

# Welcome!

Welcome to Annie, Jr. produced by Rampello Music! We are so excited that your child has decided to participate in a musical theatre program. This packet serves to give you as much information as possible, so you and your student know the expectations involved with this program.

## The Process

Every director approaches the process of producing a show differently. Generally, the following will happen.

- \*An Introduction to the show by reading over the script, listening to songs, discussing the show vision.
- \*Audition for a part-usually directors have cast members fill out an audition form and prepare a short audition for the part they would like. The audition parts will be posted on the website for students to practice with. In general, the better prepared students are, the more likely they will have a successful audition.
- \*Posting of the cast list- this will be done via BandApp and via a letter home with the student.
- \*Rehearsals at school-learn blocking, choreography, practice as a group
- \*Rehearsals at home-learn and practice lines and songs
- \*Dress rehearsal-usually the week or day before the first show with costumes and lights
- \*Performances- we will do one performance in the evening, and possibly a school assembly.

## Time Commitment

Musicals do require a time commitment as well as energy and focus. Make sure you can commit to the rehearsal and performance schedule. Please let the director know with as much notice as possible if there are conflicts. The cast member and parent are required to read and sign the commitment form online before being cast. Students with multiple absences may be removed from their part or asked to leave the production. Beyond after school rehearsals, students are expected to spend time at home practicing and learning lines.

## Communication

For Pirates we use the BandApp on our phones to communicate. Info will also be on the RampelloMusic.com website. All parents should sign up for the Band App and be a part of both Rampello Music and Musical Theater Groups. Please see the website for the links. Parents are responsible for reading all communication sent out by the director.

## How Parents Can Help

Theatre is a collaborative effort, so parents are welcome and encouraged to help. There are many ways parents can help the director and cast put on the show, like making costumes, taking tickets, helping build sets, bringing in props, and more. See the Parent Volunteer Sheet to sign up for your role in making this show a rewarding and resounding success!

# Attitude & Behavior

In the dynamic and collaborative environment of musical theater rehearsals, students are expected to uphold a standard of behavior that reflects respect, teamwork, and dedication. Participants must arrive punctually, ready to engage in the rehearsal process with a positive attitude. Respectful communication with peers, directors, and production staff is essential for creating a harmonious and productive atmosphere. Disruptive behavior, such as talking out of turn, lack of focus, or disrespect towards fellow participants, can hinder the creative process and negatively impact the overall quality of the production. Consequences for poor behavior may include verbal warnings, additional assignments, or, in severe cases, removal from the production.

The following are our core expectations:

## **Respect:**

- Respect fellow cast members, directors, and volunteers.
- Listen attentively when others are speaking or giving instructions.
- Value and appreciate the diverse talents and ideas within the group.

## **Teamwork:**

- Collaborate with peers during rehearsals and performances.
- Support and encourage classmates, fostering a positive and inclusive environment.
- Be a responsible and reliable member of the ensemble.

## **Punctuality:**

- Arrive on time for rehearsals and performances.
- Notify the director in advance if unable to attend a session.

## **Preparedness:**

- Come to rehearsals with all required materials, including scripts, and any other necessary items.
- Be familiar with your lines, songs, and choreography.

## **Focus and Attention:**

- Pay attention during rehearsals and follow directions.
- Limit distractions and disruptions. No cell phones/devices

## **Dress Code:**

- Adhere to the dress code specified by the directors for rehearsals and performances.
- Take care of costumes and return them in the condition they were received.

## **Positive Attitude:**

- Approach challenges with a positive and optimistic mindset.
- Be open to feedback and use it as an opportunity for improvement.

## **Backstage Etiquette:**

- Maintain quiet and focus backstage during performances.
- Follow the directions of stage managers and crew members.

## **Communication:**

- Communicate any concerns or issues with directors in a respectful manner.
- Be open to communication with fellow cast members and parents.

## **Safety:**

- Prioritize safety during rehearsals and performances.
- Follow guidelines for movement and choreography to prevent accidents.
- No rough housing/horseplay

Remember, the success of the musical theater program depends on the collective effort and positive attitude of all participants. By adhering to these behavior expectations, you contribute to creating a fun, respectful, and rewarding experience for everyone involved.

