

WELCOME TO THE STAGEDOOR FAMILY!

We hope that you love theatre and the performing arts, because you are embarking on a summer in an exciting and unique environment, where you will eat, sleep and live theatre. Stagedoor Manor is like no other camp in America...or the world for that matter. Our campers, ranging in age from 10 to 18, are talent, hard-working kids who love being on stage. There are 8 theatres on our campus, and over the course of the summer (9-weeks of it) we will produce 39 Broadway style shows!

This year we have staff members from over a fifteen (15) countries coming to Loch Sheldrake, NY to share their talents and love of theatre with these amazing kids. We are very excited that you will be joining us and bringing to our family your energy, skills and theatrical passions. We will do everything possible to provide a pleasant and rewarding experience for you. This document will hopefully give you a better idea of what your summer home will be like.

Stagedoor is located in the heart of the Catskill Mountains in New York State. The area is rural and lushly green...scattered with small lakes and resorts...all this and only 2 hours from the excitement of New York City. Your address at camp will be:

Stagedoor Manor
116 Karmel Road
Loch Sheldrake, NY 12759
USA

Ask your family and friends who plan to write to you to print "STAFF" clearly on the front of the envelope. This will make sorting mail easier and get your mail to you quicker.

There are payphones available to you 24 hours a day. Please understand that our campus is large and it is impossible for us to call you to the phone if someone calls. The phones in our office are for Stagedoor business and are typically very busy. In *emergencies only* a message will be taken and delivered to you. The emergency number for Stagedoor is (845) 434 - 4290. You may also receive faxes at (845) 434 - 1466. Please limit your personal faxes and remember that they will be coming into a business office, so not too personal.

Our in camp orientation begins on Wednesday, June 17, 2009. Precamp begins on June 3rd and Tech contracts on June 10th. We know you will be tired after your long journey and will gently ease you into camp life. Many people will be waiting for your arrival and will be there to help you move in, find your way around, and answer

your questions. The orientation covers five (5) days and will be made up of various workshops, activities and social events designed to cover all aspects of your jobs, the world of Stagedoor and your new family for the summer.

Stagedoor Manor is unique, as a specialty camp, we attract children and teens from all over the world. While highly motivated, energetic and talented, all campers benefit from the strong leadership and guidance you provide. Much of the staff training will be devoted to techniques useful to your success.

Now a bit about camp living! Stagedoor Manor is housed in what used to be THE KARAMEL HOTEL. The buildings were built at various times over the last 75 years. The rooms are not fancy, but still it is unlike most other summer camps that house staff & campers in bunk cabins or tents. The dining room, offices, costume shop and main stage theatres are air-conditioned...and all rooms are provided with fans. Well-kept grounds, with large shade trees make for inviting outdoor work and relaxation areas.

TO BRING, OR NOT TO BRING!

All bedding, towels, and pillows are provided for overseas staff. All beds are single size and most rooms shared. American staff should bring their own linens. Artistic staff beds are full or double size, all others are single size.

Bring your most comfortable clothes...jeans, shorts, t-shirts, sneakers, sweatshirts, and sweatpants. You will want a jacket or jumper for early mornings and evenings, as it is very cool in the mountains in the morning and after dark. It is also very damp here, so bring some shoes for wet days. A dressy outfit could also be useful as you may have the opportunity to go see our kids perform at one of the area resorts, go into NYC, or whatever. A battery-operated alarm clock is a must, as power failures are common. A watch will be useful to keep you on schedule. Please do not bring expensive or irreplaceable jewelry or personal items. Your door will have a lock and we have a safe, but personal belongings are your own responsibility.

There are several inexpensive places close by to purchase little radios, hair dryers, toiletries, cosmetics, etc. You will find most American prices low; so do not overload your luggage. However, if you are a tea drinker, you may want to bring your favorite, as American tea is not the same. Also, **no vegemite or marmite can be found in America...so bring your own.**

Please bring photos of family, friends, and shows you have done as everyone loves to see them.

There is a staff computer, connected to our high-speed network. You can sign up for ½ hour time slots on this computer. There is also a laptop connection (for email downloading only). Use of these computer services is only \$10/summer. The office computers are for OFFICE USE ONLY...please don't ask.

Don't worry about tools to do your job. We will provide everything you need unless you have a highly specialized tool or instrument that you know you can't live without.

If you plan to perform in our Staff Showcases (a great idea) bring anything you may need for your performance.

If you plan to drive you will need an international or valid US drivers license (international licenses will need to be obtain prior to leaving your home country). You must be at least 25 years old to rent a car from most US rental agencies.

Please remember to bring:

1. Your complete contract.
2. Your completed medical form.
3. If you are certified in First Aid, CPR, Lifesaving, Bronze Medallion, St John's Ambulance, etc, bring a copy of your card or certificate.

Finally...come to camp refreshed and ready for a fast paced, exciting and fun summer. Prepare to be surrounded by singing, laughter and the constant chatter of a happy, busy atmosphere where there is never a dull, or free, moment! This summer you will have the opportunity to make a difference in the life of a child...to be one of those rare adults to make a positive and healthy impact on the growth of a youngster. While the work is often tiring, and the hours long...the rewards and feeling of accomplishment will last a lifetime.

Here's to a great summer...full of laughs, good friends, and life long memories!

See you in a few weeks!

CONTACT INFO:

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(after May 30th)

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