

# Clear Space teams with Tapsations for Arts Institute performance May 2

## School-age students to perform April 24

As the spring semester of Clear Space Theatre Company's Arts Institute draws to a close, it is time once again for those students to step into the spotlight. Three classes - Broadway Bound, Children's Acting Technique and Broadway Legends - will offer performances free of charge.

Broadway Bound, for children in grades one to eight, meets once a week for students to rotate through classes in acting, dance and voice, as well as costume,

scenic and prop design. In addition to honing skills in all of these basic areas of design and performance, the students work toward a final public performance full of classic Broadway tunes. At 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 24, this group of nearly 40 students will take the stage with musical numbers.

Joining the long-running Broadway Bound program at their performance this semester is the brand-new Children's Act-

ing Technique class, led by instructor David Button. For students in grades three to six, the class focuses strictly on dramatic studies through technique work in improvisation, physicality and voice. Students will perform monologues from "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown."

"The Children's Acting class offers students a more in-depth look at several acting techniques, like subtext and mask work, which are then put to practical use through work on a monologue," says Button.

Button also directs the staging for the Broadway Legends class, which will perform the hits of "42nd Street" at 11 a.m., Wednesday, May 2. Now in its third semester, this class has nearly doubled in size and is a true crowd-pleaser in the final performance, filling the Clear Space Theatre to capacity with audience members. This group of students age 50 and over rehearses once a week for 10 weeks, focusing on the music of one classic Broadway show.

Adding a special touch to the Broadway Legends performance this semester will be The Tapsations, a senior tap dance group based in Lewes. The dancers will lend their choreography to several numbers in the performance of this classic tap-happy musical.

"As soon as I decided on '42nd Street' for this spring, I knew that everyone would expect tap dancing, and dancing is not the reason people sign up for this class!" says Button. "Since our area is fortunate enough to have this wonderful group of tappers, who just happen to be seniors, The Tapsations add the element of dance to the show and maintain the aesthetic of keeping this a class for the 50-plus community."

For more information about Clear Space Theatre Company's Arts Institute classes, go to [www.ClearSpaceTheatre.org](http://www.ClearSpaceTheatre.org).



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**CHERYL GRAVES** performs in the Broadway Legends class presentation of "The Pajama Game" in November 2011.

## Program

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the bulbs at DEC's headquarters in Greenwood. For more information on the program, contact Kevin Yingling, manager of marketing, at 302-349-3120 or [kevin@decoop.com](mailto:kevin@decoop.com) or go to

[www.delaware.coop](http://www.delaware.coop). Applications are due by Friday, April 20.

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