THEATRE FOR SCHOOLS

2026-2027 | Schools Programme



YOUNG COURTYARD PLAYHOUSE
Theatre Academy

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ABOUT US

A home for Youth of Dubai

Founded in 2013, the Courtyard Playhouse is Dubai's home for theatre, improvisation and creative learning.

Located in the heart of Al Quoz, our intimate, professionally equipped theatre offers students the opportunity to experience the performing arts in an inspiring and welcoming environment.

From interactive performances and hands-on workshops to teacher development and work experience, we bring theatre beyond the stage, helping students develop valuable skills that extend far beyond the classroom.

As a KHDA-licensed theatre and training centre, we are passionate about making the performing arts accessible to young people across the UAE.

Why Schools Choose us

Professional Theatre Experience: Learn from experienced performers and facilitators in a working theatre environment.

Tailored Educational Programmes: Workshops and experiences are designed around your students, curriculum and learning objectives.

An Inclusive Creative Community: A supportive environment where students of all abilities can explore, express themselves and grow.

A note from the Founder

'Before opening the Courtyard Playhouse, I was a high school teacher, and students would often ask me where they could gain real theatre experience, not just on stage, but behind the scenes too. At the time, there were very few opportunities.

One of the reasons we opened the Playhouse was to change that. Today, we're proud to have young people involved in almost every show, from performing on stage to helping bring the magic to life backstage. It's wonderful to see what started as an idea become a thriving creative community.'

- Kemsley Dickinson
(Founder, Owner and Executive Chairman of The Courtyard Playhouse)

SCHOOLS WE'VE WORKED WITH

TRUSTED BY SCHOOLS ACROSS THE UAE

From classroom workshops and theatre trips to student performances and teacher development, we are proud to have worked with schools across the UAE.

SWISS INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC SCHOOL DUBAI

ASD American School of Dubai المدرسة الأمريكية بدبي

أكاديمية عجمان Ajman Academy

CEDAR SCHOOL A PLACE TO GROW

RGS GUILDFORD DUBAI

LFIGP LYCÉE FRANÇAIS INTERNATIONAL GEORGES POMPIDOU DUBAI

GERMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL DUBAI DEUTSCHE INTERNATIONALE SCHULE DUBAI

مدرسة راشد ولطيفة Rashid and Latifa School

North London Collegiate School Founded 1850

DWIGHT SCHOOL DUBAI

JESS JUMEIRAH ENGLISH SPEAKING SCHOOL

EMIRATES INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL DUBAI 1991

JPS مدرسة جيمس جيميرا الابتدائية GEMS JUMEIRAH PRIMARY SCHOOL

FAIRGREEN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

THE AQUILA SCHOOL

GEMS Wellington International School

SUNMARKE SCHOOL Where Amazing Happens™

DIA DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

NAJMARA

GEMS أكاديمية جيمس دبي الأمريكية Dubai American Academy

AIS DUBAI

GEMS FirstPoint School GEMS FIRSTPOINT SCHOOL

KINGS' EDUCATION The Best By Every Child

دار المعرفة dar al marefa

مدرسة ديرة الدولية DEIRA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL FESTIVAL CITY

Redwood MONTESSORI NURSERY

HORIZON ENGLISH SCHOOL Dream Aspire Achieve

WHY THEATRE MATTERS

Much more than just performance

Theatre helps young people develop the skills they need for school, for life and for the future.

At the Courtyard Playhouse, we believe the benefits of theatre extend far beyond the stage.

Through improvisation, storytelling and creative play, students learn to express themselves, embrace new ideas and work together in an environment where exploration is encouraged.

Our programmes support the development of essential life skills while making learning active, engaging and, most importantly, fun!

CONFIDENCE: Build self-belief, overcome hesitation and feel comfortable expressing ideas.

COMMUNICATION: Develop clear expression, active listening and the ability to connect with others.

COLLABORATION: Learn to support others, embrace different perspectives and work together towards a shared goal.

CREATIVITY: Explore imagination, think independently and discover new approaches to problem-solving.

EMOTIONAL AWARENESS: Develop empathy, recognise emotions and build a deeper understanding of others.

