

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PLAY

Dear Students and Parents—

Here are some things for you to think about if you decide to audition (or have your student audition) for a role. **Please check the rehearsal calendars on the Cooper MS Theatre website or the Mission Possible google classroom (address on the back page) to make sure that if your student gets a role, they can fulfill their obligation!!** These are some guidelines and expectations that I am looking for in auditions and rehearsals.

Auditions

Auditions will be two days - Wednesday for singing and Thursday for choreography and cold readings. Today you will learn the options for audition music and a piece of choreography. You will choose one of the songs you learn today to sing at auditions on Wednesday. You can only sing one, so make sure you choose the song that works best for your voice. Everyone will return for auditions on Thursday. On Thursday you will perform the choreography in groups, and then you will be assigned a scene to do as a cold reading. Don't be nervous! We know that you are learning these things today, and we don't expect you to be perfect or memorized. Just do your best, and try to have fun.

Callbacks

Callbacks are when a director needs to take a second look at you. Sometimes they are considering you for a part against someone else; sometimes they want to see you try a different role. The callback list will be posted on the Cooper MS Theatre website immediately following Thursday auditions. If your name is on the list and you cannot make callbacks you need to let me know BEFORE CALLBACKS or I will assume you just aren't interested. If your name is not on the list it does not mean you weren't cast. I may cast some people who are not on the callback list. Getting called back does not mean you will be guaranteed a part in the play!

Cast and Crew List

Cast and crew list will be posted on the Cooper MS theatre website and on Saturday after the callbacks. Casting takes a while, I promise I will put it up as soon as I have cast the show. Please understand that I would love to cast everyone who auditions, but it just isn't possible. There are always over a hundred kids who come out for the shows. If you are not cast, don't get discouraged! Sometimes people aren't right for a role in a particular show, but that doesn't mean they aren't talented. If a student is not cast and would like to talk to the director later on about things they could improve on, they are welcome to come and see me. This needs to come from the student, and not from the parent.

Student Behavior

Please be on time to all auditions and rehearsals. School rules apply for all after-school activities, this is no exception. Once the 2:30 bell rings you need to be in the cafeteria, and all food, drinks, cell phones and other devices are put away. **DO NOT TALK DURING AUDITIONS!!!** Remember that it is not just your talent I am looking for, but even more importantly, your behavior. When you show up at an audition, you may be with your friends and you may be nervous, but if I have to continuously tell you to be quiet, stop talking, and pay attention, I will not want to work with you. Good behavior for auditioning means that you are sitting quietly waiting for your turn to read, practicing your lines, or quietly watching others. If you are a behavior problem you may be asked to leave auditions, and forfeit your chance of being in this production.

Conflicts

I understand that conflicts happen, but if you are doing the play, you need to know that this becomes your priority. If you have rehearsals on Thursdays, you can't then schedule basketball for Thursdays as well. This means that you may miss an after school function. You will get a schedule if cast, but rehearsals could be any day Mondays through Thursdays, and especially when we close in on show time, may go as late as 6:30 pm. You will get a chance to list your existing conflicts at auditions, but something that is not on your list that comes up later may be counted as an unexcused absence, so **BE HONEST!!**

Finances

The finances for the show will be \$75 for cast and \$35 for crew. This money will cover: ad space for the program, t-shirt for the show, recording of the show and costume fee (costume and recording is cast pay only). Please see me if you have any questions about show finances.

Cooper Theatre Website

The rehearsal calendar and all the information about the show is posted on the Cooper Theatre website. The web address is www.coopermstheatre.org. Make sure you check the "News" Section which has all the current information about the play and will be where the callback and cast and crew list will be posted.

Important Dates:

Auditions

Auditions will be held in the cafeteria from 2:30pm until 4:30 pm on Wednesday AND Thursday, February 8th and 9th. You need to be available BOTH days so that you have an opportunity to sing, dance and act for auditions.

Callbacks

Callbacks will be on Friday, February 10th, from 2:30 – 6:30pm. If you are on the callback list you need to arrange a ride home. Callbacks will be posted on the Cooper Theatre website on Thursday night. Please bring a snack or \$5 if you would like to order pizza as a group.

Cast List & Crew List

Cast list will be posted on the Cooper Theatre website Saturday, February 11th, unless otherwise noted.

Rehearsals

First rehearsal will be on Monday, February 13th from 2:30 to 3:30pm in the cafeteria. You must attend this if you are in the cast AND crew of the show. You will get your script and rehearsal schedule at this time. Rehearsals will mostly be scheduled Monday through Thursday. The size of your role determines how often you will need to attend rehearsals. Some rehearsals will correspond with late buses, others will not. These are indicated on the calendar. Make sure that you are aware of which rehearsals you will need a ride for, and which rehearsals you are called for.

Shows

The performances for the show are Wednesday, May 3rd through Saturday, May 6th.

The Wednesday afternoon and Thursday afternoon shows will be after school at 2:30pm, the Friday night and Saturday night shows will be at 7 pm. Depending on your part, you may be performing on Wednesday afternoon and Friday evening or Thursday afternoon and Saturday evening, or all four shows.

Strike & Cast Party

Strike is when cast and crew and parents take down the set and put everything away. Strike will be on Sunday, May 7th (the Sunday following the final performance) and the cast party will immediately follow. All cast and crew will come to strike and the cast party.