



Happy New Year!

Is it that time already? The calls are coming in. “When are the play registration forms going in the mail?” “Which plays are you doing?”

So, here we are. I am very excited about this summer season (as I usually am), with two plays that are new to us, and three plays that we are eagerly revisiting. (And one new Director!)

The Enchanted Bookshop musical is a brand new publication with a very clever story line and great parts. Classic book characters come alive to figure out how to help a struggling bookshop owner and book lover. *Directed by Emily Frantz. (Annette will be assisting with music.)

Caught in the Web is a non-musical by a playwright that I really admire, Brian D. Taylor, who has written Princess Whatsername and a number of other plays that we have had such fun with in the past. This is a large play with dual and triple roles available for most actors, and it is a very timely story! We will be performing it in its second year of availability.

COVID-19 UPDATE: It has been a difficult time for so many of us and we were so heartbroken to have to cancel last season. (It truly wasn't the same summer without you all filling our chapel and courtyard!) We are crossing our fingers that we will be able to resume with our 2021 season. We have decided to keep the same plays from last year, with the exception of one! **We are accepting registration forms now, but we will wait until May to accept registration fees.**

If we are able to carry on this summer with our season, things *may* look a little different: smaller audience and cast sizes, temperature checks, and other precautions to ensure the safety of everyone involved. We are hoping that this will not be the case, but we wanted to give you a heads-up, just in case we need to make some changes.

**For those of you who registered for our 2020 season and graciously credited your registration fee to the upcoming 2021 season, please do one of the following:*

- Fill out a new registration form and return it to us, confirming that you would like to register in the same production in 2021 for which you registered in 2020.
- Fill out a new registration form and return it to us, letting us know that you would like to change the production for which you were originally registered.

Excited for Summer Theater,

Annette

Hutton's Hamlet
(209) 848-1216

149 S. Church Avenue
Oakdale, CA 95361

huttonshamlet.org
theater@huttonshamlet.com



Announcing: Our 23rd Season!!

Hutton’s Hamlet’s Performing Arts Center is celebrating its 23rd Summer Season of Youth Theater Workshops in 2021

- WHAT:** Theater Arts/Drama/Music workshops. The workshops emphasize acting techniques, stage presence, and vocal training. The workshops culminate in a fully-staged production open to the public.
- WHERE:** Hutton’s Hamlet Performing Arts Center, 132 West G Street (the chapel at the northeast corner of West G Street and South Church Avenue), Oakdale.
- WHEN:** Monday through Friday 8:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. All workshops are two weeks in length (except Session I, which will start on the Tuesday after Memorial Day).
- Session I:** June 1 – June 12 Phantom of the Opry
- Session II:** June 14 – June 26 The Enchanted Bookshop
- Session III:** June 28 – July 10 Doo Wop Red Riding Hood
- Session IV:** July 12 – July 24 Law and Order: C-rhyme and Pun-ishment
- Session V:** July 26 – August 7 Caught in the Web
- (Play descriptions on back)*

Performances for each play are held on Friday at 7:00 P.M. and on Saturday at 2:00 P.M. and at 7:00 P.M. at the end of each session. All students are in all three performances.

- ELIGIBILITY:** Students ages 7 to 20. Enrollment is first-come, first-serve. No auditions.
(Note: These are only two-week workshops. Regular attendance every day is mandatory; it is critical that you do not schedule anything else for the participant that will interfere with attendance on *any* day during a workshop that you select.)
- TUITION:** \$200 per participant. Call (209) 848-1216 for information and registration forms.)
- DIRECTORS:** Annette Hutton has worked extensively in theater in Stockton, Lodi, Columbia, and Groveland in the capacities of director and musical director for community theaters and children’s theater. She holds degrees in music education and piano performance from the University of the Pacific. In 2003 Annette was honored with the Excellence in Music award by the Stanislaus County Arts Council. She also received an award as a *Woman of Distinction* (in Education) by Soroptimist of Oakdale in May, 2007.
- Emily Frantz is a recent graduate from the University of California, Irvine with a degree in Theatre. She participated in Hutton’s Hamlet theater from ages 6-18 and was a First Assistant for Annette for many years. She has been teaching college-level workshops (Intro to Theatre, Clowning, and Dance Technique) at Hutton’s Hamlet in 2020-2021. She is so honored and excited for her chance to direct one of the shows this summer and cannot wait to work with you all again! (She will be directing *The Enchanted Bookshop*.)

