

Auditions

2021-2022 Audition schedule

Fall Auditions: Aunt Leaf, Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime	Winter Auditions: Romeo & Juliet	Musical Auditions: Newsies
September 20-22	November 29-December 1	January - TBD

AUDITION PROCESS

Auditions are held for all Middleton Theatre productions. Middleton High School and Clark Street Community School students are welcome to audition. Students must be enrolled in Theatre Club to participate in the cast or crew of any production. While auditions can be intimidating, especially at first, the process is a useful tool for students to develop confidence and allow teachers and directors to better understand the unique abilities of the students. Here's how it works...

AUDITION MEETINGS

Look for announcements about an audition meeting that happens approximately 1 week before the audition. Attendance is not required, but if you have questions or need clarification, please attend.

SIGN-UP [HERE](#)

You will need to sign-up for an audition time-slot. The sign-up sheet and required forms will be posted on our website under the audition section. Plan to show up at least 10 minutes before your scheduled audition time.

AUDITION PACKET

The required forms, or audition packet includes an information sheet, production contract, and conflict sheet. Bring the *completed* audition packet (info sheet, production contract, conflict sheet) to your audition. Check in with the MHS theatre officers or the stage manager in the PAC lobby, at least 10 minutes before your audition time. They will give you an audition number and take your photo. You will hand your completed paperwork to Ms. Brunner in the theatre.

FOCUS and BELIEVE

Get yourself focused and believe in yourself. The whole audition is an opportunity to show your positive attitude and show the production team (director, stage manager, etc.) that you can be a good collaborator. You are being observed the entire time – before, during, and after the audition. When you're done, take a deep breath and be proud of yourself! Auditions are tough, even for professional actors. Every audition takes bravery. Every audition helps you grow as a performer.

CALLBACKS

Callbacks will be scheduled for each show as needed, not necessarily every show or every main role. Generally, the Wednesday or Thursday during the week of the general auditions. If you're hoping to audition for a main part, make sure you are available during this whole time should you be asked to attend callbacks.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR?

- Teamplayers
- Actors that are open to direction
- Hard working and pleasant individuals who are enthusiastic about the show more than any specific part.
- Actors who have set aside time in their schedules and are able to commit to the schedule and have sufficient preparation time.

WHAT WE ARE NOT LOOKING FOR?

- perfection (which, by the way, doesn't exist)
- actors that have already cast themselves and aren't willing to try a different part
- actors who have locked in their choices based on another performance or recording
- Discussions or debate about the given direction or character motivations. Auditions are not the time for that.

WHAT YOU CAN CONTROL?

- Good volume/projection and good diction - I want to hear every word
- Awareness of your body in relation to the audience and others, don't face upstage or "upstage your partner"
- Politeness with the accompanist, stage manager, other students, directors, etc.
- An openness to explore, discover, make big choices, and take direction from the director
- evidence of an ability to collaborate in a positive way
- A respect for the process and understanding that we build the show together
- An effort to find the humanness in the character and text
- An actor that is prepared, brings good energy to the audition and remains grounded
- An actor that's reliable, willing and able to attend rehearsals and communicate their schedule accurately to the director and stage manager.

WHAT YOU CANNOT CONTROL?

- An actor to compliment the vision of the individual director
- A good fit with the rest of the potential cast members
- An energy and quality that even the director can't define until they see it.

THE BOTTOM LINE...

Nerves are expected and will get better throughout the rehearsal process; mistakes will get resolved. But, when it comes to this process of page to stage, passion and a commitment to learning and is everything.

AUDITION FORM #2 [PRINT AND BRING]: Cast and Crew Production Contract

Please read the following expectations with a parent or guardian, sign below, and return with your audition form

- I will let my director and stage manager know of any previously scheduled appointments that fall during rehearsal time and I will **not** schedule any new (after casting) appointments/activities that would interfere with my production responsibilities.

Note: We will do our best to schedule around conflicts up to the last two weeks before the show.

The final 2 weeks of rehearsals are mandatory for both cast and crew.

- I will be responsible for knowing when I am called to rehearsal, and I will be on time (actually 5 min. early) for all rehearsals and work sessions. Rehearsals will be scheduled after school, on weeknights, and/or on weekends at least three times a week for ensemble members and more for principal roles.
- I will follow all theatre safety rules, including wearing appropriate shoes at ALL times and NOT going sock-footed or barefooted on the stage, ever.
- I will make sure that my parents or guardians are aware of my responsibilities and production schedule. I will be able to keep up my grades and turn in assignments for other classes on time, no matter when rehearsals are held. Production responsibilities are not a valid excuse for not doing homework or completing assignments for other classes in a timely fashion.
- I will follow the Middleton High School code of conduct as well as the expectations and responsibilities outlined for participants in Student Activities (Student Handbook pgs. 25-26, 80-81).
- I will work to foster an inclusive, supportive and collaborative community by contributing by best attitude and being a team player.

