



# ACTivate

ARTISTS WITH PURPOSE

2026  
2027

SEASON



Auditions and  
SummerWorkshop

[www.voicesampd.org](http://www.voicesampd.org)



# ABOUT US

**ACTivate takes a holistic approach to professional performing arts training for dedicated artists ages 10–18, driven by three core pillars: Community, Innovative Projects, and Professional Industry Prep. We are redefining what accessible, community-driven theatre looks like.**

What sets ACTivate apart are our **unique performance opportunities and community**. We move beyond traditional theater to offer innovative, non-traditional shows and new projects. Our company is a vibrant collective of artists from across Central Kentucky; because our curriculum and performance styles evolve annually, many members stay for years to take advantage of these diverse experiences.

## **Real-World Industry Preparation**

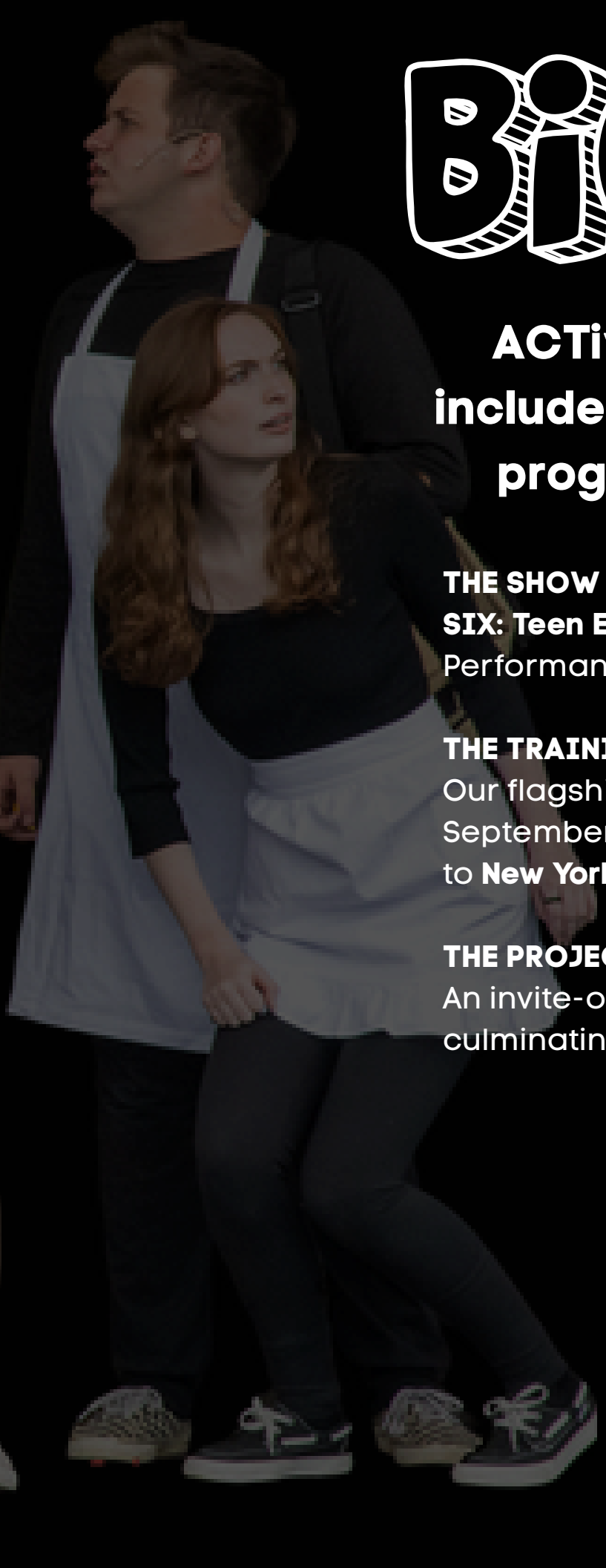
**We teach students the logistics of becoming a working artist.**

## **Innovative & Accessible Performance Projects**

**We foster a tight-knit community of artists who strive to make a tangible difference in their local communities.**

## **A Purpose-Driven Community**

**We pivot away from traditional structures to create accessible, impactful art.**



# BIG

## NEWS

### **ACTivate is pivoting to include three distinct youth program components:**

#### **THE SHOW -Early Fall Production:**

**SIX: Teen Edition** at the Scottish Rite Performance Space.

#### **THE TRAINING-The Core Company:**

Our flagship training program running September through February. Including a trip to **New York City**.

