

# Orientation Packet

Performing in a musical is an experience that young people will remember for the rest of their lives, and it is truly our pleasure to work with your child on this exciting project.

We want everyone involved to understand both the benefits and responsibilities that go along with being in a musical, so we have detailed some of the basics here:

First off, there are a number of great benefits to being in a musical, including:

**Active Participation in the Arts:** Participating in the arts provides young people with a chance to explore their creativity and imagination in a structured and safe environment. Musical theater is specifically remarkable because it is the only art form that combines all areas of the fine arts: Acting, singing, dancing and visual arts.

**Improving Literacy Skills:** From reading scripts to memorizing lines to learning to tell a story, young people continually improve their literacy skills while rehearsing and performing in a musical.

**Becoming a Confident Public Speaker:** It takes a lot of guts to stand up and sing or dance in front of your family, peers, and what may seem like the entire community. Experience with public speaking at a young age gives students confidence that will be important to them for the rest of their lives.

**Gaining Critical Thinking & Problem Solving Skills:** Putting on a musical is a group effort and every member of the team must work together to make it happen. Throughout the rehearsal process, the students will learn to solve challenges as they arise. Students will learn to trust and depend on themselves and their cast mates. Not everything always goes as planned during a production. Learning to cope with and solve a problem in what can be seconds is a valuable skill.

As with any group activity, every participant has responsibilities. Please look over the following items to make sure you and your child feel you can honor the commitment to being a part of a show.

**Attendance:**

Attached to this is a basic rehearsal schedule for the show. Please look over it closely to make sure your child has minimal conflicts with the rehearsal process and zero conflicts with tech week and show dates (including our pickup rehearsal if the show runs two weekends). If there are conflicts, please let the production team know as soon as possible by filling out a conflict form in the office. Students are expected to attend all rehearsals they are called for unless a prior approval has been given. Failure to do so may result in dismissal from the show.

**Rehearsals:**

Rehearsals are held at MMP's rehearsal studio. Students should bring their scripts, a pencil, water, and wear appropriate shoes and clothing for movement. 4 hour tech rehearsals the week of the show will take place at the performance venue and are mandatory. Also please make sure you have arranged for your child to be picked up on time from each rehearsal. We do not allow any food during rehearsals. Please do NOT send your child with a snack.

**Homework:**

Students will have homework for the show, including memorizing lines and songs, rehearsing dances, researching their character, etc. Work with your child to create a schedule so that they have time to finish both their school homework and their homework from the show.

**Attitude:**

The rehearsal room and theatre are safe spaces where young people can take positive risks and be themselves without the fear of being laughed at or alienated. This principle is essential to artistic growth and exploration. Participants are expected to respect these principles and are encouraged to remember it themselves when trying new things.

**Volunteering:**

The most important thing you can do to help us with the musical is make sure your child commits to everything listed above. If you want to volunteer additional time or resources to the production, simply drop us a note with your name and we will contact you if assistance is needed.

Finally, please remember a musical is a living, breathing entity. Things don't always go exactly as planned, so changes in the plan will be made throughout the rehearsal process. We promise to give you as much advanced notice as possible on all changes that arise.

## **Tuition**

Tuition for Broadway Bound Workshops is \$269

No sibling discount is offered on tuition (please see ticket requirement for discount)

Payment Plan is available \$134.50 due by the first day of auditions, and \$134.50 due the first day of the second month of rehearsals

Refunds are offered only before casting is announced. We believe every role is crucial to a shows success.

## **Rehearsals**

Please note: Rehearsals are closed to parents. You can check in through the windows, or by listing in the lobby but please do not enter the rehearsal room as it disrupts the learning process.

Blocking – Blocking rehearsals are with our director. These rehearsals are where you learn where you go on the stage when there is no music. Please make sure you bring water and a pencil.

Choreography – Choreography rehearsals are with our Choreographer. These rehearsals will teach the dances for all the dance numbers. Please make sure you bring water and a pencil.

Vocal – Vocal rehearsals are with our Vocal Director. In these rehearsals, you will learn all the music for the show. Please make sure you bring water and a pencil.

## **Conflicts**

If you have any conflicts, please fill out a conflict notice at the front desk and turn it in to any staff member.

Failure to attend a rehearsal may result in you not being in that scene or song. It is your responsibility to learn the blocking/song/choreography. Time permitting we will fit in those who missed. The only time conflicts will not be accepted is during Tech Week

## **Schedule**

After casting, we will distribute a new schedule and scene breakdown. Please cross reference the schedule with the scene breakdown. If you are not in the scene or dance that is being rehearsed that day, you do not need to come to rehearsal

## **Dress Code**

**Cast members are required to wear appropriate clothing to ALL rehearsals. Failure to do so may result in not being able to participate. Snug fitting shirts, pants or shorts are acceptable. NO JEANS ALLOWED. No skirts, strapless shirts, or dresses are allowed (shorts underneath make dresses and skirts and option). You must be able to move in anything you wear. Jazz shoes are REQUIRED for all rehearsals. If you do not yet have Jazz shoes, you will be asked to remove your street shoes and participate in your socks. Starting the second week of rehearsals, if you do not bring your jazz shoes, you will not be allowed to participate in that rehearsal.**

## **Ticket Requirement**

Each participant is required to sell 12 tickets at \$8 each. Tickets will not be released until payment is received.

