

## Parent Meeting Summary

- Staff introductions:
  - Linda runs the show!
  - James is our musical director.
  - Elena is the choreographer for the Monday/Wednesday lead casts
  - Jocelyn is the choreographer for the Friday Time Steps cast
  - Emily works as Linda's back office manager
  - Rhonda will join as stage manager a little later in the process. She will come into the last two weeks of lead cast classroom rehearsals and then be with us in the theater.
- These are our rules for the classroom, and they are equally if not more important once we move into the theater:
  - BE SAFE
    - Don't run, do gymnastics, or pick each other up in the classroom. Follow the directions of your instructors.
  - BE RESPONSIBLE
    - Practice at home, come to rehearsal as prepared as possible, take pride in your work.
  - BE RESPECTFUL
    - Listen to instructors or peers when they are speaking. Don't boss others around.
  - DON'T TOUCH ANYTHING THAT ISN'T YOURS
    - This is very important in the classrooms at St. Finn Barr. We are guests in these classrooms and if items are found out of place, Linda risks not being invited back into the rooms.
    - This is also the number one rule in any theater setting. It is a huge safety thing in any theater with fly space. It is also important that performers do not touch any costume, prop, or set that isn't theirs-- what may look like a pile of rags on a chair may actually be another performer's costume that they have carefully preset for a quick change later on.
- All students receive a t-shirt, cast photo, and DVD of the final performance
- All students need to bring black jazz shoes to class each week.
  - Some lead cast students may be required to wear black character shoes for the show. This depends on which roles they are casted in and Linda will notify you about this later.
- LBMP has lots of students, so in order to give the most opportunities to the most students, we currently have three different casts. This means there are three different groups of students that will have three performances of The Lion King Jr. each.
  - The Musical Notes Cast consists of the Monday Lead Cast plus Tuesday 3:00 Supporting Cast.

- The Top Hats Cast consists of the Wednesday Lead Cast plus the Tuesday 4:00 Supporting Cast.
  - The Times Steps is made up of all the Friday Intermediate Workshop students, with no supporting cast.
- Supporting casts will be in ensemble numbers throughout the show and do not have any lines outside of their song lyrics. Supporting casts meet at the same time every week until we arrive in the theater.
- Lead casts and Time Steps students are called at slightly different times each week.
  - All students are called each week until at least 5:30. From 5:30 to 6:30, Linda runs blocking rehearsals. Each week, Linda rehearses a different scene. So the students who are not in that scene do not need to stay until 6:30.
  - After auditions and casting, I will be sending out a blocking schedule for the rest of the semester.
  - These blocking rehearsals involve figuring out where all the action takes place in the space. Students are responsible for memorizing or at least being very familiar with their lines before they come in to their blocking rehearsal. If students aren't familiar with what is supposed to be happening in their scene, it will be impossible for them to understand why they are moving through the space in a certain way, facing a certain character while speaking, or exiting off a certain side of the stage. It is up to the students (with the encouragement of those they live with) to be prepared before each blocking rehearsal that they are in.
  - Though everyone has a different blocking schedule and therefore different deadlines for being familiar with their parts, **all students are responsible for memorizing all of their lines and songs by the week of November 18th.**
- For lead casts and Time Steps, auditions take place in the second week of class.
  - You will all receive videos of the audition dance as well as song options.
  - Fill out your audition form and bring it to auditions, we take your preferences very seriously while casting.
  - A cast list and blocking schedule for the semester will be sent out after auditions before that following week of class.
- Practice everything at home is a big part of participating in LBMP's full-length productions.
  - All students should listen to their CD's regularly at home. Even if they aren't actively singing along, hearing the melody and getting used to the correct rhythms is extremely important.
  - Students need to run their songs/dances/lines more than once a week for the information to really sink in
- When we move from classroom rehearsals to theater rehearsals, lots of things change.

- Days of the week and call times may shift slightly, check the dates now and put them all in your calendar.
- Everyone is responsible for delivering their kids to the theater. After-school pick-ups from St. Finn Barr and Sunnyside are no longer provided once we start theater rehearsals.
- The first few rehearsals in the theater are about getting used to the space, the microphones, and the length of the show. The final rehearsal before our performances is a full dress rehearsal. On these days, each student must bring to the theater a reusable bag with their name on it. In the bag, should be their shoes, shorts, and tank tops that they will be wearing under their costumes. These items will be stored in their bags and kept at the theater throughout the duration of the shows to ensure that nothing important is forgotten at home.
- I will be sending more thorough reminders about all of this info as we get closer to those theater rehearsals.
- Each family must volunteer for a total of 5 hours or pay the \$100 buyout.
  - If you have multiple kids in the show, you only have to commit a total of 5 hours or pay one \$100 buyout.
  - Numerous different volunteer roles are available before the shows take place, during theater rehearsals, and backstage during the actual performances.
  - The volunteer roles that are needed vary each year, so take a look at the descriptions before signing up.
  - I will be sending out a sign-up genius link soon. Sign up early to get the roles/times slots that you prefer.
  - **You must sign up for volunteer hours or pay the buyout by January 2nd.**
- NEW THIS YEAR: required ticket sales
  - Every student is required to sell or purchase a minimum of 10 performance tickets. If a family has more than one student enrolled, then they are required to sell or purchase a minimum of 15 tickets.
  - These tickets can be for any of the three shows that your child is in or for any of the other six shows being put on by the other casts.
  - When purchasing tickets online, there will be a place to enter your student's or family's name so we can track everyone's sales.
  - More details on the ticket sales process will come via email.
- Linda throws a cast party for all students on Sunday, February 12th, 5:00-7:00pm
  - This party is very fun, send the kids hungry, it's catered!