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**CONTACT:**

Barb Schulte  
Starlight Theatre  
816.997.1144  
barb.schulte@kcstarlight.com

**SPRING CLASSES AT STARLIGHT THEATRE  
BEGIN IN FEBRUARY**

*Schedule offers classes for toddlers through teens and new Northland class location*

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Starlight Theatre is offering an expanded schedule of performing arts classes for Kansas City area youth this spring. Most classes begin in February or March, and registration is currently under way. Classes are offered at the theatre’s Swope Park location and, for the first time, at Northland middle schools in a new partnership with the Park Hill Community Education program.

Starlight aims to appeal to a wide range of ages and interests in its class mix. For the pre-K to grade 2 set, classes emphasize movement, storytelling and early acting skills. For grades 3 through 8, classes are available to help youth build their acting, singing and movement techniques. Classes for high school students are offered in three-hour blocks on Saturday mornings and provide advanced training in areas such as vocal techniques, auditioning, scene study and choreography. A stage management class is also offered on Monday nights.

The newest addition to Starlight’s program this spring is a choice of locations for selected classes. In partnership with the Park Hill Community Education program, Starlight is offering five performing arts classes in the Northland.

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“We’re thrilled to add the Starlight class options to our community education schedule,” said Lisa Hall, Park Hill Community Education program coordinator. “The reputation of Starlight Theatre is top-notch, and we are honored to welcome Starlight’s high-quality instructors and class programming.”

The dates and locations for Starlight’s new Northland classes are:

- **Intro to Acting** (ages 8-10) – Class begins Feb. 18 and meets weekly for six weeks at 6:30 p.m. at Lakeview Middle School.
- **Show Stoppers** (ages 11-13) – Class begins March 3 and meets weekly for six weeks at 7:15 p.m. at Congress Middle School.
- **Sing Out** (ages 8-10) – Class begins March 3 and meets weekly for six weeks at 6 p.m. at Congress Middle School.
- **Theatre 101** (ages 11-13) – Class begins Feb. 23 and meets weekly for six weeks at 6:30 p.m. at Lakeview Middle School.
- **Vocal Technique & Auditioning** (ages 14-17) – Class begins Feb. 21 and meets for two weeks at Lakeview Middle School.

Full details on the Northland classes can be accessed online at [www.parkhill.k12.mo.us](http://www.parkhill.k12.mo.us) (mouse over Our Schools and select Community Education from the drop-down menu) or by calling 816.359.4060.

Complete details on the spring 2009 schedule of classes at Starlight, including dates, times and registration materials, can be found at [www.kcstarlight.com](http://www.kcstarlight.com) under Theatre Education. Prices for the classes range from \$98 to \$145. For more information, contact Starlight education coordinator Amy Reinert at 816.997.1112 or [education@kcstarlight.com](mailto:education@kcstarlight.com).

### **Starlight Theatre**

Presenting Broadway entertainment since 1951, the non-profit Starlight Theatre Association is Kansas City’s oldest and largest performing arts organization. The Association operates, programs and maintains the largest stage in the United States, as well as the 16-acre Starlight Theatre complex. While assuming all annual operating costs for the complex, the Association also raises funds for capital improvements and a variety of programs, including national Broadway musical performances, concerts, community outreach and education. Since 2000, the Association has contributed more than \$25 million of privately funded improvements to the

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Kansas City, Mo.-owned Starlight Theatre. Each Broadway season, Starlight donates more than 11,000 tickets to its performances to regional non-profit organizations serving the disadvantaged.

In 2008, Starlight Theatre was selected as the “Favorite Performing Arts Venue or Organization” in the Kansas City Convention & Visitors Association’s Visitors’ Choice Awards program. Starlight also received a Gold Award for “Best Performing Arts Venue” and Bronze Award for “Best Theater” in *Ingram’s* 2008 Best of Business Kansas City Awards. The theatre seats approximately 8,000 and is located in Swope Park.

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