



Dear Parents & Guardians,

We are excited that your student is auditioning for our Spring Musical this year. Putting on a musical requires a lot of moving pieces and a significant commitment of time and resources. Here are a few things you need to know about our musical this year:

- Parent Meeting: There will be a mandatory parent meeting on Tuesday, November 27th @ 7 pm in the Cafeteria. At this parent meeting we will answer any questions you may have about the rehearsal process and review all pertinent information.
- Rehearsals: Rehearsals will begin the Monday after Fall break. They will take place Monday - Thursday 3:45 -4:30 pm. Students will be expected to attend at LEAST two rehearsals per week. In addition, there are two Saturday rehearsals and a tech week for which everyone needs to be present at all rehearsals. **Students must submit conflicts in advance to be excused from rehearsal.** To submit a conflict please indicate a conflict on the attached rehearsal calendar by marking the type of conflict on the date indicated.
- Eligibility: All students involved in the show must be eligible per UIL rules (passing all classes). Students must make every effort to keep up with their academic activities outside of rehearsal.
- Financial commitments: Putting on a musical takes a significant amount of financial contribution. All students involved as either actors or technicians will need to sell \$100 worth of program ads for our program. Ads can be from local businesses or good show ads from family members. Ads are due by Friday, January 11th. In addition, students will be asked to provide basic costume pieces as a foundation for their costume in lieu of charging a participation fee.
- Tickets: Tickets will be available online beginning in February. Parents of cast and crew will have the first opportunity to purchase online tickets through a link that will be emailed out to you. Ticket prices are \$12 for adults, and \$8 for students/seniors/staff etc. Tickets include a \$2 processing fee.

Thank you for your interest in this year's musical! Break a leg at auditions!

-Ms. Davies & Mr. Chapman

About Seussical, JR:

Transporting audiences from the Jungle of Nool to the Circus McGurkus, the Cat in the Hat narrates the story of Horton the Elephant, who discovers a speck of dust containing tiny people called the Whos. Horton must protect the Whos from a world of naysayers and dangers, and he must also guard an abandoned egg that's been left in his care by the irresponsible Mayzie La Bird. Although Horton faces ridicule, danger and a trial, the intrepid Gertrude McFuzz never loses faith in him. Ultimately, the powers of friendship, loyalty, family and community are challenged and emerge triumphant!

Characters: M=Male, F= Female, E=Either

### **Roles:**

#### **The Cat In The Hat (E)**

The Cat In The Hat is the essence of mischief, fun, and imagination. The Cat stirs things up, causes trouble, but always sets things right again, helping Jojo to discover the power of his own imagination as they create the story for the show together. Look for a physically adept actor (male or female) to play The Cat, one who will be able to play many comic cameos and is comfortable improvising with an audience. The Cat does not need to be your strongest singer, but should still have good rhythm and timing.

#### **Jojo (M)**

Jojo is a "Thinker", a smart child with a wild imagination. He can be played as being a little bit awkward, a little bit of a loner, or simply a rambunctious kid whose Thinks get him into constant trouble. By the end of the show, he learns what it means to be a responsible member of his world, using the power and possibilities of his own Thinks. He should be one of your stronger singers.

#### **Horton The Elephant (M)**

Horton The Elephant is a gentle giant. Think of him as a big-hearted blue-collar guy who is steadfast, responsible and always tries to do the right thing for his friends. He is imaginative and receptive to the world around him. He is very unselfconscious. Horton's view of the world never changes - he believes in its goodness. By the end of the show, without even realizing it, he

is ready to become a parent.

**Gertrude Mcfuzz (F)**

Gertrude Mcfuzz is very self-conscious and aware that her one-feather tail isn't perfect. Gertrude changes during the show from a neurotic, nervous and shy bird into one with the power to protect and care for a baby elephant bird and commit herself to Horton. In other words, she stops worrying about her looks and grows up.

**Mayzie La Bird (F)**

Mayzie La Bird is self-centered, selfish, and vain. Mayzie will never admit to her own flaws. She manipulates anyone she can into doing what she wants. But Mayzie isn't all bad. In giving up her egg to Horton once and for all, she has a moment of generosity-she realizes she isn't the kind of person who would be a good parent, and she does the best thing she can for the egg.

**Sour Kangaroo (F)**

Sour Kangaroo isn't really sour at all. She's just got a lot of attitude. She's loud, brassy, and a lot of fun.

**The Wickersham Brothers (M)**

The Wickersham Brothers are not bad guys! They're simply a lot like kids who tease, play pranks, and get a kick out of making mischief, although often at others' expense. They enjoy hanging around with one another, making music together on the street corner, and playing off one another. Encourage each of your actors to find their own Wickersham persona.

**The Whos (E)**

The Whos are a lot like you and me, only so small as to be invisible. Don't think of them as weird little aliens. They should be played for their inherent humanity. Encourage everyone playing a Who to try and create his or her own unique character.

**Mr. Mayor (M)**

Mr. and Mrs. Mayor are Whos who are parents trying hard to raise a difficult child in a difficult world. They may get aggravated with Jojo, but they love him dearly and try to do the right thing, even if it turns out to be a mistake.

**Mrs. Mayor (F)**

Mr. and Mrs. Mayor are Whos who are parents trying hard to raise a difficult child in a difficult world. They may get aggravated with Jojo, but they love him dearly and try to do the right thing,

even if it turns out to be a mistake.

### **Jungle Creatures (E)**

The Jungle Creatures are real people at heart, just like us, even though they may be described as animal characters. We discourage masks and literal "animal costumes." Each student should be encouraged to create his or her own individual character with human characteristics.

### **The Grinch (E)**

One of three great smaller character roles that can be played by some of your featured chorus members.

### **Yertle The Turtle (E)**

One of three great smaller character roles that can be played by some of your featured chorus members.

### **Vlad Vladikoff (E)**

One of three great smaller character roles that can be played by some of your featured chorus members.

What we are looking for in an audition or how students will be assessed:

Each student will be assigned a score of 1 - 5 in each of the following categories.

1 - True Beginner

2 - Developing

3 - Average

4 - Accomplished

5 - Exemplary

- Vocal Performance
- Physicality
- Confidence

- Facial Expression
- Preparedness

**Callbacks will take place after school on November 12th**