the teaching artists who guide them. In 2026, both programs will present Disney's *Frozen JR.* on alternating weekends in August.

Our Summer Musical Theatre Camp (ages 8–18) is an intensive two-week musical theatre training experience that immerses students in the full process of mounting a production – from first rehearsal to final performance. Camp participants rehearse daily, developing skills in acting, singing, movement, storytelling, and ensemble collaboration while learning about the many elements of theatre-making both onstage and behind the scenes. The program culminates in public performances August 7–9.

The Penguin Project (ages 10–25), is an all-abilities musical theatre experience designed for artists with disabilities, each paired with a peer mentor who supports them throughout the rehearsal process. This program meets an average of 2–3 times per week over a three-month rehearsal period, emphasizing process-based learning, confidence building, and community alongside the artistic development of a fully staged musical production. Public performances take place August 14–16.

As both programs approach their performances, the rehearsal processes begin to overlap during the final weeks of production, creating a shared artistic environment where collaboration, mentorship, and community engagement are at the forefront. Because of the distinct rehearsal timelines, teaching artists and production staff may choose to work with one program or both, depending on their availability and interest. Staff members play an essential role in guiding young artists through the creative process – fostering skill development, inclusivity, and a positive rehearsal culture while helping bring a high-quality musical production to life.

This model offers theatre educators and practitioners the opportunity to work with a wide range of young performers, contribute to inclusive arts education, and be part of a collaborative summer production environment that celebrates creativity, mentorship, and the transformative power of theatre.



About the Programs *Serving All Abilities & Many Talents*

The Penguin Project *All-Abilities Musical Theatre Program, Ages 10–25*

The Penguin Project at The Premiere Playhouse is a one-of-a-kind musical theatre experience that celebrates the power of inclusion, creativity, and community. Designed for artists ages 10–25 with disabilities, the program pairs each performer with a peer mentor to create a supportive environment where every participant can shine on stage.

Over the course of several months, artists and mentors rehearse side-by-side—building confidence, friendships, and performance skills – while working together to bring a fully staged musical production to life. The process focuses on growth, joy, and collaboration, ensuring that every artist is empowered to express themselves and be celebrated for who they are.

More than a theatre program, The Penguin Project is a transformative experience that strengthens empathy, leadership, and belonging for everyone involved. When the curtain rises, audiences witness not just a musical, but a community coming together to prove that the stage truly belongs to everyone.

Youth Musical Theatre Camp *Musical Theatre Summer Camp, Ages 8–18*

The Premiere Playhouse Youth Summer Musical Theatre Camp is an immersive, high-energy program where young artists ages 8–18 come together to explore the magic of theatre from the inside out. Designed for students of all experience levels, the camp invites participants to discover their creativity while collaborating with peers to bring a full theatrical production to life.

Throughout the camp, students rehearse and perform a musical while also diving into the many elements that make theatre happen – acting, singing, movement, storytelling, stagecraft, and collaboration. Guided by experienced teaching artists, campers gain hands-on exposure to both performance and behind-the-scenes artistry, building confidence, teamwork skills, and a deeper understanding of how a show comes together.

The experience culminates in a fully staged performance where students share their hard work with family, friends, and the community. Along the way, campers form lasting friendships, develop their artistic voices, and discover that theatre is a place where imagination, curiosity, and creativity take center stage.



Program Schedules

Youth Summer Camp July 27 – August 7, Monday-Friday from 12:00–5:30PM

The Penguin Project April 21 – 30, Tuesdays & Thursdays from 5:30–6:30PM*

May 5 – 21, Tuesdays & Thursdays from 5:30–7:00PM*

June 2 – 30, Tuesdays & Thursdays from 5:30–7:00PM*

July 7 – 30, Tuesday-Thursday from 5:30–7:30PM*

August 3 – 13, Sunday-Thursday from 5:30–8:00PM* **subject to change*

Summer 2026 Production *Frozen JR.* running August 7–16 @ Orpheum Theater

Youth Summer Camp performs August 7–9 (Fri. & Sat. @ 7PM; Sun. @ 2PM)

The Penguin Project performs August 14–16 (Fri. & Sat. @ 7PM; Sun. @ 2PM)

