

# THEATER ARTS 1 - NLD 2026-2027

Class Duration: Year-Long      Credits: 1 High school credit

This is an introductory class to the performing arts, with the much needed bonus of infusing Jesus Christ onto the stage. This is **New Life Dramatics Theater Arts 1 class**. Each semester outside of class, we will have a performance/show (acting or technical crew). The class will cover the following through lectures, skits, writing, sketches, improv games, and in-class performances. **THEATER IS FOR EVERYONE and SO MUCH FUN!!!**

- Theater 101 - The basics of the stage, audience, venue, and more.
- The Art of Stage Presence (great for public speaking) - Developing the confidence to perform in front of an audience, knowledge of “blocking”, eye contact, “reading” the audience.
- The Art of the Audition (great for job interviews) - Knowledge of all aspects of an official audition.
- The Art of Performance (great for serving others) - Understanding that our first “role” is for Jesus’ glory, not our own, and much more!
- The Art of Purpose (great for the heart) - Exercises that help your student discover their likes/dislikes, aspirations, dreams, goals, etc...
- The Art of Confidence (great for the mind) - Exercises that instill confidence incorporating all the “arts” through practice and performances.
- The Art of Voice (great for the World) - Everything we do in this class will hopefully help your student translate these “arts” into finding their Voice in connection with Jesus Christ.

**Theater Arts** is not just for the student who aspires to the stage. This class will hopefully inspire Creativity, CALM, Character, Confidence, Completion, and Communication for “life’s stage” as well.

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| <u>Class Projects + Include:</u> | TV commercial, Official Audition, Official Job Interview, scene work in class, Thespian Troupe, and various social events.  |
| <u>Meeting Days and Times:</u>   | Theater Arts 1A & 1B - <b>Wednesdays 10:45-12:15 OR Wednesdays 3:45-5:15</b><br>Bridge Life Church - 8210 Stephanie HSV   |
| <u>Ages offered:</u>             | <b>14 yr (as of October 31, 2026) - 18 yr</b>   |
| <u>Min/Max Students:</u>         | <b>4/12</b> NOTE: Classes must have at least 4 students to stay open. Venue is Bridge Life Church.  |
| <u>Prerequisites:</u>            | <b>None.</b> Former theater exposure/participation might enhance the student’s experience in class, and is welcomed. However, this is a <u>“one of a kind” Theater Class.</u> |

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| <u>Intensity Level:</u>                  | <b>Light - Medium!</b> We will have tons of fun in class, but this is not a "fluff" class. We will pursue and discuss real topics as we learn about Theater and performance. The students will also be challenged to step out of their comfort zones. (That's a good thing.) And stretch their relationship with Jesus Christ. |
| <u>Average Number of Hours per week:</u> | <b>1-2.</b> Projects, Workbook assignments, show prep, etc... <u><b>Rehearsal time is in addition to this.</b></u>   |
| <u>Rehearsal times:</u>                  | <b>Fridays 2:30-5:15</b> (Potentially Mondays 6:15-8:15 and/or Thursdays 6:15-8:15)  |
| <u>Mandatory Parent Meetings:</u>        | <b>August 28, 2026 &amp; January 29, 2027</b>  |

**NOTE: There will be mandatory Orientation & Information parent meetings, August 22, 2025 @4:30**

**AND January 23, 2026 @4:30.** This is a Theater Arts Program, which has many activities outside of class, as well as many aspects of Stage Production that calls for these meetings. I try to make them quick and fun! **NOTE:** If you know upon registration that you cannot make the parent meetings, please let Mrs. Russo know. Do not let it keep you from signing up your student for this program.

**We will have class fundraisers for the Shows as needed. TBD**

#### **Instructor Biography:**

**Hello everyone!** My name is Pamela Russo and I am the Founder and Visionary Director of New Life Dramatics. I am so excited about the potential of teaching your student!! My Bachelor's degree is in History, with a former Secondary Education Credential in Social Studies through the states of California, Arizona, and New Hampshire. Alternative education with my spunky alternative students, as well as Special Education with my sweet autistic students, enveloped most of my public education years.

**I taught homeschool for nine years with my own kiddos, and in my fourth year teaching with NLD.** I've been on the stage since three years old, both in ministry and secular venues, and have written and directed various skits, programs, and productions. I have directed the following Shows for NLD; ***Christmas Reader's Theater '22, STEM Fine Arts Spring Showcase '23, Anne of Green Gables & Pride & Prejudice '23, A Night in the 40s '24, The Road to Excellence '24, The Prayer Vigil for Josie Malone ;25, and currently, A Pirates Night for Me - shows April 23-25, at Trinity UMC, Wesley Hall.***

Locally, my family is involved in IMP community theater. I served for four years on the Grissom High School Theater/Musical Board. Our family has been involved with five Grissom Musicals and several Theater/Choir events. I have partnered with Around The Curtain Children's Theater (ATC), where I was Parent Producer for *Little Shop of Horrors*.

| <u>THEATER ARTS 1 Fees/Cost:</u>                                 | <u>DUE Dates &amp; additional information:</u>  |
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| Class Fee: <b>\$460/year</b> (paid @ registration through Ludus) | OR <b>\$250 @ registration &amp; \$250 by December 1, 2025</b>                                  |
| <b>1-TIME Copy fee per STUDENT</b>                               | <b>\$15 paid @ registration</b>   |
| <b>1-TIME Facility fee per FAMILY</b>                            | <b>\$50 paid @ registration</b> this fee can be raised through sponsorship of NLD               |
| <b>TA Workbook</b> - Required                                    | <b>\$30 paid @ registration</b>   |
| <b>Other Materials</b> - Required                                | Blank journal, clipboard, spiral notebook, potential costumes, show needs from home or purchase |
| <b>SHOW PARTICIPATION - CAST</b>                                 | <b>Fundraising - TBD</b>  |
| <b>SHOW PARTICIPATION - CREW</b>                                 | <b>Fundraising - TBD</b>  |
| <b>OPTIONAL FEES:</b>  |   |
| Field Trips & Game Nights  | TBD (low cost)  |
| Thespian Troupe Membership                                       | \$35 (one time); \$TBD yearly dues (\$35-45)  |
| Thespian Festival - February<br>TBD (Overnight in Bham)          | \$150 (approximate Student fee) \$95 (approximate Adult fee)                                    |

**NOTE:** The Cast and Crew fundraising covers:

Costumes, sets, venue rental, tech needs, licensing/insurance, scripts, publicity, programs, hair/makeup, rehearsal space rental, director stipends, and more.

Director/Instructor: **Pamela Russo**   Instructor Email: [NLDclasses2camps@gmail.com](mailto:NLDclasses2camps@gmail.com)

**CHECK OUT NLD's WEBSITE @ [newlifedramatics.com](http://newlifedramatics.com).**