

The Montreal School of Performance Arts has many more workshops available to help you develop your talent.

Just call us or pass by the school and it will be our pleasure to help you find which workshops are right for you!



Montreal School of Performance Arts

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Fall 2005 Class Schedule



Film - Stage - TV - Commercials

Theatre productions, casting & networking opportunities

**Professional training in a
friendly, supportive
atmosphere**

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Established in 1992, Montreal School of Performing Arts is a learning institution, committed to providing professional training for aspiring actors of all ages.

In a friendly and supportive atmosphere, the focus is on technique and development of the actor for film, stage, TV and commercials.

More than a thousand students have participated in our programs; our dedication to the arts and to our students has earned us the respect and recognition in the acting industry. In an industry where there are no guarantees, we educate our actors to be realistic and learn the business by providing networking opportunities.

Montreal School of Performing Arts, which is self financed, produces an average of eleven productions a year with our Express O Theatre April-September, MSOPA tours and Christmas production.

We cast student, independent, television and box office film projects and also assist our actors to further their training, build their careers and contribute to Montreal's growing acting community.

Josa Maule

President,

Montreal School of Performing Arts

Our Productions



Montreal School of Performing Arts and Express O Theatre remain a valuable and respected part of the Montreal theatre community, and to continue our work in producing quality theatre.

Our commitment to the Montreal community spans generations. All our productions serve as an opportunity to showcase in-house talent, both on stage and behind the scenes. Providing an environment where up-and-coming playwrights, actors, and directors can develop their respective crafts remains an important goal to our productions.

Casting

In continuing to expose our students to the showbiz-business, MSOPA works with student and independent filmmakers to provide our actors with experience and exposure.

MSOPA **CASTING**

We offer casting services for Union and Non-Union film projects, Student/Independent Filmmakers, Independent Production Houses, commercials, corporate videos, music videos, etc ...

LEAD ACTORS TO BACKGROUND ACTORS, WE CAN ACCOMMODATE YOUR CASTING NEEDS!



Young Actor Workshops



CHILD ACTORS' WORKSHOP

In the comfort of a "safe" environment, the student will learn the basic stage, theatre, and film techniques by participating in various theatre games and sensory exercises, such as mask work, to harness the student actor's sense awareness, movement, voice and speech; incorporates role playing and costume usage. These techniques will help:

- Develop trust between the actor and the group
- Enhance the actor's self-confidence
- Develop a positive attitude towards themselves and their work

Duration: Sept - Dec 10 weeks - 20 hours

TEEN ACTOR'S WORKSHOP

In the comfort of a "safe" environment, the students will learn to be more self-confident and to trust themselves and their acting work. Specific acting techniques will help the student to grow as an actor, focusing on improvisation, characterization and text analysis for film and stage. Students will be encouraged to take risks in order to evolve as actors

Duration: Sept - Dec 10 weeks - 20 hours

ADVANCED TEENS

Students are invited to the advanced program

A continuation of the Teen Actors Workshop, continues to reflect MSOPA's philosophy of providing actors with training that best helps them to develop and enhance the skills of their craft. Each level of Phase work moves in a natural progression, challenging actors to take the next step in their training. We aim to instil in our students a sense of professionalism while allowing them to grow as creative actors within a safe, encouraging environment the students will focus on self-development, risk taking, advanced scene study, directing skills, Production skills, mera work and work etiquette in the acting industry.

Duration: Sept-Dec 10 weeks - 25 hrs

Acting Courses & Workshops for Adults

FOUNDATION OF ACTING

Foundation, Phase I, II and III are not performance orientated courses. Their purpose being is to introduce the students to acting technique. The students will be encouraged to take risks in a safe environment. Students will learn that making mistakes is "okay" and is a path to discovery.

Improvisation is a vital aspect of the training. It allows the student to take risks, explore the limitless possibilities of creativity and develop the imagination. Fundamental sensory exercises will introduce the student to sensory awareness.

The basic questions of "who, what, where and why" will be the focus of the learning. The goal, at the completion of the introductory classes, is to create actors that have a basic awareness of the interpretive job of the actor, to nurture the actor to have confidence in their work, to train the actor to be an independent thinker, to instil professionalism, to inform the actor of the "business" of acting, make the actor aware of the discipline of acting, and prepare the actor to move forward to more advanced learning.

Foundation

An introductory class in acting technique. In a safe environment, students will develop a foundation in techniques working on inner monologue, body and sensory awareness through improvisations and theatre games. Text work will include monologues. The student will learn to develop the use of their imagination and learn to make choices, the aim is to develop actors to think for them selves. Students will be introduced to characters questions of: "who, what, where and why".

