SEGERSTROM CENTER’S SCHOOL OF DANCE AND MUSIC FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES
ENROLLING STUDENTS NOW FOR FALL SESSION

NEW CURRICULUM WILL INCLUDE MUSICAL THEATER CLASS AND CLASSES FOR YOUNG ADULTS AGES 18 – 22

School Honored With Parenting OC Magazine’s 2019 Reader’s Choice Award for Best Special Needs Camp/Activity

COSTA MESA, CA – Segerstrom Center for the Arts’ School of Dance and Music for Children with Disabilities, named Best Special Needs Camp/Activity in Parenting OC Magazine’s 2019 Reader’s Choice poll, is celebrating its third year with new musical theater classes, young adult classes, and additional children’s classes. Fall enrollment is now open, with the first day of classes on September 9 running through November 16. Spaces are limited and prompt enrollment is encouraged. These classes are designed for all individuals, including those with physical and cognitive disabilities such as Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, autism spectrum disorders, hearing and visual impairments and other complex needs, as well as siblings and individuals without disabilities. The classes encourage the students to explore their full physical and creative...
potential through dance, creative movement, music, and sensory tools. Social skills are also incorporated in the classes and the students build new friendships with their peers.

There are daytime and evening classes grouped by age. Class size is limited to 10 students. Tuition for one class in the 10-week class series is $200; financial-need scholarships are available. Each class is led by a 3-person teaching team that includes an experienced dance teacher, professional musician and a licensed physical or occupational therapy consultant. Students are encouraged to wear clothing that is comfortable and allows movement; dance clothing such as leotards and ballet slippers are not required. Each student must be accompanied to the studio by a parent or legal guardian, however, the caretakers do not attend/observe class. This is a time for the families to relax, meet other parents and caregivers, and build peer-to-peer support groups and friendships. A Musical Theater Matters Parent shared with us that “The positive energy in this class was beautiful. We have been searching for something Braeden can SHINE in…something he can feel proud about. This class was just the perfect thing. My son is not an athlete, he is not many things, but yesterday, he got to be a STAR! Thank you.”

**Students:**
The Center welcomes students of all abilities, including those with disabilities and individuals who are developmentally typical. Our students are typically 4 to 22 years old. If your child falls outside of that age range, but you are interested in our classes; please let us know. Class size is set at 10 students.

**Facility:**
The classes take place in the dance studios at Segerstrom Center for the Arts. The pathways to get to the studios are fully accessible and families are provided social stories that give clear directions with photos included.

**Musical Theater Matters Class:**
Musical Theater Matters (MTM) was added to the School of Dance & Music curriculum in Summer 2019. MTM is structured similarly to other classes, however, rather than focusing on dance and music concepts, the students learn the three components of musical theater; singing, dancing and acting! Teachers also work with 8th and 9th grade students from Orange County School of the Arts, who provide Center students with one-on-one peer mentors. The OCSA mentors and Center students work together on songs, choreography and acting exercises during the 10-week session.

**Young Adult Class:**
The young adult class was added to the School of Dance and Music curriculum in Spring 2019. These classes are offered for students ages 18-22. The class focuses on dance and music concepts, similar to the younger students, however they also focus on social dances. The students learn how to dance with a partner or in a group, developing their social skills with same-aged peers.
Schedule: Monday, September 9 - Saturday, November 16

Ages 4-6:
  Wednesdays, 4-5pm
  Saturdays, 9-10am

Ages 7-9:
  Wednesdays, 5:15-6:15pm
  Saturdays, 10:15-11:15am

Ages 10-13:
  Saturdays, 1-2pm

Ages 14-17:
  Saturdays, 11:30am-12:30pm
  Saturdays, 2:15-3:15pm

Ages 18-22
  Mondays, 4-5pm

MTM, Ages 7-11
  Mondays, 5:45-6:45pm

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Segerstrom Center for the Arts is an acclaimed arts institution as well as a beautiful multi-disciplinary cultural campus. It is committed to supporting artistic excellence, offering unsurpassed experiences and to engaging the entire community in new and exciting ways through the unique power of live performance as well as a diverse array of inspiring arts-based education and community engagement programs.

Previously called the Orange County Performing Arts Center, Segerstrom Center is Orange County’s largest non-profit arts organization. In addition to its six performance venues, Segerstrom Center is also home to the American Ballet Theatre William J. Gillespie School and the School of Dance and Music for Children with Disabilities.

The Center presents a broad range of programming for audiences of all ages, featuring international ballet and dance companies, national tours of top Broadway shows, jazz and cabaret, contemporary artists, classical music performed by renowned chamber orchestras and ensembles, family-friendly programming, and free performances on its plaza, such as outdoor movie screenings, concerts, community and cultural festivals.

Segerstrom Center is a leader among the nation’s performing arts centers for providing education programs designed to inspire young people through the arts. The Center’s programs reach hundreds of thousands of students each year in five Southern California counties. The CDI supports flagship artistic programming and a wide range of projects that celebrate innovation, nurture creativity and engage audiences of the future. The Center Without Boundaries develops partnerships with non-cultural organizations to help them in their own efforts to respond to the ever-changing needs of the community.

Segerstrom Center for the Arts is also proud to serve as the artistic home to three of the region’s major
performing arts organizations: Pacific Symphony, Philharmonic Society of Orange County and Pacific Chorale. Each contributes greatly to the artistic life of the region with annual seasons performed at the Center.

In addition to Segerstrom Center for the Arts as a presenting and producing institution, it also identifies the beautiful 14-acre campus that embraces the Center’s own facilities as well as two independently acclaimed organizations: Tony Award®-winning South Coast Repertory and a site designated as the future home of the Orange County Museum of Art.