

**The Society of American Fight Directors
University of North Carolina School of the Arts**



**National Stage Combat Workshop
Summer Stage Combat 2011**

April 10, 2011

Welcome to an exciting and rigorous three weeks of stage combat and dramatic movement! Your application shows that you have the focus, stamina and creative energy to take advantage of this unique and challenging opportunity. A talented, committed faculty awaits your arrival. Enclosed is information that outlines some basic information to start these three weeks. Please read them carefully.

Please make a note of the following very important information:

1. Check-in for the workshops will occur on Sunday June 19th. All workshop materials will be held for you in the Quad office. **On Sunday, June 19th, there will be a brief orientation meeting and facility tour at 5:30pm at Performance Place in the Catawba/Arena Theatre.** If you are not arriving until Monday, June 20th, please briefly check in at the Quad office, then report to Performance Place in the Catawba/Arena Theatre. Please note all admissions and health services requirements should be met by Friday, June 10th.

2. After this brief introductory meeting, you will be placed in a group for your stage combat skills classes and classes will start on Monday, June 20th at 8:30am. Morning classes will go from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM, and afternoon classes from 2:00 PM to 5:15 PM.

- Advanced Actor & Actor Combatant Skills Proficiency Students:

In addition to daytime classes, there will also be mandatory evening classes and rehearsals. Classes will be held Monday through Saturday. Saturday will run on an abbreviated schedule, and Sundays are off.

-Introduction to Stage Combat Students:

In addition to daytime classes, evening classes will be required three days each week, and optional rehearsal times will be available for the other two. Classes will be held Monday through Friday. There are no official weekend classes, but optional master classes will be offered on Saturdays. Sundays are off.

3. Please arrive on time for all classes, appropriately dressed and ready to move for all

combat classes. Wear comfortable, nonrestrictive clothing (top and bottom) that allows for freedom in movement. With this, you should also have space-dedicated footwear (rubber soled sport, athletic or dance shoes). All students are expected to wear appropriate athletic support.

4. All students are expected to bring at least one pair of comfortable leather gloves for weapon work. Remember that you will be wearing them for three weeks; you may want to consider either additional pairs, or a pair of gloves that can be washed. Any styles of leather gloves, from expensive gauntlets to washable leather gardening gloves to fingerless weightlifting gloves, are acceptable.

5. In addition to the movement component, there may also be a writing component to the SSC. For this reason, all students should bring with them to each class a notebook and writing utensils.

6. You will be provided with a workshop T-shirt! Please contact NSCW Coordinator Mike Mahaffey with your preferred T-shirt size no later than June 10th. He may be reached at nscwcoordinator@safd.org. Also, if you wish to order any additional shirts, this must be done at the same time. Extra shirts are \$15.00 each. (If you are reading this letter after June 10th, please send your T shirt size ASAP.)

7. On Friday, July 1st there will be a “Merchandise Night.” “Swordy” merchandise, including T shirts, shorts, gloves and other items will be for sale from a variety of vendors. Stage combat swords will be available for purchase as well. More information will become available once the workshop begins, but please know that many of these vendors only accept cash, so you may want to consider bringing some extra money along with you. (PLEASE NOTE: High school students who wish to purchase swords will need written permission from their parents. Permission slips will be included with the introductory packet that you will receive when you arrive on campus.)

8. All stage combat classes end on Friday, July 8th by the following schedule:

-Advanced Actor and Actor Combat Skills Proficiency: Classes will end no later than 4:45 PM on Friday, July 8th. The closing ceremony will happen shortly afterwards, at 6:15 PM. Family and friends are welcome to attend.

-Introduction to Stage Combat: Classes will end at 1:00 PM on Friday, July 8th. Following the final class there will be an informal closing ceremony, which should be concluded no later than 2:00 PM. Family and friends are welcome to attend. After the ceremony, ISC students are welcome to stay and watch the conclusion of the Skills Proficiency performances, as well as attend the Closing Ceremonies for the ACSP.

Again, we are looking forward to working with you and if you have any questions, please contact us via email, or call On Site Coordinator Dale Girard at UNCSA at 336-734-2834.

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Summer Stage Combat 2011

Welcome 2011 Stage Combat Participants!

Thank you for enrolling in Summer Stage Combat 2011! Our staff is very excited to begin work with you, and we are looking forward to a fun and educational three weeks.

The notes below have been prepared to help you to gain the fullest benefit from your summer course. They are not designed as arbitrary rules, but as a statement of very modest requirements in terms of courtesy one to another. Some of them were already listed in your welcome letter, but they bear repeating.

Theatre is a collaborative activity and an individual's work can only be as good as the sum total of the group. Given that group behavior influences the individual capacity to work, it is necessary to formulate a very basic code of behavior to create a healthy working environment and to ensure ease of relations as we work together. The more respect the individual has for the group, the better the experience for everyone.

I hope that you will read these notes and act upon them generously. Please realize that they are acts of courtesy and not restrictive regulations.

ATTENDANCE IN CLASS

You are required to attend every class scheduled for you while attending Summer Stage Combat (SSC). Absence may only be excused by the Coordinator of the program or by medical certification from the infirmary or your personal physician. (FAILURE TO OBSERVE THIS MAY RESULT IN YOUR BEING ASKED TO LEAVE THE PROGRAM). Inability to participate because of injury does not necessarily excuse non-attendance. When you are able to observe the class, you should attend.

PUNCTUALITY

You are expected to be on time for every class. If you are late, you may only be admitted at the discretion of the teacher. (Sleeping late and/or not hearing your alarm clock are not excuses).

CLOTHING

In order to participate fully in each class you should be prepared to wear suitable nonrestrictive clothing (top and bottom) that allows for freedom in movement. Sweat pants, sneakers and T- shirts are acceptable for movement; but PLEASE no jeans, skirts or similar attire. Proper, space dedicated footwear (rubber soled sport/athletic shoes) must be worn for all floor work. PLEASE, no sandals or flip-flops. All students are expected to wear appropriate athletic support.

In respect to others working in the close physical environment of this course, everyone is expected to bathe regularly and practice good personal hygiene.

All students are expected to bring at least one pair of comfortable leather gloves for weapon work. Remember that you will be wearing them for three weeks; you may want to consider either additional pairs, or a pair of gloves that can be washed. Any kind of leather gloves, from expensive gauntlets, to washable gardening gloves, to fingerless weightlifting gloves, are acceptable. In addition, students who wear glasses must have a way of safely securing them for class. Although not required, personal knee and elbow pads may be brought if desired.

SUPPLIES

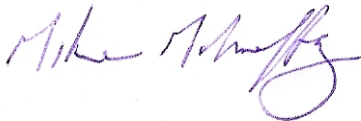
In addition to the movement component, there is also a writing component to the SSC. Students will be asked to keep a journal, and to take notes on the classes that they take. For this reason, all students should bring a notebook, as well as writing utensils, with them to each class.

GRADES

Your work will be evaluated by each teacher you have and a grade will be given at the end of the three weeks. You may request a copy of the grades by writing to the Summer Sessions Office after the summer session is over.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either me, or Dale Girard, Head of Stage Combat Studies, at any time. Our contact information is below. I look forward to meeting you, and hope you are looking forward to this summer as much as I am!

Sincerely,



Mike Mahaffey
SSC Coordinator
nscwcoordinator@safd.org



Dale Girard
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