

Preparing for the Audition

- To help prepare your child for the audition, we recommend working on choosing one of the song selections we have provided that best shows off your child's range (how high and low they can sing).
- We also encourage parents to work with their children on reading out loud.
- Lay out your audition outfit the night before the big day. A good first impression is quite important. Please dress appropriately – stay away from being gimmicky.
- Get a good night of sleep.

The Day of the Audition

- Eat a delicious, but light, meal before joining us for the audition.
- Plan to arrive about 15-30 minutes prior to the posted audition schedule to give yourself time to fill out the Audition Form and Production Conflict Schedule as well as for the production staff to confirm everything is filled out and to address any further questions about your form and conflicts.
- Please be seated and wait for further instructions from the director. Break a Leg!

The Audition Process

- To minimize distractions, we ask all cellphones be put away and that parents/guardians either leave the building when auditions begin and return for your actor at the end of the audition process (1 to 1 1/2 hours) or sit quietly at the back of the auditorium.
- We will ask the actors to learn a short dance step (generally 8-16 bars) that we teach that evening. It is not overly difficult and does not require any dance or movement training, but it gives the director a good idea of how well the actors move onstage.
- Each actor will then sing their prepared selection. It does not need to be memorized.
- Finally the director will have the actors read short selections from the script as different characters in order to get a sense of how certain voices fit certain characters.

Casting the Show

- No roles are pre-cast, all actors must participate in an audition with the director(s).
- At auditions, we ask all families to let us know what conflicts they have for all rehearsals. We use this during our casting process to know whether a young actor can fully participate in the production. Conflicts do not necessarily mean that a young actor will not be cast, but please understand that our rehearsal process is never as long as we want it to be, so we need our young actors to be available for as many rehearsals as possible.
- When the decision has been made, the cast list will be posted on our facebook page (facebook.com/depottheatercompany), on our website (depottheaterco.com) and an email will be sent announcing with more information regarding rehearsals.
- An activity fee of \$50 is required for each actor cast in a show.
- Actors may be asked to provide some basic costume pieces (socks, top, or tights, for example).
- Families are required to volunteer a minimum of 2 rehearsals (or set/costume/prop work calls) and 2 performances of the show.

Rehearsals

Our rehearsal and performance schedules serve to show children how to take the dialogue in the script and bring it to life on the stage.

- A mandatory Parent Meeting will be the first meeting for paperwork, etc. We will then have a read through of the entire show.
- Our rehearsals will begin the first week of June leading into the performances with rehearsal times normally:
 - Monday 6:00pm – 8:30pm
 - Tuesday 6:00pm – 8:30pm
 - Wednesday 6:00pm – 8:30pm
 - Thursday 6:00pm – 8:30pm
 - Friday 6:00pm – 8:30pm
- No cellphones, food or drink items besides water are allowed in the auditorium.
- In case of weather-related rehearsal cancellations, make-up rehearsals may be scheduled for the entire cast on originally non-scheduled days.
- While not all actors are called to every rehearsal in the beginning, as we get closer to the performances, all actors will be expected to attend the remaining rehearsals.
- Every attempt will be made to work around agreed-upon conflicts, but unscheduled conflicts won't be accepted and may result in re-casting a part. Conflicts do affect casting decisions; if an actor has too many conflicts, they will not be cast in the show, regardless of skill level.
- Each actor is given a rehearsal selection of songs and loaned a script for use throughout the rehearsal process. Please mark notes lightly in pencil and erase them before opening weekend performances.
- Although we rehearse the show in the theatre, actors are to memorize their lines and movement at home – practicing on their own. Directors do give notes and assist actors on an individual basis, however the vast majority of rehearsal time is for the Directors to bring the entire ensemble together to create the show.
- Tech Week and the week prior to Tech Week is mandatory. Rehearsals will run from 6 pm to 9 pm, unless otherwise notified.
- The Depot Theater Company is a volunteer-ran organization and we are unable to be at the theatre for extended periods of time. The cast/crew door opens no earlier than 30 minutes prior to rehearsal, please have your actor on time and ready to rehearse. If for unforeseen circumstance you are running late, please call get a hold of a director and let us know your expected arrival time.

Performances

- Time for the Big Show! Actors from all levels of experience get nervous just before the show, it's natural. Just go out there and perform the show as you rehearsed under the excellent guidance of your Directors.
- There will be 5 performances over 4 days. August 2-5, 2018.
- All performances are mandatory and the performance schedule is:
 - Thursday 7:30pm (Actors are called to the theatre at 6:00pm)
 - Friday 7:30pm (Actors are called to the theatre at 6:00pm)
 - Saturday 2:00pm (Actors are called to the theatre at 12:30pm)
 - Saturday 7:30pm (Actors are called to the theatre at 6:00pm)
 - Sunday 2:00pm (Actors are called to the theatre at 12:30pm)
 - The cast/crew door opens no earlier than 30 minutes prior to call time to drop off actors and parents/guardians come inside the theatre after the performance to pick up them up. If you are running late, contact the director immediately.
- After the final performance, all actors are required to stay and assist with Strike (putting props and costumes away, cleaning up the dressing rooms, and so forth). Parents are also requested to help with any striking of set pieces. Once this is finished, we will have a Cast Party to celebrate!

We hope this helps answer any questions you have about our expectations and what you should expect if your child is interested in auditioning with us. We look forward to seeing you in our theatre. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any further questions.