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS: Bring learning to life through practical experiences that can complement English, Drama, literacy, personal development and wider enrichment programmes.

Because the skills developed through theatre don›t stay on the stage.

WORKSHOPS

Flexible Workshops for every School

Whether you're looking for a one-off workshop, a creative addition to your Week Without Walls, a recurring enrichment programme or a final showcase, we can bring your ideas to life.



Our experienced facilitators work closely with educators to create workshops that suit your students' ages, abilities and learning objectives.

Choose to visit us at the Courtyard Playhouse or let our team bring the magic of theatre directly to your school!

WORKSHOP RATES

IN THEATRE WORKSHOP	
1 hour	3,750 AED
1.5 hours	4,200 AED
2 hours	4,725 AED

OFF-SITE WORKSHOP (AT SCHOOL)	
1 hour	2,100 AED
1.5 hours	3,150 AED
2 hours	3,675 AED

Prices are inclusive of 5 % VAT and the rates are for groups of 15 students.

'The students had a great time last week, and full credit goes to the Courtyard Playhouse and the two amazing instructors we had. Everyone throughly enjoyed the experience and parents were quite impressed with the final showcase - the kids really pulled it all together for Friday's performance!'
-Christina DeMers, DAA



WORKSHOPS

Inspiring Workshops for Every Age

Four creative disciplines. Endless possibilities. Our workshops combine practical exercises, collaborative activities and creative exploration, allowing students to learn by doing.



IMPROV (AGES 9+)

Think on your feet, embrace the unexpected and discover the power of "Yes, And..." through fun improvisation games.

Skills: Confidence, teamwork, adaptability and quick thinking.

DRAMA (AGES 4+)

Bring stories and characters to life through imaginative play, movement and performance.

Skills: Self-expression, empathy, storytelling and communication.

MUSICAL THEATRE (AGES 7+)

Explore singing, dancing and acting while discovering the joy of performing together.

Skills: Creativity, coordination, confidence and teamwork.

PUBLIC SPEAKING (AGES 7+)

Find your voice and develop the confidence to express ideas clearly and speak in front of others.

Skills: Communication, presentation and active listening.

THEATRESPORTS

FAST. FUN. UNFORGETTABLE.

Bring your students together for an exciting journey of creativity, collaboration and friendly competition.



Theatresports is a team-based improvisation competition where students create spontaneous scenes inspired by challenges and suggestions, with judges awarding points along the way.

But there›s more to Theatresports than winning!

Through improvisation, students learn to support their teammates, embrace new ideas, think creatively under pressure and approach challenges with confidence.

The result? An unforgettable shared experience that celebrates teamwork, imagination and the joy of performing.

THE THEATRESPORTS JOURNEY

1. WORKSHOPS
Learn the foundations of improvisation through fun, interactive exercises.

2. REHEARSAL
Develop teamwork, storytelling and performance skills.

3. TOURNAMENT
Take to the stage and compete in an exciting Theatresports match!

Our Theatresports programmes can be designed around different age groups, group sizes and school objectives.

PERFORMANCES

A Live Theatre Experience

Super Story



For Ages 3 - 11

Their imagination. Their ideas. Their story!

Step into a world where anything can happen!

In Super Story, our performers create a completely original adventure inspired by the children's suggestions. From magical kingdoms to mysterious creatures and unexpected twists, students help shape the story as it unfolds before their eyes. Every child will have the opportunity to step onto the stage and become part of the adventure!

We can even tailor the story to your school's current learning topics, bringing classroom themes to life through theatre. An imaginative and interactive experience that celebrates storytelling, creativity and the power of play.

Perfect for: Primary school theatre trips, literacy enrichment and introducing young audiences to live theatre.

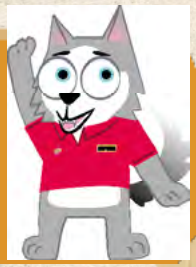
PERFORMANCE BOOKINGS

AED 7,000 per performance for up to 61 students

Includes popcorn and bottled water for students, and tea or coffee and popcorn for accompanying teachers.

