

Hi, thank you for registering for The Spring production of The Wizard of Oz. Attached is a lot of information needed. Most IMPORTANTLY, if your plans have changed and you are no longer able to participate in this production PLEASE TEXT ME ASAP at 805-610-7187, I have a waiting list of eager children waiting for an opening.

Please read ALL information, print and fill out required forms and bring them to the Audition Workshop or drop them by the studio: 1413 Riverside Ave.

The AUDITION WORKSHOP is optional BUT highly recommended. If you can not make it you **MUST** drop off forms and remainder of payment to the studio **no later than DECEMBER 10TH.**

THE WIZARD OF OZ AUDITION PACKET

Welcome to the The Wizard of Oz auditions.

An AUDITION WORKSHOP will be held on December 7th from 5pm-6:30pm. At this workshop you will be able to meet the director, sing songs, read script, learn about the characters and ask questions. Parents will need to turn in all forms and finish paying tuition.

AUDITIONS will be held on December 12th, 13th, and call backs on the 14th.

Please sign up for **AN AUDITION TIME SLOT ASAP**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A044FAFAB2DAAFC1-46331736-wizard>

IF YOU CAN NOT MAKE AUDITIONS YOU MAY SEND A VIDEO AUDITION TO 805 610-7187 (In person auditions are always best)

We're so glad that you're interested in being in our popular Applause Children's Theater's Spring Musical!

Some of you may already be very familiar with the audition process. Some of you might be experiencing your first audition. Either way, we're here to help you prepare.

On the following pages you'll find everything that you need to know about auditioning for this great show, such as: VOCAL AUDITION TIPS, CALLBACKS, CASTING, IMPORTANCE OF ENSEMBLE, CONFLICTS, AND TUITION.

Vocal Audition Tips

1) A musical theater vocal audition is NOT "American Idol". This is an audition, not a "sing-off". It's all about storytelling. The directors aren't so much listening to voices as looking for who can tell a story with their voice, face, and body.

2) The directors have a problem. They need to put together a big puzzle and find just the right pieces to put it together best. They are not there to "judge" you – they are really, really hoping that you'll be the right fit for one of the puzzle pieces. Your

job is to help the directors solve their problem, so there's no need for you to be nervous!

3) If you're nervous anyway, "hide" behind the character. Remember that it's not "you" up there; it's your character. Tell your character's story the entire time when you audition. Get involved in telling the story and don't spend time thinking about how your voice sounds when you sing. Never "break character", no matter what happens. Make a strong, active choice for your character, and play it fully. We can't tell anything about your character if you don't show us an active personality.

4) Regardless of how your song sounds, if your eyes, face, and body don't tell the story of the song, the audience isn't going to understand the story. Our brains process pictures before they process words, so your hands are busy doing something unrelated to the song (for instance: tugging at the bottom of your shirt), the audience is going to think your song is about something else (a shirt), no matter what words you're singing!

5) Use clear diction. We need to understand every word that you sing. Stand up tall and sing loudly enough to be heard from way across the room, but don't scream.

7) You do not have to memorize the song selection – we will have the words up on a music stand if you absolutely need them – but it will be GREATLY to your advantage if you DO memorize the words and can focus on telling the story. Even if you don't have the song memorized, don't spend your time staring at the words. Instead, only look at the words if/when you forget them.

9) If you are very young and are not really reading yet – don't worry! We'll work with you and "feed" you the words as you go along, but do try to see how much you can memorize at home BEFORE the audition!

10) PREPARE IS THE KEY!!

"Callbacks"

Based on the auditions, we may call certain students back into the audition room to sing or read other materials that we will teach them at the time. If you are not called back into the room, that doesn't mean that you aren't being considered for a given role; it just means that we've seen all that we need to see to make our decision.

The directors may give you advice about how to sing a certain phrase, or how to read a scene. If that happens, please try to incorporate the suggestions into your performance. Don't do the same thing that you did before; change your performance to incorporate the directors' instructions. Everyone will notice how well you take direction, and that has a huge impact on whether or not a person gets cast.

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Casting : ALL WHO AUDITION ARE CAST IN THE SHOW!

As mentioned on p.2, casting a show is like assembling a large jigsaw puzzle. If you are not cast as A LEAD, OR THE ROLE YOU WANTED, in the show, that

DOES NOT mean that your audition performance was not of a good quality. Many things go into casting a show. Please **trust the director** with the part you receive. An actor can learn so much from doing their best at any role they are given.

Remember that **the creative team is looking at your behavior** for the entire audition workshop and audition process. ALWAYS avoid doing things like talking when the adults are talking or behaving in a disruptive or disrespectful manner. **ALWAYS be supportive of your fellow performer. We have a zero-tolerance policy for meanness.**

Importance of Ensemble

We selected THE WIZARD OF OZ Jr. because there is a lot for the ENSEMBLE to do. The show will be double casted so actors cast in named roles may also double as ENSEMBLE.(on the days they are not leads) There are solos and acting "bits" that we will cast from the ENSEMBLE as we enter the rehearsal process.

Similarly, if you auditioned hoping to be given a certain role and you are cast with a different role, that means that the directors needed you most in the role in which you were cast. Again, remember that the ENSEMBLE is considered a role. Ask any student who has ever been in our ENSEMBLE -- they've had a BLAST, learned a lot, and were a big part of the show! A show CAN NOT take place without the ENSEMBLE! You are important!

If you audition for the show, it is understood that you are committed to being on the team and will accept whatever role you are given. Please honor that commitment.

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Conflicts

Please review the rehearsal and performance dates on the calendar to be handed out at the WORKSHOP and **list any possible conflicts on your audition form.** We follow Paso Robles School District "spring break" because all the schools in the area break at different times. Beyond that we really need to disallow rehearsal conflicts if possible, especially for **Leading Roles.** The director agrees that kids should enjoy a variety of activities, but a show can not be put together if Leads are not there and if Ensemble miss important dance rehearsals. So, please be committed to the show if you choose to audition. The director will her best to work with conflicts and make it work if possible.

Obviously, if you can't make it to the dress rehearsals or performances you shouldn't audition for the show but rather sign up for one of our wonderful Summer camps.

TUITION for The Wizard of Oz, \$395 and must be paid in FULL at the AUDITION WORKSHOP. That tuition includes costumes, dance instruction, voice instruction, a cast t-shirt for the performer (parents may purchase a t-shirt separately) 2 tickets

to the show per family, and all rehearsals. Enjoy the audition process -- and
BREAK A LEG!