



JumpStart Theatre Program FAQs

1. Who are the key partners behind this initiative?

- Educational Theatre Foundation (ETF)
- iTheatrics
- Music Theatre International
- Mountain City Center for the Arts, LLC (MCCA)

2. How many years will this program take place, and how many schools will participate?

This is a three-year initiative that will serve six schools total, according to the following schedule:

- Year 1 (2019-2020): 3 schools total
- Year 2 (2020-2021): 6 schools total (3 schools from Year 1 + 3 new schools in Year 2)
- Year 3 (2021-2022): 6 schools total (same schools from Year 1 and Year 2)

3. What are the requirements for participation?

Participating schools must:

- Serve a middle school population
- Be located in the Maryland, Pennsylvania, West Virginia tri-state area
- Identify as “under-served” in musical theater (defined as any school that currently does not have a sustainable musical theater program)

Participating schools agree to:

- Commit to the JumpStart Theatre program
- Build a JumpStart Theatre team, including 1 administrator and 3 teachers who commit to the program for 3 years
- 100% attendance at professional development Bootcamps
- Successfully present a musical theater production in each year of participating in the program
- Provide rehearsal space and community performance space
- Participate in a year-end, culminating Showcase performance
- Proactively problem solve
- Cover subs for bootcamps events
- Provide transportation for showcase



4. Who is required to serve on the JumpStart Theatre team at each school?

Each JumpStart Theatre team is comprised of (4) staff members from the participating school including:

- 1 administrator who commits to championing the program, plus
- 3 teachers (of any content area and any middle school grade level)
- Note: experience in musical theater is **not** required

5. Specifically, what supports are provided through participation the program?

Training: iTheatrics and Music Theatre International (MTI) have collaborated on the creation of JumpStart Theatre, and iTheatrics has provided the model for the professional development program (3 full day “Bootcamps” per program year), which instructs and guides school teachers on the creation of a musical theater program.

Materials: MTI Showkits from MTI’s Broadway Junior™ collection are provided in-kind, at no cost to the participating schools. EdTA will facilitate the appropriate sharing of information and resources. Additionally, MCCA will provide a venue for the year-end, culminating Showcase performance.

Support: The Regional Teaching Artist Mentor will serve as a coach to participating schools, providing guidance, advice, and support. The Regional Teaching Artist Mentor will regularly attend school rehearsals (approximately once per week at each school in Year 1, and likely reducing frequency in Year 2 and Year 3).

Funding includes:

- Stipend for (3) participating teachers (\$2,000/school per year; Year 1 schools will partially self-fund in Year 3)
- Technical stipend for out-of-pocket production costs (e.g. costumes, props, sets, lights, sound, etc.) to be paid upon receipt of a production budget submitted by the school site (up to \$1,000/school per year; Year 1 schools will partially self-fund in Year 3)
- All fees related to Bootcamp Instructors and Regional Teaching Artist Mentors
- Coaching and facilitation of networking to support schools as they approach self-sustainability

6. Which Music Theatre International Showkits are available through this program?

While this list is subject to change, the current list of MTI Showkits available through the program are outlined below. For a synopsis, cast list, and music samples, visit:

<http://www.mtishows.com/broadway-junior/shows>



Year1: *Annie Jr.; Honk Jr.; Schoolhouse Rock Jr.; Once on This Island Jr.; Fame Jr.*

Year2: *Alladin Jr.; Guys and Dolls Jr.; The Music Man Jr.; Seussical Jr.; The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley Jr.*

Year3: *The Lion King Experience; The Little Mermaid Jr.; Shrek Jr.; Hairspray Jr.; Into the Woods Jr.*

7. What happens after the initial three years?

MCCA will explore potential ongoing funding strategies for new schools to participate in the JumpStart Theatre program model following the initial three-year implementation period.

During the initial three-year implementation period, the MCCA team will work with participating schools to develop a plan for self-sustainability, which may include budgeting for parts of the program through the school, school district, or fundraising through ticket revenue. Additionally, participating schools will have access to Music Thetare International Showkits at no or reduced cost for up to 7 years.