'Thank you for an amazing trip! All the adults and children thoroughly enjoyed it and could not stop talking about it!

We will definitely be rebooking for next year!'
-Angelique Edmunds, Horizon English School



PERFORMANCES

A Live Theatre Experience

This is Impro



For Ages 12 - 18

No script. No rehearsal. No idea what›s coming next!

Get ready for a fast-paced, hilarious performance created entirely on the spot!

Our experienced improvisors turn audience suggestions into spontaneous scenes, unexpected characters and laugh-out-loud moments.

Students may even have the opportunity to join the performers on stage, discovering firsthand the excitement of improvisation.

Perfect for: Secondary school theatre trips, drama enrichment and creative learning experiences.

PERFORMANCE BOOKINGS

AED 7,000 per performance for up to 61 students

Includes popcorn and bottled water for students, and tea or coffee and popcorn for accompanying teachers.

NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE

World Class Theatre on the Big Screen



National Theatre Live captures acclaimed stage productions on film, bringing world-class performances to the big screen.

At the Courtyard Playhouse, students can experience professional theatre in an intimate setting, connecting classroom learning with acting, directing and storytelling.

WHY BRING YOUR STUDENTS?

Experience Professional Theatre
Discover acclaimed productions and performances.

Support Classroom Learning
Explore dramatic texts and theatrical techniques.

Inspire Young Performers
Spark creativity and a passion for theatre.

PRIVATE SCHOOL SCREENINGS

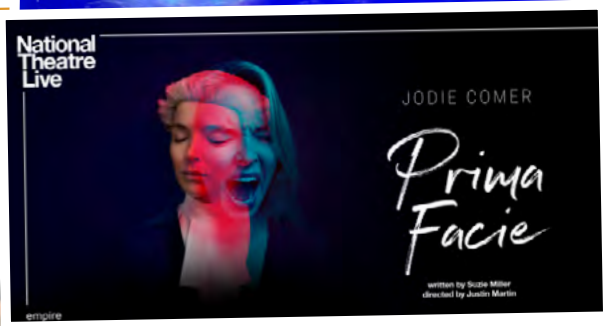
Schools can book exclusive screenings, scheduled around their needs and production availability.

We'll help you find the perfect production for your students› ages and curriculum.





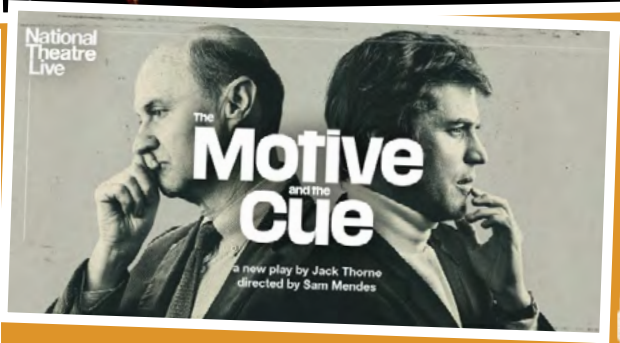












This is just a snapshot of some of the titles we offer for schools. To get the full list please contact schools@courtyardplayhouse.com

MAIN AUDITORIUM	
Exclusive National Theatre Live Screening	
Max 75 people (students & teachers)	Choice of ANY of our National Theatre Live titles
TOTAL COST PER SCREENING	5250 AED (inclusive of VAT)

IMPROV STUDIO	
Exclusive National Theatre Live Screening	
Max 25 people (students & teachers)	Choice of ANY of our National Theatre Live titles
TOTAL COST PER SCREENING	2500 AED (inclusive of VAT)

YOUNG PLAYHOUSE

Opportunities for the Youth



VOLUNTEERING

Elevate your passion for the arts through volunteering opportunities at our theatre. Whether your interes lies onstage, backstage or in the dynamic business realm of this multi-layered industry, we welcome dedicated students to join us. These engagements, often arranged through schools, offer firsthand experience within our bustling theatre environment. Our volunteering roles not only enrich students understanding but also align with curriculum requirements.

To find out more, reach out to Sama at sama@courtyardplayhouse.com.

