



Hi Drama Kids Families,

We hope that you are all safe and healthy! Drama Kids has been very busy working on the launch of Drama Kids Online, our new fully interactive online class for Drama Kids students. Children, families and small businesses are struggling all across our country. We understand what a challenge it is to keep kids occupied and retain some sense of normalcy, and it is our sincere desire to help you during this trying time. I'm pleased to announce that **Drama Kids Online will officially launch on Monday, April 13th 2020!**

Though we are experiencing challenging times, the technology we have available presents us with a unique opportunity to bring our Drama Kids and DKI Acting Academy programs directly into your home. Just as schools have been forced to switch to online learning, so have we. And we feel 100% confident that, like our schools, we will be able to continue the quality drama education that you depend on each week. Our teachers are now trained and fully prepared to take advantage of the Zoom teleconferencing platform in order to create a very special interactive and social experience for your child.

A test class was held earlier this week and received the following initial feedback from parents:

- "There is so much going on that this...is huge for our kids' mental health."
- "It was great to see her so happy today."

- "...She loved it!"
- "He loved it...I think it's great what you guys are doing..."
- "Thank you so much for today. She was laughing and having a great time again. I know it's a lot of effort to figure this out along with everyday life and I just wanted you to know it means the world to me."

How our new online lessons will work:

1. This service is available to all currently enrolled elementary school, middle school and high school students.
2. Classes will be structured to be very similar to our regular Drama Kids classes. We will not be rehearsing for spring performances at this time. Our Online classes have been specifically created to include a wide range of drama activities in each class with all students fully participating. Drama Kids Online will continue develop your child's creative thinking, public speaking, and acting skills as only Drama Kids can.
3. Each Online class will be limited to just 10 students so that all students will enjoy a high-quality, personalized online learning experience. Classes will be 45 minutes to one hour in length with an extra optional extension activity provided to continue to foster your child's creativity throughout the week at home.
4. Although your child's online instructor may not be the same as your child's regular Drama Kids teacher, please know that all of our online teachers are fun and fully trained, fingerprinted and have taught at least one full session of Drama Kids.
5. We invite you to try out our new online classes and are offering the first one for free. If your child enjoys the online experience and we are confident that they will then we are offering a discounted package of six classes for \$84 per student. Payment will be accepted through PayPal at dramakidsmi2@gmail.com.
6. Please select the day and time of week you would prefer:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
4/13-5/18	4/14-5/19	4/15- /5/20	4/16-5/21	4/17-5/22
2:30-3:20				
3:30 – 4:20				

7. Please e-mail us at Dramakidsmi2@gmail.com with your first and 2nd choice. We will confirm your child’s class placement within two days of receiving it. Remember, class size is limited to 10 students and will be filled on a first come, first serve basis

What Your Child Will need to Participate in Drama Kids Online:

1. A quiet room with space to move around
2. Computer that is not handheld (so we can act up!)
3. Zoom – Free to download and set up — go to www.zoom.us

Tips to have the best online lesson experience:

1. Create a learning space that is quiet, and distraction-free. Please have a chair, and some empty space for movement.
2. Have with a computer or personal device with a webcam and a strong Internet signal. (Mobile phones are discouraged due to small screen size).
3. Make sure your device is plugged into an outlet, as Zoom tends to drain the battery quickly.
4. For younger students: Have an adult or older sibling nearby to help with any technical details.
5. Prior to class beginning, adjust your webcam so that your child is visible, with your speakers turned to a reasonable volume. Headphones are discouraged due to the necessary drama movements required.

6. Five minutes before class time, click on the Zoom link provided to you by your child's online instructor.
7. For the smoothest experience we recommend that you download the Zoom app or download the Zoom software. If you prefer to work from a web browser, you must use Google Chrome.
8. When logging into the Zoom call you will need to select "Join with Computer Audio."
9. Watch the video below for tips on how to use zoom.

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=share&v=d7xXZxRDFUU>

10. **Please note that although parents are allowed to observe the class we do not want any adult to be on screen. Also there is to be absolutely no recording of the class in order to protect the privacy of all of our students and their families.**

We take great pride in our students' skills and talents, and we hope that our digital lessons will allow minimal disruption and more at-home fun, as your child continues developing creative thinking, public speaking, and acting skills through our creative drama program.

We appreciate your continued support and remain dedicated to making an awesome difference in our students as we navigate these rapidly changing conditions. As with all technology, there could be few hiccups, but it will get easier with time!

Thank you so much for being a part of the Drama Kids family. We can't wait to see your child's smiling face soon!



Dramatically yours,

Miss Pam and the Drama Kids Staff