



Parent Welcome Letter

Children's Community Theatre

Congratulations! Your child has been cast in *Jungle Book for Kids*. 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.

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: Following this letter is a basic rehearsal schedule for the show. Please look it over closely to make sure your child has no conflicts with the rehearsals or show dates. If there are conflicts, please let the production team know as soon as possible. Students are expected to attend all rehearsals they are called for unless prior approval has been given. Failure to do so can result in dismissal from the show.

Rehearsals: Rehearsals will last from 6PM to 8PM on various days of the week and will be held at *the Meyer-McLean Performing Arts Theater at the Four Rivers Cultural Center or adjacent room*. Students should bring their scripts, a pencil, a snack, and wear appropriate shoes (close toed shoes only) and clothes for movement. *Parents, please make sure you have arranged for your child to be picked up on time from each rehearsal.*

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

Attitude: The rehearsal room and theater 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 when assistance is needed. We are still in the process of compiling a list of everything that needs to be done, but don't worry, when we have tasks that need to be done, we will let you know. For the safety and security of all children, all volunteers must have a cleared background check from Four Rivers Cultural Center & Museum.

Finally, please remember that a musical is a living, breathing entity. Things don't always go exactly as planned, so changes to the plan will most likely be made throughout the rehearsal process. We promise to give you as much advance notice as possible on all changes that arise. If you have questions or concerns at any time throughout the process, please feel free to contact me at cct@4rcc.com and we will be happy to help you.

Sincerely,
D. Sterling Blackwell
Director

Jungle Book, Kids Rehearsal Schedule

What	Day	Date	Time	Location
Audition	Tuesday	March 11	5pm - 8pm	Conference Room
Music/Dance (w/Piano)	Monday	March 17	6pm - 8pm	Conference Room
Music/Dance (w/Piano)	Monday	March 31	6pm - 8pm	Theater
Blocking	Tuesday	April 8	6pm - 8pm	Conference Room
Music/Dance	Wednesday	April 9	6pm - 8pm	Theater
Blocking	Thursday	April 10	6pm - 8pm	Conference Room
Blocking	Tuesday	April 15	6pm - 8pm	Conference Room
Blocking/Run	Wednesday	April 16	6pm - 8pm	Theater
Tech Rehearsal	Monday	April 21	6pm - 8pm	Theater
Dress Rehearsal	Tuesday	April 22	6pm - 8pm	Theater
Dress Rehearsal	Wednesday	April 23	6pm - 8pm	Theater
Show	Thursday	April 24	6pm - 8pm	Theater
Show	Friday	April 25	6pm - 8pm	Theater
Show	Saturday	April 26	6pm - 8pm	Theater