WORK EXPERIENCE

For students seeking a distinctive and enlightening one-week work experience, we open our doors to their journey. Our application and interview process ensures that enthusiastic individuals join us on this exploratory venture. This opportunity not only enriches their understanding of the arts but also contributes to their academic pursuits. If they are ready to step onto our stage and learn in a hands-on environment, they can seize the chance to apply for a work experience position by reaching out to Tarryn at tarryn@courtyardplayhouse.com

'I found my work experience week to be throughly enjoyable. I genuinely felt as though I was helping with the events in an impactful way through the jobs I was assigned. I'm very grateful for the opportunity to take part in the Improv show, it was the highlights of my time helping out.'

-Cameron Walne, Work Experience Participant



TEACHERS

Improv Skills for Teachers

The Playhouse has a rich history of delivering learning and development to school professionals across the UAE.



This can be part of an inset day, a larger teacher training programme, or even during International Book Week. Development events can be hosted at The Courtyard Playhouse Theatre or our team can travel to you.

Our most popular workshop is called 'Yes And ...' and can be anywhere from two hours to an entire day. It's fantastic fun and serves as an enlightening induction or team-building event, leaving teachers with lots of new exercises to engage and inspire students.

For more teaching training options please request our corporate training brochure which has broader options including 'Storytelling', 'Stage Presence' and 'Negotiation Skills'; or we are happy to listen to-you and design a workshop with your specific needs in mind.







Improv' encourages:

Emracing ideas to see where they lead rather than leaping in which obstacles creativity and acceptance within teams, removing barriers to progress being present in the moment, listening carefully, and contributing freely adaptability and risk-taking

OUR CLIENTS


Van Cleef & Arpels
TikTok
KraftHeinz
McKinsey&Company
Google
abbvie
MAJID AL FUTTAIM
MARLI
NEW YORK
Cartier
GSK
BVLGARI
DIOR
CHANEL
LOUIS VUITTON
PUBLICIS GROUPE
CHALHOUB GROUP
new balance
NOVARTIS
BAYER
Roche
sunset
HOSPITALITY GROUP
ALSHAYA
GROUP
Coca-Cola
Tetra Pak
KPMG
amazon
EY
DAMAC
JUMEIRAH
VALENTINO
GIVENCHY
Ogilvy
حكومة دبي
GOVERNMENT OF DUBAI
RICHEMONT
pwc
SIEMENS
AstraZeneca
Deloitte.
Tencent 腾讯
MSD

THEATRE HIRE

Unique and Professionally Equipped

Our beautiful stages ·have plush seating, a full compliment of theatre facilities and an attention to detail that has led to us being referred to as 'the most beautiful little theatre in the world'.



The Courtyard Playhouse is nestled in the creative heart of Dubai amongst the galleries and cafes of Al Quoz. We are located around the corner from The Times Square Shopping Mall, opposite Bounce and Al Serkal and accessible easily from Sheikh Zayed Road.

In the past ~chools have used the Playhouses facilities for school productions and IB/GCSE courses that require certain sound, lighting and theatre elements; drama exams; screenings; and school events.

Our Main Auditorium seats 61 fixed seats+ 14 beanbags, the Improv' Studio seats 35 and the Keith Johnstone Studio is our rehearsal spase and is suitable or up to 15 adults to rehearse. Both auditorium spaces have a full compliment of ETC lighting fixtures, professional audio and video facilities as well as sprung wooden floors. We have two spacious green rooms, equally spacious foyer area and a well-stocked concession kiosk.

'Every single detail in the venue is just right.'

-Mager Masri, Caliber

'Courtyard Playhouse is just perfect! An oasis in a cosmopolitan city, where you can enjoy diversity of arts in a non-commercial environment!

-Heidi Struiksma



THEATRE HIRE

Unique and Professionally Equipped









'I cannot recommed The Courtyard Playhouse and it's team enough. I recently rented the venue for a corporate event and the team were brilliant from start to finish in helping us pull off the best event possible. If one phrase defines them, it is 'can do attitude'. If you need a special venue for your company's events, look no further - it's really magical'

-Maya Itani, Entrepreneur



CONTACT US



CONTACT US AT:

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