# Auditions/Casting

To get this show cast quickly and get into the rehearsal process, students will be asked to submit their audition via a video. This can be done by either emailing Mrs. Waggoner with the video, or by uploading the video to YouTube and sending the link (please be sure to set the privacy features of any video online). This video does not have to be high tech and can be done using a cell phone.

Complete directions of what students will need for the audition, and how to submit their audition can be found on RampelloMusic.com.

Students who do not submit a video but are registered will be given a role in the general ensemble, but not considered for a lead or speaking role. Students can request an ensemble part if they are uncomfortable with a large role. Note that all roles will require singing, acting, and dancing.

**Parents:** As casting decisions are made, we want to emphasize the importance of supporting your child's involvement in the show, regardless of the role they receive. Just like in sports, not every player gets the lead position, but each role contributes uniquely to the success of the team. Our goal is to create a positive and inclusive environment where every child feels valued and enjoys the experience. Whether your child is cast in a lead role, a supporting character, or part of the ensemble, their contribution is crucial to the overall magic of the performance. Theater, much like sports, teaches teamwork, discipline, and the thrill of being part of something larger than oneself. Your encouragement and positive attitude will make this experience memorable for your child, fostering a love for the arts that extends beyond the spotlight.

# Rehearsal Schedule

The director will inform cast members and post online the rehearsal schedule and deadlines for learning lines, songs, having costumes ready, dress rehearsals, and call times for performances. Students should bring their scripts, a pencil, a water bottle, and wear appropriate shoes and clothes for movement.

Please make sure your child is picked up on time from each rehearsal.

You can help at home by reviewing scenes, lines, and songs with your child. The dress rehearsal will require the actors to wear or bring their costume and may involve working with the technical elements like lighting, microphones, and sound.

**Each week I will post the itinerary of what we will be working on in rehearsals on RampelloMusic.com. It is the responsibility of the cast members to check this and memorize any lines they may have in that part. Students who continuously come to rehearsals unprepared may lose their speaking part.**

**Rehearsals for Annie are as follows:** Mondays, beginning Sept 19<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm.

As we get closer to showtime we may call individual or small groups for mornings or afternoons. I will always check availability and give plenty of notice if this is the case. I may also have to call make-up rehearsals if we have hurricane days or I am required to miss due to a meeting or absence.

**Dress Rehearsal: November 18<sup>th</sup> 2-4pm**

**Performances: November 20, time TBA. There may also be a school assembly.**

**Please check your availability for these rehearsals and performances before committing to the show**

## Scripts

Students with lines will be assigned a script. **Only pencils may be used in the scripts.** Print your name on the inside cover of the script books. Each student is to return the script at the end of the production. If the script is not returned, you will be charged for the missing book.

## Costumes/Makeup/Hair

The director will provide costume, hair and makeup suggestions. Each participant is responsible for preparing their costume for the show. You can look in your closet or on Pinterest or other websites or visit Goodwill for ideas. You'll be amazed at what can be accomplished with a hot glue gun and safety pins. We do not expect you to spend a lot of money on creating your child's costume. If you have a difficulty with purchasing an item, please let the director know. We have a team to help!

For Annie, a Pinterest page has already been created to help you and is linked on the website! Over the next few weeks, it will be added to as we get more into production and see what our needs are. A sheet with costume needs for each character will be handed out soon after the cast lists are announced.

## Tickets

Tickets may be purchased at Ticketleap, usually about two weeks before the performances. Families will be given the opportunity to buy four tickets per student performing in the presale. After the presale period the remaining tickets will go on sale to the public. We recommend that you purchase your tickets early as some performances will most likely sell out! Tickets are \$10/Adult, \$7/student. The cost of tickets goes to pay for facilities, sets, extra costume needs, and licensing for the show. More information about ticket sales will be posted on BandApp.

## Program- Well Wishes/Ads

Students love to read congratulatory ads in the program that show your support for them. (*We are proud of you! – Break a Leg! Etc...*) Individual Well Wish Notes can be placed in your child's program for a fee of \$5.00/note. Please limit your personal note to 2 or 3 lines. The link to purchase will be available on RampelloMusic.com. All Well Wishes are due no later than November 1<sup>st</sup>.

We also sell space in our programs for business ads. We have multiple tiers available. A link to purchase ad space can be found on RampelloMusic.com and is due by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