Depending on the progress of the group, the monologues will be presented as a showcase upon completion of the Foundation class.

Duration: 7 weeks - 20 hours

Phase 1

A seamless continuation of the Foundation class. Students will continue to work on specific techniques through improvisation and theatre games. Students will be introduced to sensory exercises, working on private moment. Students will develop their imagination through specific improvisational exercises, developing the "where", the "who" and the given circumstance, reinforcing the basic virtues of motivated, truthful behaviour. Students will apply their work to monologues and or scenes. Students will be encouraged to make choices and take risks. They will be encouraged to maintain an independent study ethic and think for themselves.

A showcase may be presented at the completion of Phase I.

Duration: 10 weeks - 30 hours

Phase 2

A seamless continuation of Phase I. Keeping in mind the philosophy of independent thought, the student will approach scene work encouraged to create a back story, to choose actions as an approach to characterization and the means of defining the playwright's

intention. More sophisticated aspects of technique are explored, through improvisation, including emotional preparation, creating truth in imaginary circumstances, effective memory and sensory awareness. Students will be encouraged to "self direct", to make strong choices, to explore "who, what, where, and why".

A showcase may be presented at the completion of Phase II.

Duration: 12 weeks - 36 hours

Phase 3

A culmination of previous classes. In Phase III, the students will continue their work in sensory awareness and text interpretation. Using the skills learned in Foundation and Phase I, and II, students will now have the opportunity to work under direction, although exploring "self direction" will be encouraged. A complete play will be studied and the students will apply skills they've learned to interpreting the character, they will discover the "spine" of the play, the motivating desire, the character's objective, the history, the social background and will continue to be encouraged to make strong, confident choices. Selected scenes, in the plays chronological order, will be worked on. The students will have the opportunity to study several characters, exploring and discovering different interpretations. Their skills will be applied to telling the story of the play as simply and truthfully as possible. The "who, what where and why" character Interpretation covered in the previous classes will be applied. Students will learn the mechanics of blocking, rehearsing, taking direction and working in a co operative environment.

A showcase may be presented at the completion of Phase III

Duration: 12 weeks - 36 hours

SHAKESPEARE I

This course is open to any and all students interested in learning how to play Shakespeare. All students are welcome regardless of previous experience.

We begin with Sonnet work as an introduction to poetic language, and specifically to Shakespeare's poetic language. Students will use Sonnets as monologues, exploring the use of language and imagery, and learning how to dig beneath the poetry to find concrete thoughts. **We will then move on to full monologues, continuing to work with language, thought, and character.** The intention of the Sonnet work is get students to think about how to communicate effectively with their audience using sometimes complicated poetic language.

The aim of the course is to dispel the fears some students normally feel when approaching Shakespeare, and to make Shakespeare accessible to all students. With the skills they develop, students will be able to approach Shakespeare with confidence.

Students may showcase their monologues at the end of the class.

Duration: 8 weeks - 24 hours

SHAKESPEARE II

This course is open to students who have completed Shakespeare I.

This course will be a scene study class. Students will work on at least one scene, and if time permits, they will work on a second scene.

The emphasis on this class will include some character development,

and particularly listening skills. Students will be expected to make character choices based on information found in the script, taking into account the language of their character, and how that character uses language.

The goal of this course is to develop scene-work skills. Students will learn how to break down a scene, and how to communicate a real sense of character in a short space of time. Students will be encouraged to discover and play physical aspects of their characters, and to explore creating circumstances and background based on and in the script.

Students may showcase their scenes at the end of the course.

Duration: 10 weeks - 30 hours

SCENES ON CAMERA AND AUDITION TECHNIQUE

This is a two part workshop will include working with the camera as a teaching tool, to help the actor learn to identify and build on their natural strengths as performers. Characteristics of different genres and how they affect your acting choices. A monologue should be prepared for this class.

Auditions: How to prepare for an audition and what it takes to get the part. Finally, smart actors make smart choices, learning the business of show business special guest lecturers will be invited to speak to the students.

Duration: 12 weeks - 36 hrs

FILM ACTING WORKSHOP - WORKING ON CAMERA

For the actor with a working knowledge of the craft, and some experience working in film television and/or theatre. This course will focus on, how to work with the camera, the actors relationship to character development, text analysis and scene preparation, how to work effectively on location, and how to turn the technology of film making to your advantage.

Duration: 12 weeks - 36 hrs

******AUDITION IS REQUIRED******

VOICE OVER WORKSHOP

This workshop will cover:

Style -Technique-Delivery
Commercials (Hard Sell- Soft Sell)
Corporate Narration, Cartoons
Finding Your Own Voice
Diction and Pronunciation
How to Make A professional Demo

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