Ticket Prices increase to \$10 two weeks prior to opening night. Your required tickets will remain at the \$8 price, but any additional tickets purchase within two weeks of opening night will be at the \$10 rate.

If you have more than one child in the workshop, a sibling discount will be given on the ticket requirement only.

The second child will only be required to sell 6, the third, 3.

## **Costumes**

All costumes will be provided by Musical Mayhem Productions and will remain the property of Musical Mayhem Productions.

MMP does not provide shoes or tights for the production. If specialty shoes and/or tights are required, you will be notified.

Each cast member will also need to wear a changing leotard, shorts and a tank top, or a swimsuit during the performances. Dressing rooms may not be used and they will need to change in front of others.

**Discounts for dance wear can be found at the front desk from [www.discountdance.com](http://www.discountdance.com) Use teacher code TP70063 to save 10% on your first purchase and 5% on future purchases**

## **Tech Week and Performances**

Tech Week is the week our show opens. During this week, we will have rehearsal at the theater every day from 5-9. It is imperative that all cast members are there for these rehearsals as it is our only time to work on the stage before we open. Tech week rehearsal are closed to parents, friends, and other family members. Please send your child with a snack and a labeled water bottle

Performances have a call time and a show time. The call time is when all cast members need to arrive. Audience members (including parents) will not be allowed in the theater until the doors open 30 minutes before showtime. Seating is on a first come, first serve basis. Tickets are required for anyone watching the show. If you are in a seat, you need a ticket. Children 2 and under are free only when sitting on a lap. The line generally begins forming one hour before showtime. If you have special seating requirements for a certain show (wheelchairs, walkers, etc) please inform us before we open the doors so that you can be accommodated. If you do have a special seating requirement, we will only be able to hold a seat for that one person and one guest. The cast is not released to leave until the green room is cleaned up and costumes have been properly put away. Please remember that some cast members move more quickly than others. Cast members are the only ones allowed backstage. Please wait patiently near the door for your cast member.

## **Auditions**

All cast members will be required to audition. We do this mainly to teach the audition process and to properly cast the show. The main objective is to HAVE FUN! Everyone will be in the show, no matter what! You can prepare for your auditions at home, however, we will teach everything in class also. Remember that everything is an audition. Inappropriate behavior and being disrespectful to fellow cast members will have an impact on your audition.

Please practice a "Slate"

For example: My name is Jane Smith and I am 9 years old. I will be singing "Maybe" from Annie

Dance auditions will be taught – there is no need to prepare a combination  
Monologues and Vocal auditions may be of your own choosing. If preparing your own, please follow the guidelines on the next page

## **Casting**

Will will announce casting on the first day following auditions. No refunds will be given after casting is announced. We are all here to put on a show as a team and all the members of the team are important. Only one person can be the "lead" but everyone will have fun and be onstage a lot!

## Acting Auditions

Please learn one of the following sides or prepare one of your choosing. If using your own, it must be no more than 30 seconds.

### Option One

But I do like Jasmine. I mean, "The Princess!" Ugh! I must've sounded so stupid! Then again, what does it matter? I'm never gonna see her again. Me, the "street rat"!

### Option Two

But we should! YOU should! How else are you going to know what's going on? Did you know that your "common people" are hungry?

### Option Three

What'cha workin' on there, boss?


## Vocal Audition

Please learn one of the following songs or a song of your choosing. We will be teaching the song(s) below before auditions. If you are using your own song, it **MUST** be between 16 and 32 bars (measures). You must bring the sheet music for the pianist. Please mark your start and stop points in the song. Sheet music should have the lead (vocal) line and the piano accompaniment. Your past show scripts will only have your vocal line, and therefore, are not permitted. **You may also sing Happy Birthday for your audition**

# Friend Like Me

(GENIE gestures to the wings as a few CHORUS members enter song.)

CHORUS:

Start  Mis-ter A -

a big musical!


(Full CHORUS now enters.)

A tempo ALL:

21 lad-din, sir, what will your plea-sure be? Let me

25 take your or-der- jot it down, you ain't nev-er had a friend like me.

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# Audition Schedule

## **Tuesday January 2nd**

5:00-6:00pm      Dance Auditions 5-8 year olds  
6:15-7:15pm      Dance Auditions 9-12 year olds

For the dance auditions, you do not need to prepare anything ahead of time. We will teach a short combination for you to perform in small groups. You will need to dress in dress code, and wear your jazz shoes (or socks if you don't have your shoes yet)

## **Thursday January 4th**

5:00-7:30pm      Vocal and Acting Auditions  
Sign ups will be posted online  
you will sign up for a time slot and only need to  
come during that time

For the vocal and acting auditions, please see the instructions on the previous page. You do not have to come in dress code for this audition, and can wear whatever you like. Please sign in upon arrival. We will audition in the order that you sign in. Small groups will be taken into audition together. When their group is done, they are free to leave.