



Texas 4-H Theater & Performance Arts Project

Project Description

The Texas 4-H Theater and Performing Arts project is designed to engage young people in activities related to theater, drama, and performing arts. This project provides opportunities for 4-H members to develop their talents and interests in various aspects of performing arts, including acting, singing, dancing, stagecraft, and more.

Learning opportunities for youth in theater and performing arts can encompass a wide range of activities and experiences that promote creativity, self-expression, teamwork, and personal development. Participation in theater and performance activities can help youth gain valuable life skills that can be carried out through all aspects of life. Listed below are some of the skills that can be developed/ enhanced but is not limited to just the ones listed below.

Basic

- **Participation in Theater and Performance Arts** can aid
- **Communication Skills:** Encourages participants to articulate thoughts and emotions clearly, project their voices, and convey meaning through body language and facial expressions.
- **Public Speaking:** Acting in front of an audience helps individuals develop confidence in speaking in public and addressing a group, a skill that can be useful in academic, professional, and personal settings
- **Imagination:** Theater fosters imaginative thinking, allowing individuals to envision and create new worlds and stories.
- **Teamwork:** Theater is a collaborative art form that relies on effective teamwork. Participants learn to work together, support each other, and contribute to a shared goal.

Intermediate

- **Problem-Solving:** Participants often encounter creative and logistical challenges in theater, requiring problem-solving skills to find solutions.
- **Time Management:** Rehearsals and performances require time management skills to balance commitments and meet deadlines

Advanced

- **Critical Thinking:** Analyzing scripts, characters, and performances encourages critical thinking and interpretation skills.
- **Cultural Awareness:** Exposure to different styles of theater and storytelling from various cultures promotes cultural awareness and appreciation

TAKE THEATER & PERFORMANCE ARTS FURTHER

Project Learning Opportunities:

- Texas 4-H Talent Showcase contests at county, district and state levels
 - Write a play/skit - gather a group of 4-H friends to perform (4-H related)
 - Develop a dance/choreographed routine to perform
 - Write or learn a song to sing
 - Play an instrument? You can play an instrument only or sing and play an instrument
 - Recite poems or poetry
 - Card tricks or magic show? there is place for that as well.
- Research the history of theater, dance, etc
- Interview people in production, theater, music, radio, etc.
- Speak at club meeting, council meeting or other extension committee meeting to share about the project experience
- Participate in school performing arts programs - theater productions,
- Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo - Texas Invitational Mariachi Competition and Fiddle Showdown
- Perform with Community Theater Programs
 - Attend events to learn more if not ready to perform

Resources:

- Explore Guide: Theater and Performing Arts
- National 4-H Curriculum:
 - Theatre Arts Book: Level 1 - Beginner
 - Theatre Arts Book: Level 2 - Intermediate
 - Theatre Arts Book: Level 3 - Advanced
 - <https://shop4-h.org/collections/visual-and-creative-arts-curriculum>

Did you know?

4-H is a club for kids and teens to develop life skills and make friends. Youth can join 4-H in all 254 counties. Everybody ages 8-18 and in 3rd-12th grades can join 4-H. Kids in Kindergarten to 2nd grades can join as Clover Kids. There are 43 different project areas in five project categories: Agriculture & Livestock, Family & Community Health, Leadership & Citizenship, Natural Resources, and STEM.

Want to get started?

First...Contact your County Extension Agent!

- Contact information can be found at texas4-h.tamu.edu > contacts information at the bottom of the page > county offices

Explore more at texas4-h.tamu.edu