#### **THE PROJECT- The Music and Memory Project:**

An invite-only community initiative culminating in May.



**ACTivate**  
ARTISTS WITH PURPOSE





# THE SHOW

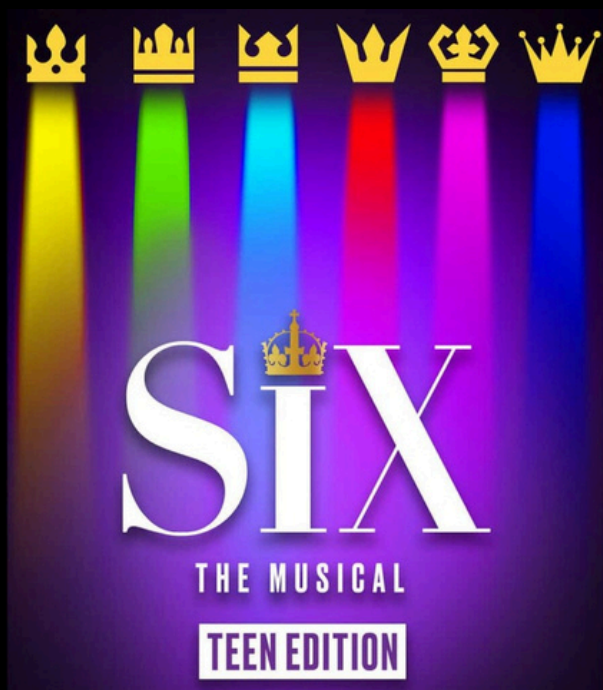
**When:** Rehearsals August and September

**Auditions:** Saturday, August 1 at 11:00 am Diana Evans School of Dance.  
**Callbacks** may be Sunday, August 2. **Video Submissions will be accepted.**  
**Please see the details page.**

**Performances: Mid September ( SEPTEMBER 10-13)**

**Casting:** ages 13-18. People of all gender identities will be considered and there may be expansion beyond the six wives. Anyone can audition, however ACTivate core company will be strongly considered.

**Cost:** This is not a tuition based program.



SIX: TEEN EDITION is a full-length adaptation of Toby Marlow and Lucy Moss' international phenomenon SIX, modified for performance by teen actors for family..

Divorced, beheaded, died, divorced, beheaded, survived. From Tudor Queens to Pop Icons, the SIX wives of Henry VIII take the mic to remix five hundred years of historical heartbreak into a Euphoric Celebration of 21st-century girl power! This new original musical is the global sensation that everyone is losing their head over.

# THE TRAINING:

**When: September- end of February/ First of March**

**Cost: Tuition based program**

**Who: AGES 10-18**

The ACTivate Core Company for 2026–2027 is introducing a highly personalized training model designed to prepare students for the professional stage. This season features an **ultra-focused company** limited to just 20–22 dedicated students, ensuring intensive, individual attention through small-group sessions, private lessons, and professional masterclasses.

**THE CORE COMPANY** training curriculum offers total immersion into the performing arts, going beyond traditional "triple-threat" models.

- **Expanded Curriculum:** In addition to vocals and acting, students will learn to create their own work through new classes in **choreography, devised theatre, and spoken word.**
- **Professional Audition Prep:** Students will build and polish a professional audition package, learning to perform for a panel of industry professionals and talent agents to receive direct, actionable feedback.
- **Dance Partnership:** Members benefit from a weekly musical theatre and technique dance class held every Tuesday in partnership with the Diana Evans School of Dance

# WE ARE RETURNING TO NYC!

- **Professional Audition Package Prep:** In preparation for our trip to New York City, students will learn to build and polish a professional audition package to perform for a panel of industry professionals and talent agents for direct feedback.
- **This season we return to New York City, where students will see Broadway shows, take masterclasses, perform, and present their audition packages for direct feedback from industry professionals and talent agents.**
- Funds will be raised for New York City at our annual **Ghostlight Cabaret** which will also entail some new experiences!
- **The Grand Finale Showcase:** Following our return from the NYC trip, the company will present their NYC cabaret



**ACTivate**  
ARTISTS WITH PURPOSE

# THE PROJECT

## The Music and Memory Project

**Cast:** members of the Core Company will be invited to participate.

**Cost:** There is no cost to this program as it is grant funded.

For the 2026-2027 school year, we are launching "The Music and Memory Project." This intergenerational program pairs young select artists (ages **10–18**) with senior residents at local assisted living facilities. Students will perform music from the residents' youth to spark memories, engage in storytelling exchanges, and ultimately transform those oral histories into original theatrical performances. This project is an excellent opportunity for students interested in drama, music, writing, and community activism, offering meaningful community service hours and unique experience for college applications.

