

## Madagascar Information

Dear Parents,

We are very excited that your child has chosen to audition for "Madagascar A Musical Adventure Jr.". Theater is a vibrant part of our culture and community and allows children the freedom to express themselves creatively while promoting individuality and developing self-confidence. At AAMCT whether backstage or in the spotlight students are taught to use their talents to help each other, which enhances the company as a whole and ensures the high quality performances we have become known for. It is our goal to provide as many children as possible with an educational and high quality theatre experience in hopes of fostering a lifelong appreciation for music, theatre and the arts.

**Auditions**, are Saturday, August 26th 10:00 – 3:00 by appointment at the St. John's Community Center in Mokena. (Use the North entrance) There are three separate time slots starting at 10:00am, 12:00 pm and 2:00pm.

**Please call 708-479-0440 or email [allaboutmusicmokena@yahoo.com](mailto:allaboutmusicmokena@yahoo.com) to schedule an appointment for your child.** There may be a possible makeup date if needed.

At auditions students will be taught a short dance combination, sing a portion of a song from the show and read a selection from the script. Please print out, fill in and sign the audition form at the bottom of this page and bring it with you to auditions.

**Call backs** will be held on Sunday, August 27th from approximately 12:00 to 5:00 pm and Monday, August 28th from 6:00 to 8:00pm. Not everyone will need to be seen for a callback. The call back list will be posted on the website late Saturday night.

**Audition workshops** are offered on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday August 15th – 23rd at All About Music. Participants will learn more about the show, characters, and songs as well as perform different characters and receive audition tips. The cost is \$20 We keep the classes small so students can receive individual attention therefore your spot cannot be held until you have turned in the form and payment. We have attached the enrollment form separately and are at the studio Monday - Thursday 2:00 until 7:30 pm or you can mail it in or drop it off in the mailbox at the street.

**Performances** are Thursday - Sunday, November 16th - 19th We anticipate each cast having 3 performances. All shows are at the St. John's Community Center. We may double or triple cast some or all of the characters, but each student will be in a minimum of two shows.

**Tickets** are \$12 for adults, \$11 for seniors and kids 12 and under when purchased in advance. Seating is reserved and group rates are available, please inquire.

The **tuition fee** is \$295 per student. *(All payments are cash or check only)* This helps to offset the cost of months of education and supervision during rehearsals as well as the child's script, CD, costume, set construction and materials, props, royalties, publicity, rehearsal space rental and theatre rental. It does not include shoes, socks, tights or leotards.

As with any organization of this size all parents are **required to volunteer**. A minimum of 5 hours per child is required or if it is more convenient you can pay the \$60 buyout fee. PLEASE NOTE: We are still working on the honor system and do not require the volunteer fee in advance like many other organizations. However if you have not fulfilled your volunteer time from a previous play the full or partial buyout fee is due at audition sign-up.

We do not want to exclude anyone based on **financial need**. Time payment options are available; please email [allaboutmusicmokena@yahoo.com](mailto:allaboutmusicmokena@yahoo.com) for more information **in advance of your audition.**

All financial arrangements must be made prior to auditions and fulfilled at least 3 weeks before the show. There must be a down payment of some type made at the parent meeting.

The **mandatory parent meeting** and costume measurement will be on Thursday, August 31st at St. John's Community Center. *Volunteer forms and participation fees are due at this time*, tee shirts, program ads and ticket forms may also be turned in. We will have a brief meeting and the kids will be measured. The first rehearsal is Thursday, September 7th (after Labor Day weekend)

**Rehearsals, PLEASE READ CAREFULLY as there are some changes here** are on Saturday, Thursday and Monday. *Everyone* will have rehearsals on most Saturdays starting September 9th from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm, at St. John's Community Center. Some of these rehearsals will be broken up into morning and afternoon depending on the number of students that are chosen for the cast. But everyone will rehearse in the morning.

Everyone will also have *some* Thursday evening rehearsals from 6:00 to 8:00pm, at St. John's in Fellowship Hall (use Church office entrance) These will be divided by dance number so it's not every Thursday for everyone.

All solo singing and speaking parts will also rehearse on *some* Monday evenings from 6:30 - 8:00 pm at All About Music, this is also broken up by scene and song. In general the larger the role, the more rehearsal time is required, but everyone will rehearse on Saturday mornings. There will also be one or two Sunday rehearsals and the dates will be available before auditions.

**Tech Week dates** are Sun., Mon., Tues., Wed., November 12th - 15th from approximately 4:00 to 9:00pm (3:00 to 8 on Sunday) Attendance is *mandatory if you cannot be at tech week you cannot be in the show. If we have two casts the rehearsals will be split and each cast has two rehearsals.*

The quality of the production depends on the cast as a whole, **attendance** is extremely important, students missing 2 unexcused rehearsals may have their parts reassigned or be removed from part or all of the show. Just like any sport, the cast is a team and when members are missing you can't play a good game. If you miss a rehearsal it is your responsibility to get together with the other cast members to learn what you missed.

We realize that's a lot of information so please let us know if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you at auditions!

### **GENERAL AUDITION TIPS FOR ANY SHOW, ANYWHERE!**

Be on time, be polite and courteous and follow directions. First impressions count! Dress in clothing and shoes you can dance and move around in comfortably. (no flip flops, pants that fall down, sleeves that cover hands )

Practice your lines and song so you know them very well. Try performing them in front of a family member.

Don't say your lines too fast, it's not a race to see how fast you can finish.

Take a deep breath and project when you sing and speak, try to show the emotion of the part.

If you have a vocal/acting coach or drama/music teacher at school or church ask them for help.

Trying your hardest and giving your best effort is important. Try to have fun and show enthusiasm, we are all at auditions because we love theatre, and building confidence in actors and we want to have a great show too!

If you are not cast as your first choice in a show we encourage you to take the part you are offered. It will help you grow as a performer and you are sure to have fun and make new friends at AAMCT.