Important: Please read the Code of Conduct on the back of the registration form and indicate your agreement by signing.

Play Descriptions

Session I: Phantom of the Opry (June 1 – June 12) *Western musical comedy.* Forget Broadway! Forget Paris! This spoofy musical restaging of the famous mystery beats them all for laughs. At the flaky Op'ry House in Skunk Creek, Nevada, the phantom makes a star of 'too good to be true' Christine Swansong, who dreams of a musical career. But star attraction Christine Barracuda will stop at nothing to see that she doesn't get it. The phantom's goal is to see that Christine will replace Carlotta...or else! What is the phantom's dark secret? Will he strike again? Musical showstoppers include "I Enjoy being a Ghoul," "Absent without Leave," and "Patrons of the Arts."

Session II: The Enchanted Bookshop (June 14 – June 26) *Musical.* An ordinary used bookshop by day becomes a magical place by night, as the characters inside the books come alive. Six of these characters—Dorothy Gale, Robin Hood, Pollyanna, Sherlock Holmes, Heidi, and Tom Sawyer---long to help Margie, the scatterbrained owner, save her struggling store. But they're not allowed to leave the building or be seen by human eyes. So, when a pair of bungling smugglers comes looking for a stolen necklace hidden inside one of the books, the characters are torn. Should they warn Margie and risk disappearing forever? Or can they find a way to defeat the crooks without being seen? This charming musical includes appearances by the Queen of Hearts, Long John Silver, and Doctor Doolittle.
***Directed by Emily Frantz**

Session III: Doo Wop Red Riding Hood (June 28 – July 10) *Musical comedy.* It's the 1950s, hula-hoops are in high demand, and so is Little Red Riding Hood! Wise Prince Jason (winner of the Math Olympics and the Nobel Prize), Strong Prince Justin (who can bench press his own mother) and ordinary Loud Prince Frank all want to woo Red Riding Hood. The king and queen hire the Fairy Godmother to set three tasks for the princes. Only the prince who can find the missing girl, defeat the dragon, and awaken a castle visitor from her slumber earns the right to woo Wed Widing Hood... that is, Red Riding Hood! Alas, Little Red's couch-potato parents don't want to lose their little girl. How else will they get their cookies delivered to Grandmother? So they hire the evil queen to thwart the Fairy Godmother's contest. Luckily, Little Red Riding Hood's two sisters — Big Green Riding Hood and Medium Purple Riding Hood — help balance out the situation. Complete with the Big Bad Wolf and a sock-hopping '50s score, this adventure is guaranteed to end in happily-ever-after laughter!

Session IV: Law and Order: C-rhyme and Pun-ishment (July 12 – July 24) *Musical comedy.* In the nursery rhyme justice system, the people are represented by two separate yet equally important groups---the detectives, who investigate the crime, and the magistrates, who prosecute the defenders. These are their rhymes. The Inspector and the Punnish Sir (Yes, he's always scrambling for egg puns!) have been called in to investigate a crime scene and fowl play is suspected. Can they solve the c-rhyme? Includes hilarious musical numbers like "Mountain of Love," "Eggicide," and "What the Honk's Goin on?" There are puns and plot twists aplenty in this Law and Order spoof.

