

6 LOCATIONS ACROSS LEBANON

KIDS & TEENS FULL PROGRAM

Who are we?

Najjar Performing Arts Academy is a theatre-based learning academy that uses acting, improvisation, storytelling and performance to develop the human skills children need on stage — and in life.
We don't just teach children how to perform.
We help them communicate, connect and grow.

OUR STORY SO FAR

Built on a family legacy in theatre and storytelling, Najjar Academy brings performing arts into a new generation of learning.
Today, our programs reach children, teenagers and adults across 5 locations in Lebanon, alongside school, university and corporate programs.

OUR MISSION & BELIEF

We believe theatre offers us skills beyond acting, skills that help us shine on every stage and at every stage of life.
Our mission is to use performing arts to develop confidence, communication, emotional intelligence, creativity and self-expression; skills that become increasingly important as children grow.

Academy Founders

Rana Najjar
Founder | Communication & Leadership



Award-winning creative leader, communication specialist and theatre practitioner with over 20 years of experience across Beirut and Dubai. Rana has held senior creative leadership roles at international advertising networks and has taught at university level. Today, she brings together her background in theatre, communication and leadership to develop experiential programs in public speaking and human skills. She is also the founder of The Cyrano Lab, Najjar Academy's platform for professional and university learning.

Academy Founders

LAMA NAJJAR
Co-Founder | Children & Youth Development

Lama leads Najjar Academy's approach to theatre education for children and teenagers, with a strong focus on creating safe, engaging spaces where young people can express themselves and grow. She helps shape programs that use acting, play and creative exploration to develop confidence, communication and social skills. Her work ensures that learning remains age-appropriate, experiential and rooted in each child's individual development. At the heart of her approach is the belief that every child deserves a space where they feel comfortable being seen and heard.



Academy Founders

ZIAD M. NAJJAR
Co-Founder | Theatre & Storytelling



Writer, theatre practitioner and creative mentor, Ziad brings the craft of storytelling and performance to Najjar Academy's educational approach. His work focuses on helping students explore character, imagination, writing and authentic expression through theatre. He contributes to the development of programs that balance artistic discipline with creativity and personal growth. His approach keeps the Academy deeply connected to the theatrical roots on which it was built.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MARWAN NAJJAR

A Visionary, A Creator, A Mentor

Marwan Najjar was more than a pioneer of theater and television in Lebanon; he was a visionary who laid the foundation for a vibrant artistic community. His passion for storytelling and his relentless belief in the power of performance shaped the cultural fabric of our country.

Through his work, he empowered an entire generation of actors, directors, and creators, nurturing talent and inspiring dreams. His legacy lives on in the countless lives he touched, the stories he brought to life, and the art that continues to thrive in his wake.

Two years after his passing, we honor his memory by establishing Najjar Performing Arts Academy, a space dedicated to empowering the next generation of performers. This academy is a testament to his unwavering dedication to the arts and his belief in the transformative power of creativity.

Marwan Najjar's spirit will forever guide us as we continue his mission to inspire, create, and elevate the arts. This is not just a tribute... it is a promise to carry his light forward.

A PROGRAM THAT GROWS WITH THEM

Najjar Performing Arts Academy offers a progressive theatre-based learning journey designed to grow with students.

In the early years, theatre is a space for play, imagination and expression.

As students grow, it becomes a tool for confidence, communication and collaboration.

By the teenage years, the methodology expands beyond acting into public speaking, emotional intelligence, negotiation and leadership; preparing students for the situations they will encounter at school, university and in life.









PRESCHOOL | PS1–PS3

Discover & Express

At this age, theatre begins with play.

Through movement, imagination, stories, music, role play and simple theatre games, children are encouraged to explore the world around them and discover different ways of expressing themselves.

There is no pressure to “perform.” The focus is on creating a playful and safe environment where children feel comfortable participating, imagining, interacting and being seen and heard.

What They Will Explore

Imaginative Play
Using stories, objects and imaginary situations to stimulate curiosity and creativity.

Movement & Body Expression
Discovering how the body can communicate emotions, characters and ideas.

Voice & Expression
Playing with sounds, words, emotions and simple dialogue to encourage verbal expression.

