

We are cordially inviting interested students to join our first annual company of players in the Holy Child Jesus Catholic Academy Junior Drama Club for the 2019-2020 School Year!

**Who can participate?**

Students in grades 3-8 attending Holy Child Jesus Catholic Academy are eligible to participate.

**What are the age group distinctions and meeting days/times?**

**Please note that this is a FULL YEAR program.**

**“Tinies” Group:** Grades 3, 4, 5                      Tuesdays from 3:00-5 beginning 9/24/19

**“Tweenies” Group:** Grades 6, 7, 8 Wednesdays from 3:00-5 beginning 9/25/19

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**This year’s production:**

The HCJCA Junior Drama Club Will Proudly Present:



**Classes to learn about the theatrical arts:** September 24<sup>th</sup> (Tinies) or September 25<sup>th</sup> (Tweenies) through January 2020.

**Auditions and Crew Assignments:** Late January/Early February 2020

**Show Dates:** Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup> and Saturday May 30<sup>th</sup> 2020

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**Please check out our club’s website:**

[www.hcjcauniordramaclub.com](http://www.hcjcauniordramaclub.com)





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### **What if my child is interested, but nervous about performing?**

If your child isn't sure about stepping into the spotlight, no problem! They will have the first half of the school year to explore different things about the theater arts in our class, including acting, set design, lighting, make-up, costuming, and so much more. This will give us all ample time, students, parents/guardians, and me, to figure out how your child will be the most comfortable in participating in the spring production.



### **My child is interested in acting, but isn't a singer or dancer, can they still perform in a musical?**

Yes! I have worked with children for years with very wide ranges of abilities on and off the stage. The first thing to consider about being in a musical is that there are a lot of ways to be in the show that don't involve a lot of singing or dancing. The second thing to consider is that everyone has the potential to sing and dance (Ali Stroker is taking Broadway stages by storm, playing leading roles in musicals in a wheelchair). We may not be Broadway bound just yet, but working together as a group will help us all grow our individual and unique talents.



### **What is the cost to participate?**

There is no fee to join the club. Due to production costs, however, there will be fundraising efforts required for students and/or their families to participate in and each family will be responsible for purchasing something to contribute toward the production (i.e. their child's costume or something of similar value toward the set/prop completion if your child decides to be on crew and not act in the performance). This cost would be occurring in the spring (March or April) and should not exceed \$150. A detailed costume and purchasing guide will be provided well in advance of the production. Please read the student/parent contract thoroughly for more details.

# Information about your HCJCA Junior Drama Club...



Welcome! We are so excited that you are interested in participating in our exploration of the theatrical arts! Please find a brief overview of how the year will look for our participants.

## September-January

- Introduction to the theater as a literary and living artistic genre
- Classes to expose each student to many, if not most, aspects of the theatrical arts
- Team-building social skill activities to help fortify the “company mentality” needed for our collaborative effort
- Exploration of various ways that each participant will contribute to our production (i.e. backstage scene work overview, make-up introductory lesson, exposure to set and costume design, etc.)

## February-May

- Audition and interview experience
- Exposure to rehearsal and performance etiquette
- Production, marketing, and front-of-house experience possibilities
- Participation in something unique, creative, and BIG with their fellow peers in a new capacity!!

# About your production heads:

## **Mrs. Laura DePalo, Director**

Mrs. Laura DePalo joins us, with ecstatic and almost uncontrollable joy, for our debut in the 2019-2020 school year as the founder and director of our Holy Child Jesus Catholic Academy Junior Drama Club. As a veteran of the theatrical arts for over twenty years, she is excited to celebrate her experience with our students in a new and unique way to draw out their own individual talents and strengths (of which every child in existence, undoubtedly, has many). First and foremost, Mrs. DePalo is the mommy of two amazing girls attending HCJCA. She is also a certified NYS teacher in both English Language Arts and Instructional Support Services, currently teaching ELA and co-leading the Drama Department at Benjamin N. Cardozo High School in Bayside, NY.

## **Mrs. Theresa McLoughlin, Production Manager**

Mrs. Theresa McLoughlin is overjoyed to join our HCJCA Junior Drama Club as our Production Manager. She brings with her a passion for involving the performing arts, theater in particular, as an opportunity for students to partake in during their educational, emotional, and social development. She believes strongly that this forum allows children to develop a sense of self, build confidence, and connect to something so much bigger than any one person can accomplish on their own. Being no stranger to the performing arts, Mrs. McLoughlin will be able to share her wealth of knowledge as the “go-to” person working as the head of backstage for countless productions since leaving the stage herself as a dancer and performer. She is the mommy of two amazing children currently attending HCJCA in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades and is presently serving on our Home Academy Association as the Recording Secretary. Her devotion to our children, the success of our school and parish, and her understanding of the vital necessity for a living arts program in education will contribute invaluable to our program.

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## Contact Information

### Through Our Website:

<http://hcjajuniordramaclub.com/>

### By Email:

[mrsdepalo@gmail.com](mailto:mrsdepalo@gmail.com)

### By Phone:

**HCJCA Main Office:** (718) 849-3988

**Laura DePalo:** (718) 578-7318