



The Actors' Intensive (TAI) Juniors 2020 ~ Los Angeles, California USA Saturday 4th April – Friday 10th April, 2020

Description, dates & ages.

WHAT IS THIS PROJECT ABOUT?

For young actors who have theatrical representation in Australia (or wish to gain theatrical representation) and want to understand what it is like to be treated like a “child actor” on set, this course is a perfect introduction. Students will be treated as ‘professionals’ on set for the duration of the course and expected to rise to this level, which for a young aspiring actor is “the dream”. The six-day intensive involves classes during the day and homework each night.

The Australian Institute for Performing Arts (AIPA) is proud to offer passionate young actors the opportunity to study a short, but highly intensive program with what is inarguably some of the best faculty to be assembled in the US. (List available on request). Not limited to one method or philosophy, this program gives students a challenging and inspiring experience. **Students take classes in scene study, audition preparation, technique and self-taping, the ‘business’ of show business, commercials, and a ‘mock’ US casting session.** Parents are invited to attend information and Q&A sessions throughout the course. These are optional, but you should find them interesting. Each class is taught by a practitioner with expertise in that particular area of study. We know that there isn't a course like this anywhere and we are confident that the content, tutors, expected level of achievement, pacing and intensity will keep actors challenged, inspired and engaged.

WHAT IS THE AGE GROUP TAI JUNIOR IS DESIGNED FOR?

This course is designed for actors aged 8 – 13 years. Actors must be passionate, dedicated and self-driven. Students must be able to sit still, focus, and pay attention to the tutor. If your child cannot do this, please do not apply and wait for 2022. For year seven and above you have the choice of the junior programme (with a parent) or TAI teens, where they attend with their peers and are supervised by AIPA staff. A parent does not need to attend with them. (See TAI Teens 2020)

HOW DOES IT WORK WITH SUPERVISION/PARENT INVOLVEMENT?

Each child needs a parent/guardian/grandparent to travel with them, stay with them overnight and get them to and from class each day. AIPA does not provide a supervisor (except over the lunch break). Parents are required to drop off children ten minutes before the classes commence and be there to pick up ten minutes before the classes conclude. There will be a parent info session held most mornings at drop off so that you can hear directly from the casting directors/industry specialists about the industry and what they do. Timetable will be available in update two.

WHAT ABOUT OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS?

We suggest that the child actor and a parent come over to complete junior TAI without any distractions. If you want to make a family holiday of the US opportunity, we suggest that other family members arrive after the course concludes so that you can all enjoy the many attractions of Los Angeles. TAI Junior is very intensive and kids love to live their passion, but sometimes that's hard to do knowing everyone else is at Disneyland. Students will have homework each night but will also be tired so they will need one-on-one with a parent or grandparent to really get the most out of TAI.

WHEN IS THIS PROJECT RUNNING & WHAT IS THE DURATION?

Classes commence at 10.00am on Sunday 5th April, 2020 and will conclude by 4.30pm on Friday 10th April, 2020.

WHAT DOES THE BASIC ITINERARY LOOK LIKE?

Sat 4th April: Travel and arrival day.
Sun 5th April: US accents, the business of the business.
Mon 6th April: Scene study and US accents.
Tue 7th April: Scene study and audition technique/self-taping
Wed 8th April: Scene study and audition technique/self-taping
Thur 9th April: Commercial casting director masterclass & audition prep.
Fri 10th April: Classes with two US casting directors (mock US casting session)

WHO IS THIS PROJECT FOR?

This project is ideal for young actors with a burning desire to work in the film and television industry, to explore a little of what the US market is like to train in and for. The LA industry is quite daunting to a new comer and it is easy to be misled or ‘sold the dream’. This project is designed to provide young actors with a solid training opportunity, a basic understanding of how classes and casting works in Los Angeles and experience tuition with staff who work professionally in the US. Through practical classes with great coaches, working casting directors and known actors, students will gain a hands-on training opportunity, impossible to get anywhere else.



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Students must be driven and disciplined. Any actor who disrupts a tutor will be asked to leave for the day. If disruption occurs again, they will be asked to leave the course without refund.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF PARTICIPATING?

This programme has been designed in conjunction with Los Angeles based casting directors, tutors, industry professionals, coaches, agents and managers. We have also consulted with directors and studios execs who have offered 'what they look for' and 'the skills young actors are lacking or fall short on'. TAI isn't designed as a 'one-off'. We would expect that students are enrolled in a quality training course to prepare them for the work and can continue the work after returning from the US.

A written report will be supplied to each actors' parents/guardian on completion so that you have feedback. We hope that this will help you to focus your study in the future and how you compare to other actors within your playing age range already in LA. These reports are not 'sugar coated'. We believe that if you are going to invest time and money on a course, you need constructive feedback. If you are industry ready, the individual coaches (casting directors) could make calls on your behalf to agents and managers. Please note that this is outside the confines of the course and there is no fee, no need for private lessons etc if they decide to do this for an actor. There are also no promises. If a student gains individual interest, it may be necessary to extend your trip to attend meetings.