Emotions Through Theatre
Recognizing and expressing basic emotions through characters and situations.

Group Play
Learning to participate, take turns, listen and interact with other children.

Core Objectives

Express themselves

Encourage children to communicate emotions, ideas and needs through words, movement and play.

Develop imagination

Stimulate curiosity, creativity and the ability to imagine different characters, situations and worlds.

Build social confidence

Help children become more comfortable participating, interacting with others and expressing themselves within a group.

Expected Outcome

Children gradually become more expressive, imaginative and comfortable participating with others.
The objective is not performance at this stage.

It is helping children discover that their ideas, emotions and imagination deserve to be expressed.

LOWER ELEMENTARY | GRADES 1–3

Play, Create & Communicate

As children become more socially and verbally confident, theatre becomes a powerful environment for learning how to communicate and create with others.

Through acting games, improvisation, storytelling, movement and simple character work, students learn to express ideas more clearly while developing their imagination and ability to listen and respond.

The emphasis remains playful, but students begin understanding that theatre is also about working together.

What They Will Explore

Acting Games
Using playful exercises to introduce basic acting concepts while developing focus and confidence.

Storytelling
Creating characters, situations and stories and learning how to communicate them to others.

Improvisation
Responding spontaneously to situations and learning to build on another person's ideas.

Voice & Body Language
Exploring how voice, facial expression, posture and movement affect communication.

Characters & Emotions
Experimenting with different personalities, emotions and perspectives.

Group Creation
Working together to build scenes and stories.

Core Objectives

Build confidence & self-expression
Encourage students to speak, participate and share ideas without fear of making mistakes.

Strengthen communication & listening
Teach children that good communication involves both expressing themselves and responding to others.

Develop creativity & collaboration
Encourage students to contribute ideas while learning how to create as part of a group.

Expected Outcome

Students become more comfortable expressing themselves, participating in groups and using their imagination creatively.

They begin developing an important understanding:

Having confidence is not only about speaking. It is also about listening, responding and connecting with others.

UPPER ELEMENTARY | GRADES 4–6

Act, Collaborate & Perform

At this age, students are ready to move beyond creative play and begin exploring acting as a tool for communication, collaboration and self-expression.

Through theatre games, improvisation, character work, storytelling and scene work, students learn how to express ideas confidently, listen and respond to others, take creative risks and contribute to a group.

The program is highly interactive and practice-based. Students are encouraged to experiment, make choices, solve problems together and gradually become more comfortable expressing themselves in front of others.

What They Will Explore

Acting & Character Work
Exploring different characters, emotions, intentions and situations while learning the foundations of acting.

Improvisation
Thinking on their feet, reacting spontaneously, listening to others and learning to build on their ideas.

Voice & Body Expression
Using voice, facial expressions, movement and body language to communicate with greater clarity and confidence.
Storytelling.

Storytelling
Understanding how stories are structured and learning how to bring ideas and narratives to life.

Scene Work & Collaboration
Working with partners and groups to create scenes, solve creative challenges and understand the importance of teamwork.

Performance & Stage Presence
Gradually developing the confidence to perform, present and hold the attention of an audience.

Core Objectives

Communicate with confidence
Help students express their ideas, emotions and opinions more clearly and comfortably.

Collaborate with others
Develop listening, empathy, adaptability and teamwork through ensemble-based theatre exercises.

Think creatively & perform with presence
Encourage imagination, spontaneity and problem-solving while developing stronger stage and personal presence.

Expected Outcome

By the end of the program, students should demonstrate greater confidence in expressing themselves, stronger communication and collaboration skills, and increased comfort performing or speaking in front of others.
The objective is not simply to create better young actors.

It is to use acting to help build more confident, expressive and socially aware young people.

MIDDLE SCHOOL | GRADES 7–9

Skills for the Real World

During the teenage years, students face a different set of challenges: speaking in front of others, navigating friendships and group dynamics, dealing with disagreement, understanding their emotions, expressing opinions and developing their own identity.

At this stage, our methodology expands beyond acting. Students can explore Public Speaking, Emotional Intelligence, Negotiation and theatre-based communication through role play, improvisation, scenarios, debates, presentations and practical exercises.

