



#### Director's Corner – Shawn & Ben

Dear Summer Stage Families,

Thank you all for helping us create the strongest summer yet! Each summer you grant us the enormous honor and responsibility of taking care of those you love most. This is the highest form of praise in our eyes. Each day we brainstorm on how to make Summer Stage an incredible experience for each student. When we are fortunate to accomplish this lofty goal, it is strictly because of a team effort made up of: students, staff and parents. All this to say - THANK YOU! Without you it could not have been done.

See you next summer!





Next ...

End of Summer Camps August 19 – August 30





with Julian Rozzell, Jr.

This year with Summer Stage was the first year I looked out at the kids and realized that not only are they growing fast, but that I have been a constant presence in their young creative lives. As an instructor, this year was easier in some ways, and harder in others. Less difficult because I did not have to contend with them to establish a sense of trust and rapport, and more tedious because of my desire to continue and be able to teach them new and fresh ideas. Nonetheless, it has been a wonderful experience learning from the students and watching them come into their own emotionally, creatively, and intellectually. As a director, Mulan was a challenging and fun show, but the real lessons come from the life around it. This included the rehearsals and the character work, etc. Each student faced their own challenges and triumphs, and in the end was encouraged and reminded that "the show must go on". Somehow the RRS performer takes these 5 words to heart instinctually, and almost always creates one of the tightest ensembles I have ever witnessed in "youth theatre". I look forward to continued growth with RRS and to one day see one of my students on Broadway! That would be the ultimate dream!

# Spotlight On Mulan Jr. ...













More Photos On Our Website!

## **Collaborative Artsfest**













## What will you miss most about Summer Stage?

Liya - My friends!

Helina – My friends!

Kaia - My friends!

**Trevor** – Everything – being here is just so awesome

Jonah Skai – My friends, Miss Pam and Penny

**Zoe** – Hip Hop, Tatyana, Karizma and Isabella

**Tatyana** – Karate and all of my friends

Yael – the playdeck

Romy – Doing plays, going to the pool and my friends.

Abby B. – Everyone at camp.

Makena – Everything.

Evan – The morning playdeck. Ruby likes it too.

Fiona – All my friends and doing the play

Tiarra – All my friends, my counselors and fun classes.

Gavin - Everything.

Isabel - All of my friends and counselors. I am having so much fun here

**David** – Spending time with my friends, I will miss friends I met for the first time I will miss Riverdale because I am leaving. I will also miss being with my counselors

**Kelysse** – A lot of my friends and I made a lot of new friends this year.

**Karizma** – the collaboration – working together to create the piece we did and learning the things I like most – performing arts.

Isabella – seeing these wonderful kids and counselors every day. I will also miss Penny.

Samantha – Isabella

**Eden** – my friends and all of the things we get to do and all of the creativity.

Sam – all of my friends and working with Mr. J.

Elijah – my friends and the performances

Angelica – swimming

Josh – rehearsal time, hanging out with all of my cool friends and all of the electives

**Abby F.** – Kaia and Yael

Olivia – Everything because I enjoyed I enjoyed everything we did but I especially enjoyed rehearsal and swim.

Ruby - Rachel

**Chris** – hanging out with everybody

**Hunter** – everything

Alana – friends and counselors

Rene – my friends, electives and counselors

Toby - my friends

**Leila** – the group of people – new people I met. It will never be the same people again.

Sarah – Having all the classes with my friends

Mia – My friends because I think it may be my last year here

**Ayanna** – Swimming, acting and my friends.

**Eva** – Voice lessons even though I didn't have any.

Ben - Everything

Kelly - Seeing my friends



Counselor Connection.....Tommy

Delivering lunches, seeing the kids and helping my mom (Penny) with her Design class

### How was your experience performing in Mulan Jr?

#### Little Stars

I was happy and excited. I like being a hun with Romy.

- Liya

## **Shooting Stars**

Butterflies swooped through my belly and I got nervous but then I got over it after the first scene.

- Makena I



#### **All Stars**

It was fun but everyone was making fun of my mole.

- Samantha

## **Triple Threat**

It was fun but I feel like I could have done better.

- Ben





Counselor Connection.....Luis

The show gives the kids an outlet to let out their creative energy. They truly come alive on stage and it is nice to see that.





To see more photos from the week check out the RRS website and blog at

RiverdaleRisingStars.com

#### Reminder

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