There will be a MANDATORY PARENT MEETING for parents of the cast and crew immediately following the first rehearsal. Cast and crew parents should plan to attend. At this time we will discuss the schedule, communication, and sign-up parent volunteers. Parents are an important part of the students' involvement. It is really important to kick off our rehearsal process with good communication.

I, _____, have read the student contract above and understand that failure to live up to these responsibilities may lead to dismissal from the production. Thus, I commit to upholding each of these standards if I am cast in *this production*.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

I, _____, have read the student contract above and understand my student's commitment to this production if they are cast in this production. I have also gone over the rehearsal calendar with my student and understand the commitment to the process and the other members of the cast.

Furthermore, I understand that theatre is a high profile activity which means photo (and occasionally video) publicity is standard. I give permission for images/video of my student to appear in district publicity (website, social media) and local publicity (newspaper, social media, etc.).

Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

AUDITION FORM #3 [PRINT AND BRING]: Conflict List

Use the table to make a COMPLETE list of ALL POTENTIAL rehearsal conflicts. Refer to the rehearsal calendar draft posted on the website. Please explain if the conflict is weekly or a one time thing. Also note if the appointment is flexible. Conflicts during the final two weeks of rehearsal must be cleared by Ms. Brunner

Dates	Conflict

Casting

CASTING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The cast list will be emailed to all auditioners between Friday at 4:00pm and Saturday at 4:00pm at the end of the audition week.

FEEDBACK

I am more than happy to give audition feedback, but I ask that you hold off from requesting feedback until you've had time to breathe and reflect on the process. Remember that casting decisions are multi-faceted and that simply completing an audition is a great accomplishment. You are a part of the MHS Theatre community because of your interest and passion for theatre and your unique contributions, not because of your role or type of participation.

Rehearsals

Please be on time, have your script, a pencil, appropriate clothes (comfortable) and shoes (no open toed sandals or flip flops), and be ready to focus and work. The rehearsal space must be a place where everyone feels safe, supported and free to share, discover and create.

Tech Week

Tech Week refers to the final week(s) of rehearsal when all of the technical elements are added into the run-thrus of the show. Rehearsals are longer, and attendance is mandatory. The Tech Week schedule will begin the full week prior to opening which will allow at least seven days of technical rehearsals.

All participants in the cast and run crew, including light and sound board operators, assistant stage managers, costume crew, hair and make-up crew, etc. must plan to attend ALL tech rehearsals. Bring homework to fill unavoidable downtime.

Sample Tech Week Schedule - Final 2 weeks of Rehearsal

Monday 5:00- 8:00pm Dinner break provided	Tuesday 5:00- 8:00pm Dinner break provided	Wednesday 5:00- 8:00pm Dinner break provided	Thursday 5:00- 8:00pm Dinner break provided	Friday No Rehearsal	Saturday Cue to Cue 9:00am - 4:00pm Lunch Provided	Sunday 12:00-4:00pm No Lunch provided
Monday 4:00- 8:00pm Dinner provided	Tuesday 4:00- 8:00pm Dinner provided	Wednesday TBD / Lunch provided if needed Possible Invited Preview performances in the afternoon followed by notes No evening rehearsal	Opening Night!! Call time at 5:30 7:30 Curtain	Call time at 5:30 7:30 Curtain	Call time at 5:30 7:30 Curtain	*Musical Only Call time at 12:00 2:00pm Curtain

Production Crews and Production Team members

Production Crews are students that are involved in Stage crew and would like to work during the performances in one of the following areas...

Production Crew positions

Lighting Crew - assist the Lighting Design team with hang and focus, and strike

Sound Crew - assist Sound Design team with set up and strike

Costume Crew - assist Costume design team with measurements, fittings, pulling from stock, dressing room organization, basic sewing tasks, and strike

Hair and Makeup Crew- assist Hair and Make-up design team with supply management, dressing room organization, providing actors with basic hair and make-up assistance, and strike

Run Crew - move set pieces during the performance under the direction of the Stage Manager (SM) and Assistant Stage Manager (ASM)

Rail Crew - work the rail to fly scenery in and out under the direction of the Stage Manager (SM) and Assistant Stage Manager (ASM), requires training from Zane during Stage Crew sessions

Assistant Stage Managers - keep the wings running in a quiet and organized fashion, track set changes with guidance and communication from the Stage Manager on Headset and lead the Run Crew and Rail Crew.

Production Team positions

The following roles are open to our more experienced students.

Assistant Director

Assistant Choreographer

Stage Manager

Props Master

Student Lighting Designer

Student Costume Designer

Student Sound Designer

Student Set Designer

Assistant Technical Director

Assistant Producer

Students interested in working on a crew or being a production team member must complete a [PRODUCTION CREW & TEAM APPLICATION](#) form. **If you are interested in working the Fall shows complete this form by September 23, 2021.**