"Students who are serious about taking acting to a professional level need to train regularly both in their home countries and the US to build a solid training resume. Training overseas is one thing; training with recognised and highly regarded coaches and industry professionals is essential - that is what TAI offers".

WHAT SORTS OF ACTORS ARE YOU LOOKING FOR & WHAT LEVEL OF STUDENT IS THIS PROJECT SUITABLE FOR?

Applicants worldwide are encouraged and welcome to apply, but must have a solid command of the English language. (Written and spoken) Actors will need determination, ambition, stamina and a good work ethic. Acting needs to be something they love and live for, then they should thrive in TAI. We need parents to be supportive but not overbearing.

Official Information

WHO OR WHAT IS THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE FOR PERFORMING ARTS?

The Australian Institute for Performing Arts Inc is the US branch of AIPA trading as a corporation in California. We provide training, productions, talent development and performance opportunities to talented individuals in all performing arts disciplines. The Australian companies, AIPA Pty Ltd and our dedicated touring division (Performing Arts Tours) have been working with groups of students with similar projects domestically since 1997 and internationally since 2002. We have hundreds of testimonials that you would be more than welcome to look at www.aipatdp.com The agreement for this project is between the student and AIPA Inc.

STATEMENT

The Actors' Intensive (TAI) is run in full compliance of the laws that came into effect in California in May of 2009. These laws (AB1319) were put in place to protect actors from scams. Information about the laws can be found at www.leginfo.ca.gov. Go to "California Law" and then to "Labor Code", then sections 1701 - 1705. AIPA is more than happy to provide you with any information that you may require and we have copies of the printed legislation in our offices if you would like to come into Sydney or LA and read it. ALL courses taught within the state of California are bound by AB1319. There are no exceptions. We encourage all actors to research the legislation and understand your rights. They are there to protect you. We are NOT affiliated with any other company. We are flattered that other companies intimate that we are, but there is no truth to that statement. *Our bond number is 100194001.*

Application.

HOW DO I APPLY?

All new applicants must apply, audition and be accepted by an AIPA staff member or one of their trusted partners. As a benchmark has been provided, the decision to accept a student into the programme will be made at the initial audition. Auditions will be conducted in Sydney and via Skype. Please contact the Sydney office 02 9966 4473 sydneyoffice@aipa.com.au to be sent materials and set a time.

IF MY CHILD IS KNOWN TO AIPA, DO THEY NEED TO AUDITION?

If your child has completed a course within the last 18 months with AIPA (and we believe that you are of standard and will truly gain something from this project) you do not need to audition as we appreciate your calibre and evident dedication and training. If you wish to enrol them, please contact Jen in Sydney on 02 9966 4473 to assess suitability. Once you have been approved you will be sent the enrolment form. **Please note that we reserve the right to refuse enrolment to any actor we do not deem suitable without providing explanation.**



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DOES MY CHILD NEED TO AUDITION IF THEIR AGENT BELIEVES THAT THEY ARE READY TO TAKE TAI AND RECOMMENDED THIS COURSE?

Yes. Auditioning is always a great experience and we suggest that everyone auditions. It makes it easier for the tutors to prepare masterclasses and for our team to help you prepare.

WHAT DOES MY CHILD NEED TO DO FOR THE AUDITION?

Once you have registered for an audition we will send you a few scenes that you can choose from. You can choose to perform the piece in standard American or your natural accent. This audition will be taped.

HOW DOES MY CHILD AUDITION AND HOW & WHEN DO WE FIND OUT IF HE/SHE WAS SUCCESSFUL?

If you are based in Sydney auditions are held at AIPA studios by appointment. If you live outside the Sydney area, interstate or overseas we will assign you an audition time and you can audition over Skype. Generally, you will be given an answer within 24 hours of your audition. Occasionally it may take us up to 48 hours. You will hear from us either way. We ask that you ensure your details are correct and all paperwork is complete on the application form.

WHAT DOES IT COST TO AUDITION?

There is NO cost to audition, however prior to auditioning we ask that you fill out the application form and either bring it with you to your audition or scan it and email it PRIOR to your audition. The form will be emailed to you. The application form asks for a credit card number to pay the deposit of US\$500. The deposit will only be charged if we accept your child into the course.

If he/she is not successful at audition nothing will be charged. The form is processed and shredded. Auditioning constitutes your agreement to these terms, so please do not let them audition unless you understand this condition. We suggest that you purchase travel/cancellation insurance as soon as your child is accepted in case you need to withdraw from the project.

IF I WANT TO GIVE THIS COURSE TO MY CHILD FOR CHRISTMAS WITHOUT THEM KNOWING, CAN YOU HELP ME?