Program Capacity

Youth Musical Theatre Camp 60 maximum participants, internal age range maximums

The Penguin Project 30 maximum artists & 30 maximum mentors, **60 participants total**

Open Positions

The Penguin Project

Stage Director | Stage Manager(s) | Music Director | Choreographer

Artist Coordinator (Behavioral Support Focus) | Mentor Coordinator (Leadership Development Focus)

Summer Musical Theatre Camp

Camp & Stage Director | Stage Manager(s) | Music Director | Choreographer

Camp Counselor(s)

Both Programs

Lighting Designer & Electrician | Sound Designer & Audio Engineer

Role Descriptions

Stage/Camp Director: Leads the artistic vision and rehearsal process through staging, storytelling, and performance development. Collaborates with the Music Director and Choreographer to create an engaging and educational rehearsal environment. Works alongside coinciding program's leadership as both programs move into a shared production environment during the final weeks of rehearsal.

Stage Manager: Supports rehearsals and performances by maintaining organization, communication, and rehearsal logistics. Tracks blocking, coordinates schedules, and



assists the creative team throughout the rehearsal process. During performances, oversees backstage operations and calls cues to ensure a smooth and safe production.

Music Director: Teaches and prepares all vocal music, helping participants develop musical confidence, ensemble skills, and healthy vocal technique. Leads music rehearsals and collaborates with the Director and Choreographer to integrate music into staging. Works with performers of varying experience levels and abilities across one or both programs.

Choreographer: Creates and teaches choreography that enhances storytelling while remaining accessible and engaging for performers across a range of ages and abilities. Leads movement rehearsals and collaborates with the creative team to integrate dance into the production. Supports performers in building confidence, coordination, and stage presence.

Artist Coordinator: Provides behavioral guidance and individualized support for Penguin Project artists with disabilities. Works with parents/guardians, mentors and staff to help artists remain engaged and successful in rehearsals and performances. Helps maintain a supportive, structured, and inclusive rehearsal environment.

Mentor Coordinator: Trains and supports peer mentors who are paired with Penguin Project artists throughout the production process. Provides leadership coaching and guidance to help mentors develop effective support strategies. Cultivates a strong culture of mentorship, empathy, and collaboration within the program.

Camp Counselor: Provides daily supervision and support for students participating in the Summer Musical Theatre Camp. Assists instructors/creative team during rehearsals and classes, helps manage transitions and group activities, and ensures campers remain engaged and safe throughout the day. Serves as a positive role model while helping maintain an energetic and inclusive camp environment.

Role Submissions

Submit your interest in a summer position by completing the [submission form provided here](#) by **Friday, March 27, 2026 @ 5:00PM**. Reach out to Artist Services Coordinator, Abby Kustak, with any questions you may have about the programs, open positions and/or application process. **Email:** abby@thepremiereplayhouse.com. **Office Phone:** 605-360-4800.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. I am generally available during the provided date range, however, I have some conflicts within the program schedule's weekly occurrences. Am I still eligible for a position?
 - a. We do our best to be flexible and accommodate each guest artist's schedule outside of their Premiere Playhouse obligations, however, we do have attendance requirements that vary by role. In general terms, those interested in working with The Penguin Project must be able to commit to 80% or more of the scheduled rehearsals and 100% of the scheduled performances. Those interested in working with the Summer Musical Theatre Camp generally must be able to commit to 90% of the scheduled camp sessions, due to the fast and short nature of the program. If you are preliminarily offered a position, our staff will work with you to determine if your availability aligns with our project needs and objectives.
2. If I am offered a position, when will I get paid?
 - a. Guest artists are paid their designated honorarium at the successful completion of the project and their project responsibilities. During the process you will be contacted by our finance office to determine and implement your form of payment, then you can expect to be paid within 7-10 business days of production completion.
3. I want to help out with the summer program, but my schedule is already filled up with other obligations. Are there other opportunities to get involved that aren't listed?
 - a. Yes, we are always looking for qualified volunteers to provide program support through additional workshop offerings, general supervision, backstage operations, and more. Just reach out to our staff about your interest and they will take you through the process to get involved appropriate to your schedule availability and demonstrated skillset.