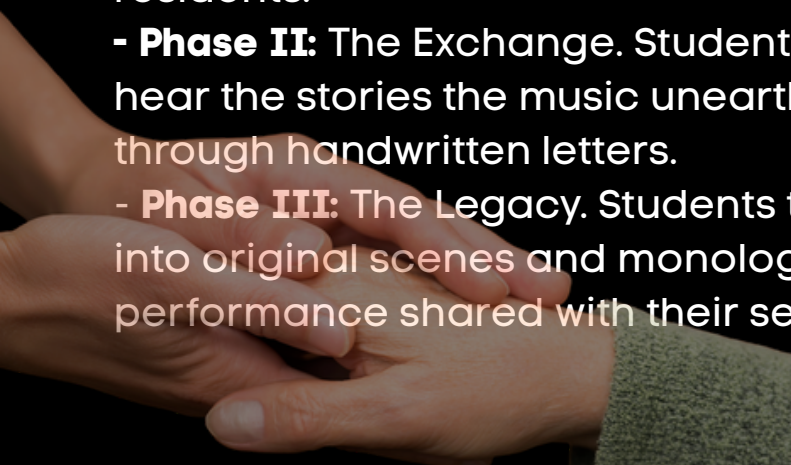
### The Vision

Research into Music-Evoked Autobiographical Memories (MEAM) shows that music from a person's youth (ages 14–24) triggers vivid recollections. This project harnesses that science to foster connection and creative growth across generations in Central Kentucky.

- **Phase I:** The Awakening. Youth performers present a curated repertoire of classics to spark dormant memories for senior residents.

- **Phase II:** The Exchange. Students are paired with residents to hear the stories the music unearthed, maintaining the bond through handwritten letters.

- **Phase III:** The Legacy. Students transform these oral histories into original scenes and monologues, culminating in a final performance shared with their senior partners.





### AUDITIONS

**Saturday, August 1 @ 11:00 am  
at Diana Evans School of Dance  
for Six: Teen Edition and the Core  
Company!**

Please email interest to **activateawp@gmail.com** for further instructions. You will be given an audition packet with details. Auditions will consist of a 32-bar song selection with accompaniment (which may be on a track). Scenes will be given as well as a dance combo. You will need to send us a resume if you have one, a recent picture, an audition form, and an interview question.

If you are **unable to attend in person auditions you may inquire about a video submission. Video submissions will be due By August 1.**

**The ACTivate team** led by Voices Amplified Executive Artistic Director Vanessa Becker Weig, are professional and accomplished artists, celebrated educators and community advocates for collaborative, empowered, and diverse artistic storytelling.

# THE DETAILS

### CORE COMPANY TUITION

The tuition covers:  
Sunday training  
Company t-shirt  
Professional headshots  
Costumes and production costs  
limited private instruction

### Company Tuition

Full year up front: \$900  
Per semester: 2 installments of \$450  
Monthly: 6 installments of \$160  
\*\*monthly installments will need to be guaranteed with a credit card.  
There will be **TWO** half scholarships awarded to qualified students.

Our trip to New York City is a separate cost as well as the dance class. We do our best to keep costs as low as possible. Not all company members are required to attend.

We will have fundraising opportunities.

### Thinking about auditioning for ACTivate?

Join us for our Summer Audition Workshop on June 28-30! It's a great way to learn new skills, get comfortable with the process, and meet our staff and some alumni.



