

**BUCKS
COUNTY
PLAYHOUSE**

YOUTH COMPANY NEWSLETTER



Choreographer Dani Tucci-Juraga teaches the performers some new dance moves (Left), Performer Serenity Boffa dances her heart out (Right)

This Week

The 2021 Youth Company production rehearsals are now in full swing! It has been a scorching hot week and everyone has worked incredibly hard learning and creating new material for our show.

Our first day of the program started differently than other years. Instead of having a full script and cast list, the creative team asked the cast to prepare and bring some written material of their own to use as we begin to craft our script. As the students shared their different dream related monologues, we discovered that there are many ways to interpret dreams!

The cast, as part of the orientation process, participated in ice breakers activities and worked together to create rules of their own to help foster a positive creative environment for all over the next few weeks. Some of the rules this year include positive and constructive criticism, be open to new ideas, work as a team, and be inclusive.

We also began to learn some of the music and choreography work, with Kyle and Dani respectively, that will be featured in the show.

Sunday began with the students sharing more of their written work. They were asked to write about a dream that confused them and their dreams for the future.

Surprisingly, more than one cast member dreams of having their own washer and dryer wherever they find themselves living. Rory, our director then used these written pieces to create scenes with the cast.



Choreographer Dani Tucci-Juraga

Dream Awake
July 22-25 2:00 & 6:30pm

TICKETS*

*20% off for the purchase of 4 tickets or more



Music Director Kyle Duke working with performer Maya Micsion on some ukulele music for the show.

Kyle, our musical director has asked the cast to bring in a song that they felt best represented who they are right now. These songs were performed for Kyle and the other Youth Company members.

On Monday, as temperatures soared, we continued to create new material for our show and rehearse what we had created over the weekend. One exercise to formulate new scenes for the show was to read the play *The Actor's Nightmare* by Christopher Durang.



The stage management team of PSM Alexandra Kostis (Top) and ASM Robert Reiser (Bottom)

The cast read the play and then discussed their thoughts on the show with the group, as well as grouping up and making their own scenes based on ideas and nightmare scenarios from their own experiences.

Tuesday brought more heat as we did our best to keep cool while rehearsing music and choreography and generating more content for the show. Using a scene from Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Rory led the cast through an analysis of the text to highlight themes, ideas, and character motivations.

Wednesday was another unbelievably hot yet productive day. While continuing to work on music, choreography, and adequate hydration, we were thrilled to realize that we had already created the first twenty minutes of the show!

Thursday, our sixth day of rehearsal, was mercifully cooler. We spent the morning working with Kyle on the music we learned earlier in the week, including some solo songs.

After some excellent improvisation exercises, Rory continued to work with the cast on the Midsummer scene and ran through the staging for the other scenes we have so far. After lunch, Dani worked with the cast on our closing number, "Waking Up", and Rory finished up our first week with a review of all that we have created and staged before we broke for a much-needed break for the holiday weekend.



Director Rory McGregor



Just joking! This is Rory without the mask.



Music Director Kyle Duke