# 🎭 SUMMER STAGE PROJECT: “Let’s Put on a Show!”

For Junior High to High School Theatre Students

Cost: Free to under $10

Timeframe: 1–3 weeks (or compress into a weekend!)

Location: Backyard, garage, driveway, local park pavilion, or living room

Theme: Classic “Hey kids, let’s put on a show!”—a DIY summer theatre project

## 🧰 WHAT YOU NEED

- Friends or siblings (4–10 participants)

- A simple script (choose a public domain play or write your own 10–15 min scene)

- Recycled costumes (closets, old Halloween costumes, bedsheets)

- Cardboard boxes or chairs for set pieces

- Markers, scissors, paper for props or signs

- Phone or tablet for recording (optional)

## 📝 STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

### 1. Form Your Team

- Actors  
- A director (can also act)  
- A props/costume person (can double as actor)  
- Optional: a narrator, musician, or sound FX creator

### 2. Choose Your Script

Options:  
- Write your own 5–10-minute story (about summer, friendship, or solving a mystery)  
- Adapt a fairy tale or scene from Shakespeare (public domain)  
- Use one of Ross Wilmeth’s 15-minute Shakespeare scripts or original one-acts!

### 3. Design Your Space

Clear a small area in your yard, driveway, or den.  
Set a “stage” using chairs, cardboard boxes, or a blanket on the floor.  
Add simple props like a cardboard crown, paper sword, or broomstick horse.

### 4. Rehearse

Block scenes (“You stand here, then move here”).  
Practice lines with emotion and energy.  
Rehearse 2–3 times before performance.

### 5. Showtime!

Invite neighbors, friends, or family.  
Put out a few chairs or picnic blankets.  
Optional: Record it and upload to a private YouTube or Google Drive to share.

## ✨ BONUS CHALLENGES

- Design a flyer or playbill

- Create a commercial for your show using a phone camera

- Swap roles for a second performance (actor becomes director, etc.)

- Do a “Found Object” prop challenge—only use props you find around the house

## 💬 DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (After the Show)

1. What worked well in your show?  
2. What would you do differently next time?  
3. How did you solve problems as a team?  
4. How did it feel to perform for an audience (even if it was just your dog)?

## 🧠 THEATRE SKILLS LEARNED

- Collaboration  
- Improvisation  
- Script analysis  
- Design and blocking  
- Time and resource management

## 📦 PROJECT PLANNER

Title of Our Play: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Team Member Names: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Rehearsal Schedule: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Performance Date & Time: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_