Yes. We can organise an audition via tape without them knowing what it is for and work with you to ensure that you have something to wrap up and put under the tree (with notice). Please tick the box on the audition application form.

Accommodation, flights, meals & transfers. What do you suggest?

DO YOU PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION?

We do not provide accommodation, as parents have different tastes and budgets. We can recommend hotels if you would like some suggestions. Travel Agents usually have great deals. Air b'n'b is another alternative. Ideally you would like to be in zip codes 90028, 90036, 90038, 90048, 90069. Classes will be held in Hollywood and Studio City.

WHICH FLIGHTS DO YOU RECOMMEND I BOOK TO & FROM LA?

It's really a personal choice. If you haven't been overseas before or you are a nervous traveller, please speak with Jen so that you can travel with an AIPA staff member (where possible).

WHEN SHOULD WE GET TO LA?

We suggest that you arrive on the arrival day or a day or two before to ensure that your child is well-rested before starting the classes.

HOW DO I GET TO AND FROM LAX?

AIPA staff use UBER, Lift or other share ride app companies. LA is very well serviced.

Preparation

IS THERE TRAINING MY CHILD CAN DO IN SYDNEY IF I AM UNSURE IF THEY ARE READY FOR TAI?

Yes. The School at AIPA (Sydney) runs **weekly classes** to help actors prepare for LA or keep skilling once they have trained over there. We also run a **workshop in the January school holidays** called The Screen Actors' Masterclass. SAM is a great program that focusses on audition technique, US accent & scene study. We strongly recommend this course as preparation for TAI. SAM will give you an idea of the standard expected and workload of TAI. SAM runs for three hours each day over five days.

ARE THERE ANY PARENTS I CAN SPEAK TO WHO HAVE BEEN TO THE US WITH AIPA BEFORE?

Absolutely. We have a huge parent fan base and have numerous parents who have offered to speak to parents who do not know us. We will give you a few options for parents who have children the same age as your child. (Wherever possible)



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Professional Development

I AM A QUALIFIED DRAMA TEACHER. ARE THERE ANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR ME?

Yes. We have a component each year where we encourage professional development and are happy to speak with teachers about the possibility of being involved in both Australia and the US. Your school will need to support you financially; however, we have a scheme to assist further education and are happy to speak to you about this. There is no 'cost' to be involved, apart from the hard costs of airfares, accommodation and living expenses. We cannot add people we do not know to the staff. If you are known to us and wish to apply as staff, please email your resume (with a minimum of three references) to usadmin@aipa.com.au

I AM AN AGENT AND HAVE CLIENTS STUDYING TAI. ARE THERE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ME?

We are more than happy to work with agents and follow your vision for your clients. If they receive any interest, we will follow the direction given by their parents and also involve you each step of the way to ensure that your clients involvement in TAI can only be positive for everyone involved.

Costs and Inclusions.

HOW MUCH DOES THIS PROJECT COST AND WHAT DOES IT INCLUDE?

The Actors' Intensive Junior is a six-day intensive. The cost for the programme is US\$1610.00 This includes all masterclasses, tapes from classes, parent info sessions, hire of classroom space, facilitation of programme, t-shirt & hoodie, written report with feedback from the tutors and any resources required.

WHAT IS YOUR CANCELLATION POLICY?

Once you have accepted the place for your child and have signed the agreement, you are legally committed to the cost of the project. As you can appreciate, once we start to build a class with confirmed agreements, we book and prepay teachers and professionals. If you withdraw before the 28th February, you are only responsible for a cancellation fee of US\$500.00. (Your deposit) After 1st March, you are responsible for the full cost. It is essential that you purchase travel insurance which will cover you in the unfortunate circumstance that you have to withdraw your child from the project. Please ensure that your policy covers cancellation prior to leaving your home. You will need to make your payment to AIPA INC, you will be issued a receipt and then able to make the claim if appropriate. Please research travel insurance for options.

WHEN ARE PAYMENTS DUE?

Payment One: \$US500 deposit paid upon successful audition.

Payment Two: Balance is due **no later than 28th February, 2020.**

HOW DO I PAY FOR TAI?

Payments can be made by cash (in USD), travellers cheques or a bank draft (in USD). www.transferwise.com allows you to pay via credit card or with savings online. We have been told this is the most efficient/cost effective way to transfer funds. **Please note AIPA cannot provide loans or payment plans.** Please contact a bank or financial institution if you need credit.

IF I HAVE QUESTIONS, WHAT DO I DO?

Ask us! We strongly encourage you to call our office in Sydney on 02 9966 4473 and ask any questions that you may have. You can arrange a time to meet members of our team. All staff have been screened as appropriate and all are first aid trained. We would be happy to put you in touch with parents whose child has taken part in past years if you would like to speak with them. We have had students from Australia, the UK, Canada and New Zealand attend with 100% positive feedback.