# ACTivate

ARTISTS WITH PURPOSE

## SUMMER AUDITION WORKSHOP

July  
28-30



**WORKSHOP FEE: \$175**

**INCLUDES THREE WORKSHOP DAYS  
ONE 45 MINUTE PRIVATE LESSON!  
\$25 REGISTRATION FEE  
\$175 DUE BY JULY 13.**

**REGISTER**



**QUESTIONS**

**VANESSAWEIG@VOICESAMPD.ORG**



**TUES.WEDS.THURS.**

**1:00-5:30 PM**

**WHERE: DIANA EVANS SCHOOL OF DANCE  
152 REYNOLD'S RD.**

**MASTER THE MOVEMENT**

**WITH GUEST ARTIST ASHLEY MARTIN**



**PERFECT YOUR PACKAGE**

**EACH STUDENT WILL BE SCHEDULED  
ONE MORNING PRIVATE LESSON.**

**OWN THE ROOM**

**AUDITION SKILL AND MATERIAL  
SELECTION MASTER CLASSES**



**CONNECT AND CREATE**

**STUDENTS AND PARENTS CAN CONNECT AND WORK  
WITH ACTIVATE STAFF TO LEARN MORE ABOUT  
ACTIVATE AND OTHER AUDITION OPPORTUNITIES.**



**ACTivate**  
ARTISTS WITH PURPOSE

## STAFF

### **Executive Artistic Director/ Mentor :Vanessa Becker Weig**

Vanessa Becker Weig is Co-Founder and Executive Artistic Director of Voices Amplified and is on the Part-Time Music and Theatre Faculty at EKU. She trained at the actor B.F.A. training program at Wright State University and with Anne Bogart and the SITI Company She has over 150 directing, choreography, and performance credits and has developed Education programs for theatres in central Kentucky including Woodford Theatre and Central Ohio including The Phoenix Theatre while serving as Education and Artistic Director. She is a proud member of the ITheatrics and MTI Freddie G Fellows. Her favorite Voices Amplified projects include directing *The Prom*, playing Gynecia in *Head Over Heels*, and Heidi in *What The Constitution Means To Me*.

### **SIX Director /Program Director/Mentor :Emma Erwin**

**Emma Erwin** graduated in 2018 from the UK Department of Theatre + Dance with a B.A. in Theatre and Certificate in Musical Theatre. Aside from being Program Director for VA's ACTivate Program; a freelance Director, Choreographer, and Stage Manager; and the Theatre Teacher at Scott County Middle School, she has been in countless productions both in Columbus, OH and in Kentucky. Favorite roles include: Beth (Little Women), Logainne (The 25th Annual Putnam...), Tracy (Hairspray), and Lucy (You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown). A special shoutout to Lily, her reason for everything.

### **Vocal Coach:Mary Catherine Beath**

Mary Catherine Beath is an award-winning vocalist, performer, and educator who has performed professionally at venues such as Carnegie Hall and The Kennedy Center, as well as internationally in Italy, Ireland, and Prague. With a background in both classical voice and musical theatre, she is passionate about helping young performers build confident, healthy, and expressive voices. Mrs. Beath holds a Master of Music degree in Voice and Vocology training from Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, along with a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance and a Musical Theatre Certificate from the University of Kentucky. She has over 10 years of experience teaching and mentoring singers of all ages. To learn more, visit [www.mcwbsoprano.com](http://www.mcwbsoprano.com).

### **SIX Music Director/ Mentor: Jaila Yeast**

Jaila is so excited to be joining ACTivate team for their upcoming season! She has seen and experienced the magic that happens within Voices Amplified / ACTivate and couldn't be more thrilled about forwarding that mission! Currently, Jaila is senior music education major at the University of Kentucky who also performs locally, most recently in *Make Them Hear You* with Voices Amplified. She is extremely passionate about providing quality musical education, hoping to create an environment where students feel empowered in their abilities and personhood once they step into something new. Here's to a fantastic year!

### **Mentor: Jackson Becker**

Jackson Becker has been doing theatre around the community for as long as he can remember. Attending SCAPA, Governor's School for the Arts (GSA), and participating in anything in the arts. Since then he has performed across Kentucky and continues his love for the arts in education. Jackson has worked for GSA for the last 6 years, taught masterclasses, and directs children's theatre as well. He is so excited to join ACTivate as a mentor in next years programming!

### **Mentor: Vivien Kurtz**

**Vivien Kurtz** is a teaching, performance, and technical artist local to the Lexington area. Performance credits include Tabatha/Cheshire Cat (Alice By Heart), Cassie (The Grownups), Mopsa (Head Over Heels) as well as the Voices Amp'd Cabarets, *I Am What I Am* and *Make Them Hear You*. She has be served as the ACTivate Company Manager and Guest Dance Teaching Artist.Vivien is an alumni of a local Hip-Hop organization, The Fam Foundation, The Joffrey Ballet Summer School, and Blackbird Dance Theatre.

**Tuesday Dance Instruction Provided by Diana Evans School Of Dance Guest Artist T.B.A.**