Session V: Caught in the Web (July 26 – August 7) *Non-musical.* Phone-obsessed teens Sarah and Derek have heard their parents' cautionary nagging before, "One of these days you're gonna get sucked up into that phone!" And then it happens! The two teens find themselves trapped in the Internet and on a wild adventure through the World Wide Web! Memes, viral videos, games, email, dating sites, and social media come alive onstage, including Fruit Ninja, The Dress, Distracted Boyfriend, and many more. And it wouldn't be the internet without lots of cats and a dancing baby! Twitter, Miserable Cat, and Sirilexa team up with Derek and Sarah to find The Google, who can help them find a way home. But The Google informs them that their parents are also caught in the web and need saving. Now Derek and Sarah must brave the darker parts of the internet with identity thieves, trolls, knockoff sellers, and other shady characters such as the Nigerian Prince running scams.

**Hutton's Hamlet 2021 Theater Workshops
REGISTRATION**

Play Workshops (*Check one or more*)

- Session I **Phantom of the Opry** (June 1 – June 12, 2021)
Session II **The Enchanted Bookshop** *Director: Emily Frantz (June 14 – June 26, 2021)
Session III **Doo Wop Red Riding Hood**..... (June 28 – July 10, 2021)
Session IV **Law and Order: C-rhyme and Pun-ishment** (July 12 – July 24, 2021)
Session V **Caught in the Web** (July 26 – August 7, 2021)
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Student's Name _____ Age _____ M F O

Address _____ Birthdate _____

City _____ Zip _____ Home Phone _____

School _____ Grade _____ (*in the Fall*)

Parent's Name _____ Cell Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

Emergency Contact _____ Phone _____

Please let us know if you have any singing, dancing, and/or stage experience. (*Use margin if necessary*)

Any special medical issues we should know about (including learning disabilities)? (*Use margin if necessary*)

Registration fee is \$200.00 per play. Please mail your check payable to ***Hutton's Hamlet*** with this completed registration form to:

**Hutton's Hamlet
149 S. Church Avenue
Oakdale, CA 95361**

Sorry, no refunds allowed. Placement is guaranteed first-come, first-serve with receipt of this form.
Registration fees will be collected in May.

Please complete the back of this page.

Code of Conduct

When we started our Summer Theater program in 1999, two key operating concepts were important to me:

1. Concentrated, daily work on a play/musical rather than once or twice-a-week rehearsals, or eight weeks of rehearsals.
2. Giving everyone the opportunity to participate in a play, experienced or not.

The second concept is particularly important to me. As it works here, students sign up for a workshop first-come, first-serve. When I see them the first day, I find out what cast I have to work with. It is with an element of faith that I do this. Can the big parts be filled? Will I have singers that can handle the songs? Will I have 25 kids that can all perform in big roles, or will I have 25 that have never done this before?

Because I believe so firmly that the experience of doing a play is valuable to all, I remain committed to the sign-up process, and not to audition. The first day of a workshop is in effect an audition process. I watch how the students work with each other, with me, and with the other adults. Often a new person to our workshops will not get a huge part, for I cannot know exactly how one will do with memory, stage fright, etc.

In order to do what we do, you must trust in me to do what is best for everyone. A play may need a great singer with fewer lines, or a dancer that can sing. On the first workshop day, I do my best with the “luck of the draw” to fit the kids into a complete cast. It is tough work that creates a great deal of angst for me! But every parent and every student must trust me with the decisions I make. Fewer lines can often mean more fun, and more lines do not always equate to a better experience.

We understand that family issues can cause schedule changes, but Richard and I cannot stress enough how important it is to follow through on a commitment when you sign up. If we need 26 actors for a play, I allow 26 participants to sign up. If someone does not show up on the first day of the workshop, we have to scramble for replacements. A waiting list has not worked very well historically, for family plans often change between February and July.

We are asking parents and students alike to sign the code of conduct below.

Annette Hutton

We agree not to question Annette’s judgement in the casting of the play. We agree to help our student(s) understand that he/she/they) is(are) a part of great effort that requires cooperation and full participation, and that we will all do our very best at all times. Realizing that Annette needs a complete cast, we understand that withdrawing our student from a workshop will result in that student not being invited back to future workshops.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Signature of Student