

**THE CHARLESTON YOUTH COMPANY** began in 1978 with one company of students grades 5-12 and has grown to encompass five companies. Membership in each of the performing companies is based on a yearly audition that includes dance, drama and vocal.

### ***STAGECRAFT COMPANY (Technical)***

These talented students donate their creativity and time on weekends under the direction of master craftsmen to create, design, paint, and build sets. They learn about construction, stagecraft, prop making and operate lighting, sound and serve as deck the crew during shows.

### **FRESHMAN COMPANY**

The addition of this new company which was started in 2013-2014 has allowed us to realize our total dream for a learning program for students where they are exposed to the best in vocal, dance and drama technique in an hour long class each week. Open to students in grades 1 and 2 where they have fun while learning. They give two short recitals in the rehearsal studio.

### ***SOPHOMORE COMPANY***

The addition of this company, grades 3 – 5, has allowed us to prepare students in a quality arts program. They are instructed in the beginning levels of vocal technique, the art of dance and drama and stage presence. This company performs a number in each production.

### ***JUNIOR COMPANY***

The Junior Company, grades 5-8, meets one day per week and several Saturdays a semester. They are showcased in one major section of each production. Instruction focuses on learning performance skills and stage presence with an emphasis on higher levels of dance, drama and vocal. This company prepares students for the more rigorous demands of the Senior Company.

### **SENIOR COMPANY**

The emphasis of our premier company, grades 6- 12, is on performance and stage presence. Advanced techniques in dance, drama and vocal are showcased with two major sections in each production. This company meets two days per week and one-two Saturdays per month. Creativity and self-expression are encouraged.