

Questions about Registration

How do I register for a workshop?

Registration is through our website and ends one week before the workshop begins. You may pay online or send a check. If paying by check, payment must be received within two weeks, or the registration will be canceled. Please make checks payable to Story Theater Company and send to:

Story Theater Company Summer Workshops
P.O. Box 436, Ames, IA 50010

Is my child guaranteed a spot if I send in the registration form?

Your child's spot in a workshop is not final until we have received registration payment. After completing the registration form, you have two weeks to send (and have us receive) payment. After two weeks, if the workshop fills with other students who have been paid for, your child's registration will be canceled.

What if I didn't receive an email confirmation of my registration?

You should receive an email confirmation that includes a letter, an authorization form, and helpful information including the workshop handbook. If you did not receive this, there may be a problem with your registration. Please contact us immediately at manager@storytheatercompany.org .

Do camps fill up quickly?

Generally, camps do fill up quickly, and they all have limited workshop sizes in order to keep them enjoyable and maintain a proper teacher/student ratio. They are filled on a **first-paid** basis.

How can I tell if a session is already full?

The number of openings is displayed with the session description. It will display zero if the session is full.

Do you have a waiting list?

We do have a waiting list. In the rare case that we have a spot open up after a camp is filled, we will notify our wait list in the order that they registered.

Are there any additional fees?

There are no additional fees. Your child may be asked to wear something particular for the performance (for example, a colored shirt); however, these are not requirements. If you do not have what is requested, just let the instructor know and we can pull something from our costume storage.

Is there a chance that a camp could be cancelled?

Story Theater Company reserves the right to cancel camps that have low enrollment. In this event, we will notify the families affected by a cancelled camp, and we will provide a full refund.

Are scholarships available for families who are not able to afford the fees?

There are no scholarships available for our summer programming. However, we do have partial scholarships available for students who are accepted into roles in our main stage productions.

Questions about Policies

Refund Policy

Full refunds are only given in the event that a workshop is canceled. Requests for refunds made at least two weeks prior to the start of workshop will be granted minus a \$50 cancellation fee. Refund requests with less than two weeks' notice will not be granted.

What if I need to switch camps?

If you find that you have a schedule conflict and need to switch to a different camp, you may email manager@storytheatercompany.org to request the change. Please be aware that switching workshops is contingent upon space availability in the desired camp.

Can a parent stay with their child during camp?

Story Theater Company's workshops are an independent experience for the child to learn social, developmental, and creative skills in a peer setting. Parents may not sit in on the workshops. Although it is rare, some of our young students may experience separation anxiety on the first day of camp. We find the most effective method for this is a quick but loving goodbye from the parent. Our staff does a wonderful job of providing the child with the one-on-one attention needed to soothe them until they are ready to join their peers. Once the activities begin, the anxiety usually diminishes. Please make sure your child arrives on time. Late participants tend to feel more anxiety and have a more difficult time joining the workshop than those who begin the workshop with the entire group of youth. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact the workshop director.

Questions about Choosing a Workshop

Does my child need previous experience to attend your camps?

Nope! All of our workshops welcome beginners. Because of the variety of our workshops, a child could take multiple workshops and always have new experiences each time.

My child is pretty shy. What if they have stage fright?

The focus of our workshops is not on the final presentation, but on teaching the process and skill involved in acting. Our performances are very low key, and the pressure is kept to a minimum. Our instructors do their best to be comforting and reassuring to all children in their care. While we encourage all participants to express themselves and participate in the final sharing piece, no one will be required to do anything that would make them uncomfortable.

Are the grades based on the grade the child finished in the spring or the grade they will be attending in the fall?

The grades refer to the grade they will be attending in the fall. Students may enroll only in camps they qualify for based on their grade.