

DRAMA DEPARTMENT CAST SELECTION PROCESS

- Auditions are adjudicated by the production staff (producer, director, choreographer, assistant director) as well as a professional outside adjudicator
- All casting decisions are made by the Audition adjudicators as a team
- Decisions are based on the student's performance on that day
- You DO NOT need to be proficient in singing, acting and dancing to do the musical! Those who would like to be considered for leads need to be strong singers and actors (and in only certain roles, dancers). Those who would like to be in the dance ensemble need to be strong dancers. Everyone is welcome to be in the musical, regardless of experience/skill level.
- Vocal audition performances are judged on the following criteria:
 - Ability to sing with the accompaniment
 - Diction
 - Pitch
 - Stage presence
 - Overall security with the music
 - Overall vocal quality (timbre/volume/etc)
- Dance audition performances are judged on the following criteria:
 - Ability to dance with the music
 - Stage presence
 - Coordination/flexibility
 - Overall dance ability
- Audition performances are judged on a scale from 1-5, with those scoring highest being considered for callbacks
- Callbacks are a second audition, where certain actors are asked to read scenes, and sing more complicated songs for particular lead roles
- Lead role casting is based on performance at the callback. Criteria for casting is based on many things, including the above scale. Bear in mind that we need to plan the entire cast as a cohesive unit- we need to cover ALL of the parts with actors that work best in those parts. We spend many long hours discussing combinations of people to arrive at the decisions that work best as a whole.
- We take extensive notes during both auditions and callbacks. If you/your actor are interested in constructive commentary after the audition process, we are happy to provide it.
- There are, of course, a limited number of featured roles in the musical. While we as adults know that every part is important, and can also be fun, we know that our young actors get very focused on particular parts, in which they may not be cast. Please consider your child's ability to handle this disappointment before you allow them to audition for a lead or featured part. We have many talented actors and singers at our school- not getting the role you want DOES NOT mean that the team does not think you are talented. It just means that you were not the best fit for that role, in this particular show. If you have any questions about this part of the process, please contact Mia Reich.