



Junior Players is the oldest children's theater in Dallas. We have provided unique arts education programming to the youth of North Texas since 1955.

1955 – Junior Players was founded by a group of Highland Park moms. Junior Players presents traditional children’s theater productions for children by children.

1987 – The first Discover Summer Theater Camps are held at six locations

1989 – Junior Players’ primary focus changed to provide free after school and summer arts enrichment programs accessible to all children and teens in the North Texas area.

1990 - Junior Players launches its Discover Shakespeare program which combines the best of North Texas high-school acting talent with the professional skills of the DFW’s production talent in a teen production of Shakespeare presented in free performances at Samuell-Grand Park. This program started the strong collaboration with Dallas Shakespeare.

1995 - Junior Players collaborated with KERA TV 13 in 1995 to create Peacemaker, a docudrama on violence and its effect on youth.

2002 - Junior Players' production of *As You Like It* was cited as one of the Top 10 Family Plays of the year by Nancy Churnin of the Dallas Morning News.

2003 - Junior Players received the Arts Basic Award from the Texas Commission on the Arts, and a Special Award from the Dallas-Fort Worth Theater Critics Forum for "imaginatively staged and diversely cast plays, programs that encourage young artists (including PUP Fest, a playwriting program co-produced with Kitchen Dog Theater) and free performances and lessons to children and teens throughout the area."

2005 – Junior Players celebrates our 50th anniversary and are officially recognized in a proclamation from the city of Dallas. Morgan Fairchild was the honorary guest alumnus.

2006 – Junior Players was named a semi-finalist by the President’s Committee on the Arts and the Humanities for the ‘Coming Up Taller’ award.

2013 – Junior Players launched its Building Connections through the Real World in 5 DISD middle schools and its Life Skills programs in 9 DISD middle schools.

2015 – Junior Players celebrates its 60th anniversary

- Junior Players produced the critically acclaimed *In The Heights* musical at the Dallas City Performance Hall. This marks the first time Junior Players has performed in a Dallas Arts District facility.
- Junior Players also produced *Junior Players Presents: The Transformation Project*, our first ever dance production in the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre and marks the second time in a Dallas Arts District facility.

2016 - Junior Players doubles its reach and begins to serve 14,000 youth annually

- Junior Players was selected as the Attorneys Serving the Community Beneficiary.

2017 - Junior Players raises more than \$350,000 through its partnership with ASC, allowing the organization to expand its program outreach

- Junior Players adds thirty additional free summer camps - bringing the total to 80 camps every summer.
- Junior Players doubles the size of its administrative staff, expanding the organization's capacity building resources.
- Junior Players launches its Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion programs in its teen programs.
- Junior Players produces its first Youth in Arts Panel, focusing on how our youth can be catalysts for change within their own communities.

2018 - Junior Players expands its Transformation Project Dance Residency Program to include ten high schools and one middle school.

- Junior Players announces its first summer musical collaboration with UTD.
- Junior Players receives \$59,080 from NBC 5, Telemundo 39 and NBCUniversal Foundation 'Project Innovation' Grant for new digital media program.

2019 - Junior Players announces first international partnership with China Dreams and presents inaugural Discover Runway Dreams Fashion Show

- Junior Players' project JP TV Challenges & Champions is a recipient of TACA Artist Residency Fund grant and project Junior Players Presents: The Aftermath is a recipient of TACA New Works Fund
- Junior Players Student Council creates and releases a student-run "Arts Impact Youth" podcast

2020 - Junior Players celebrates it's 65th anniversary