Rather than learning these skills theoretically, students are placed in situations where they have to experience, practise and apply them.

What They Will Explore

Public Speaking
Structuring ideas, communicating clearly, developing stronger delivery and becoming more comfortable speaking in front of others.

Emotional Intelligence
Recognizing emotions, understanding triggers, developing self-awareness and learning how emotions influence behaviour and communication.

Negotiation
Learning how to express needs, understand another person's perspective, handle disagreement and work toward solutions.

Improvisation & Quick Thinking
Learning to respond when they have not had time to prepare and becoming more comfortable with uncertainty.

Role Play & Real-Life Scenarios
Practising situations teenagers actually encounter: disagreements, peer dynamics, teamwork, presentations and difficult conversations.

Communication & Presence
Understanding how tone of voice, body language, choice of words and behaviour influence how a message is received.

Core Objectives

Communicate with confidence
Help students structure their thoughts, express opinions and speak clearly in different situations.

Build emotional & social awareness
Develop greater understanding of their own reactions while learning to recognize and respond to the perspectives of others.

Navigate conversations & challenges
Equip students with practical tools for disagreement, negotiation, collaboration and problem-solving.

Expected Outcome

Students become more conscious communicators. They learn not only what they want to say, but how they say it, how others may receive it and how to adapt their communication accordingly.

They develop practical skills they can immediately apply at school, at home and socially.

Because the teenage years shouldn't only prepare students for exams.

They should prepare them for people, choices and real-life situations.

SECONDARY SCHOOL | GRADES 10–12

College & Life Readiness

As students approach university, academic knowledge alone is no longer enough.

They will increasingly be expected to introduce themselves, present ideas, participate in discussions, defend opinions, collaborate with unfamiliar people, attend interviews, manage conflict and demonstrate independence.

Our College & Life Readiness program helps students practise these situations before they encounter them when the stakes are higher.

The curriculum can combine Public Speaking, Emotional Intelligence, Negotiation, Leadership and theatre-based communication, with a strong emphasis on simulations, role play and practical application.

What They Will Explore

Public Speaking & Presentations
Structuring compelling presentations, communicating complex ideas clearly and delivering with confidence and presence.

Interview Skills & Personal Introduction
Learning how to talk about themselves, their experiences, strengths and ambitions authentically and confidently.

Emotional Intelligence
Understanding personal triggers, managing reactions, reading social situations and communicating effectively under pressure.

Negotiation & Difficult Conversations
Learning to disagree constructively, advocate for themselves, listen to different perspectives and find common ground.

Leadership & Group Dynamics
Understanding different leadership approaches, taking initiative, influencing without imposing and contributing effectively to teams.

Thinking on Their Feet
Using improvisation and spontaneous speaking exercises to develop adaptability, presence and confidence when answers cannot be prepared in advance.

Core Objectives

Communicate with impact

Prepare students to articulate ideas, opinions and ambitions clearly across presentations, interviews and conversations.

Develop self-awareness & interpersonal skills

Help students understand how they communicate, respond under pressure and interact with different personalities.

Prepare for independence

Give students practical experience navigating the communication, leadership and interpersonal situations they are likely to encounter at university and beyond.

Expected Outcome

Students leave the program with more than presentation techniques.

They develop greater confidence in unfamiliar situations, a stronger understanding of how they communicate and practical tools for interacting with different people and environments.

The goal is to help bridge the space between school readiness and life readiness.

Because getting into university is one challenge. Being ready for everything that comes with it is another.

ONE METHODOLOGY. A DIFFERENT PURPOSE AT EVERY STAGE.

PS1–PS3

Discover & Express

Imagination • Expression • Social Confidence

Grades 1–3

Play, Create & Communicate

Confidence • Communication • Collaboration

Grades 4–6

Act, Collaborate & Perform

Acting • Creative Thinking • Stage Presence

Grades 7–9

Skills for the Real World

Public Speaking • EQ • Negotiation

Grades 10–12

College & Life Readiness

Communication • Leadership • Independence

NAJJAR ACADEMY
PERFORMING ARTS

FROM THEIR FIRST STAGE TO THE WORLD BEYOND SCHOOL.

Train your skills. Own your stage.

www.najjar.academy