

Summer Theater Workshops 2010 – Instructors

Tara-Lynn Eccles, Dance: Ms. Eccles has extensive training in ballet, jazz, lyrical, modern, tap, pointe, and hip-hop. She has studied at Dance with Melody, Broadway Dance Center, Steps on Broadway, Lehigh University and the University of the Arts. In addition to many years of performance experience, Ms. Eccles has choreographed many shows professionally on the middle school, high school and community theater levels including *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Sound of Music*, *Footloose*, *Grease*, and *School House Rock*. Ms. Eccles has been instructing dance professionally for 10 years, and has completed the Dance Masters of America Teacher Level II Teacher Certification.

Jessica Lopez, Teen Acting: Ms. Lopez completed her B.A. in Theatre at Westminster College of the Arts, and is currently enrolled in the M.A. program at Montclair University. In addition to her experience as a musical theater performer, both on a professional and community level, she has experience as a teacher, director and choreographer. Ms. Lopez's acting experience also includes work in commercials and film. She instructs the Musical Theater Workshop with the *Strand School of the Arts*, and was recently seen as "Lily" in the Strand Theater Ensemble's production of *The Secret Garden*.

Gina Scherzo, Youth Acting: Ms. Scherzo is an English teacher at Brick Memorial High School and is Co-Advisor of the school's Drama Club. She holds a BA in English and Theater from Richard Stockton College of New Jersey and is certified as a Teacher of English and a Teacher of Speech Arts/Dramatics. She received additional training at the Circle in the Square Theatre School (NYC) where she completed an in-depth study of Shakespeare. Ms. Scherzo was last seen as Ursula in *Much Ado* at Spring Lake Shakespeare in the Park. With over twenty-five years of experience on the stage, her credits include *Some Enchanted Evening* (Nellie) at the Dorset Theatre Festival in VT, *Last Night of Ballyhoo* (Sunny), *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Puck), *Baby* (Pam) and *Nunsense II* (Mary Leo).

Tamara Struk, Vocal Music: Ms. Struk completed her BA in Music at Georgian Court University, and her Masters degree in Music Education at Boston University. Her teaching experience on the elementary and middle school levels includes beginning and advanced band, general music, recorder, and chorus. She also teaches group and private piano lessons, and works as a freelance musician and accompanist. She is certified as a Music Teacher in the state of New Jersey and currently teaches music in the Freehold Township school district. She is CPR certified.

Lindsay Wood, Director of Education: Ms. Wood was named Director of Education at the Strand Theater in the spring of 2009. She studied Music Education (K-12) at New York University, where her major instrument was voice and her secondary instrument was viola. Her teaching experience includes general music, orchestra, choir, group and private voice, and private piano. She is active in community theater and community orchestra groups (as both a performer and a producer), has performed as a soloist with NYU's Choral Arts Society and the Highland Park Community Chorus, and was a professional chorus member with Princeton Pro Musica. Ms. Wood is a member of MENC.