



Three Summer Camps Coming to Black Mtn. Center for the Arts

Summer Theater Conservatory: Back for the 4th year, Donna Marie Todd directs rising 5th-8th graders in a summer day camp immersed in all aspects of theater from June 22-26, 10am – 4 pm, and ending at noon on Friday. Students will write their own script, learn improv, how to use a variety of voices, movement, diction, and character development.

A popular storyteller and Teaching Artist, Todd leads storytelling and writing workshops for schools throughout the region and enjoys guiding young people in creative process. "Our schools have lost funding for arts programs at the same time that computer and television gaming has replaced active imaginative play. Young people have very few outlets that encourage them to connect to their higher thinking skills and creativity. One of the reasons I enjoy working with the Arts Center on this Theater Conservatory is that we are in agreement that creative fun is the road to powerful learning. We'll explore acting and the theater, but more importantly we will learn how to access our creative minds. Each day will be filled with creative process and engagement. I think this type of intensive creative experience benefits kids in every aspect of their regular school learning."



Donna Marie Todd

Students are to bring lunch and a healthy snack. Cost is \$150, payable to BMCA by check, cash or credit card. A non-refundable \$25 deposit saves a space; balance of tuition due by June 12.



Summer Arts Camp: Also for the fourth year the Black Mountain Center for the Arts will offer Summer Arts Camp for children grades K-2. Led by three experienced teachers, the half-day camp enables the children to experience music, creative movement, and visual art each day. From July 6-10, campers will meet from 9-noon. A performance for families is scheduled on Friday, July 10 at the end of camp. Cost of camp is \$95; a non-refundable deposit of \$25 hold your space with balance due by June 26. Campers should bring a healthy snack and water bottle. For more information or to register, call 828/669-0930. Registration is limited to 30 students.

The teachers in each area of the arts are:

Music: Founder of the community chorus *Womansong*, Linda Metzner loves to teach experiential music creatively, especially through Orff Schulwerk using xylophones and other percussion. She also loves the raucous fun of Appalachian play-party songs and games. She has taught music at Carolina Day School and ArtSpace Charter School. Linda composes and arranges music. You may find out more about her musical talent at AnnelindesAnthems.com.

Creative Movement: Sondra Stamey has taught dance classes to children at the Black Mountain Center for the Arts for several years. A graduate in Dance Education from Meredith College in Raleigh, Sondra has performed with Liz Lerman of Dance Exchange, Carol Parker of White Oak Dance Project and Pilobolus, and Mark Taylor of Mark Taylor and Company. A native of Buncombe County, she has taught not only in private studios, but also has served as Artist-in-Residence in schools through the Mountain Arts Program.

Visual Art: Donna Rouchard is the Art Teacher at WD Williams Elementary School in Swannanoa. Donna says, "I have had the privilege of teaching art education to young people for the past 22 years. Nineteen of those years have been at Williams Elementary, in addition



Donna Rouchard

to several other schools in Buncombe County. I feel fortunate to have a career that combines my passion for art and my enthusiasm for working with children. I believe that everyone has a creative spirit, and I take great joy in helping children develop their ability to express themselves artistically!" Donna's father was a draftsman and illustrator and she credits him with prompting her artistic career. She graduated with a degree in Art Education from LSU.

Kids Kabaret – a Musical Theater Camp: **NEW!** After a successful run in Florida for several years, Kids Kabaret is making its NC debut at the Black Mountain Center for the Arts. It's a 4-week Musical Theater day camp for kids ages 5-16 who love to sing, dance, and perform on stage, from July 20 – August 14 from 9-4 weekdays.

There is a registration/costume fee of \$25, payable in advance. The camp tuition is \$140 per week; or save \$60 and pay only \$500 if paid at one time, in advance. To register, call 828/669-0930. Registration is limited to 25 students. (Talk to us if you have after-camp child care needs.) Campers should bring a healthy lunch each day.



Lisa Gerber

Campers will learn how to audition, build a set, make costumes, sing, act and dance, as well as working together to perform a full production - A Disney Spectacular - at the end of the camp. Daily activities include theater games, music, stage craft, costume design, choreography, blocking and dialogue.

There will be 3 performances: a dress rehearsal which will be an invitational to a local camp; a day time performance, and the final evening performance on August 14. Campers must register for the full 4-weeks to be in the performance.

Lisa Gerber holds degrees in both musical theater and elementary education. In addition to her own performances in a wide variety of roles, she has served as director and choreographer of children's theater productions for the past decade with the same number of years' experience in the public/private school classroom. Her assistants include Marcy Reed, whose training is in opera and musical theater, and David Bates as accompanist.