

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Junior actors travel back to the Middle Ages for performance

Children celebrate three weeks of training at Junior Acting Studio with The Medieval World

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WATERLOO – Children between the ages of eight and 12 will share their new dramatic skills at a performance marking the end of Laurier’s first Junior Acting Studio. The performance, based on a “Medieval World” theme, will feature 20 children in a variety of theatrical activities related to Middle Ages Europe beginning at 2 p.m. on Thursday in the Maureen Forrester Recital Hall.

The Junior Acting Studio, which runs from July 8 to 26, develops participants’ concentration and awareness, physical and vocal strength, flexibility and creative discipline. Under the guidance of Leslie O’Dell, associate professor of English and theatre at Laurier and text consultant for the Stratford Festival, children develop the skills and discipline required by theatre arts.

“This is the first time we’ve offered this program and we’re very excited by the interest,” said Lisa Fanjoy, continuing education co-ordinator at Laurier. “This is a high-energy, fun-filled experience for children to play and act, while at the same time learn about another culture and how people lived hundreds of years ago.”

O’Dell is assisted by graduates and current students from Wilfrid Laurier University, University of Waterloo and professional actors.

Thursday’s performance is open to the public and admission is free.