



Welcome to The Aristocats Kids with Musical Mayhem Productions!

This may be your first show with MMP, or your 30th, but please take the time to read this packet in its entirety so that you know what to expect for the next few months!

Being a performer, even a young one, takes lots of hard work. We must all work together as a team to accomplish a common goal—the final production! The production has many moving parts—the actors—the crew—the artistic staff.. The list goes on. The show can not work without each of these groups of people performing their duties to their best ability.

There are a number of benefits to being in a musical! Some of those include:

- Active participation in the arts
  - Participating in the arts provides young people the opportunity to explore their creativity without judgement in a structured and safe environment
- Improving Literacy Skills
  - Reading and memorizing line/songs is an essential part to every production.
- Becoming a confident public speaker
  - MMP students gain the courage to stand in front of large groups of people and speak. This is a skill that many adults do not have.
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving Skills
  - The show must go on is a real thing. What happens when things don't go as we have planned? What do you do? Can you think on your feet and continue with the show? Cast members learn to problem solve on the spot, and in turn learn that if something doesn't go as planned, it is ok and we move on.

We firmly believe that a Musical is a team effort that involves everyone and every single role is important. Because of this, we do not offer refunds after parts have been announced. We teach that if you lead the show, or if you support the show in the ensemble, you are important and your part is important. You can be the best performer in any role you are given.

As with any group activity, every participant has responsibilities. Please look over the following items to make sure you and your child feel you can honor the commitment to being a part of a show.

**Attendance:**

Attached to this is a basic rehearsal schedule for the show. Please look over it closely to make sure your child has minimal conflicts with the rehearsal process and zero conflicts with tech week and show dates (including our pickup rehearsal if the show runs two weekends). If there are conflicts, please let the production team know as soon as possible by filling out a conflict form in the office. Students are expected to attend all rehearsals they are called for unless a prior approval has been given. Failure to do so may result in dismissal from the show.

**Rehearsals:**

Rehearsals are held at MMPs rehearsal studio. Students should bring their scripts, a pencil, water, and wear appropriate shoes and clothing for movement. 3 hour tech rehearsals the week of the show will take place at the performance venue and are mandatory. Also please make sure you have arranged for your child to be picked up on time from each rehearsal. We do not allow any food during rehearsals. Please do NOT send your child with a snack.

**Homework:**

Students will have homework for the show, including memorizing lines and songs, rehearsing dances, researching their character, etc. Work with your child to create a schedule so that they have time to finish both their school homework and their homework from the show.

**Attitude:**

The rehearsal room and theatre are safe spaces where young people can take positive risks and be themselves without the fear of being laughed at or alienated. This principle is essential to artistic growth and exploration. Participants are expected to respect these principles and are encouraged to remember it themselves when trying new things.

**Volunteering:**

The most important thing you can do to help us with the musical is make sure your child commits to everything listed above. If you want to volunteer additional time or resources to the production, simply drop us a note with your name and we will contact you if assistance is needed.

Finally, please remember a musical is a living, breathing entity. Things don't always go exactly as planned, so changes in the plan will be made throughout the rehearsal process. We promise to give you as much advanced notice as possible on all changes that arise.

## Tuition

Tuition for Elementary Homeschool Performance Workshops is \$249

Vouchers must be submitted to Bryce@mmpkids.com by the first day of class, or you can private pay in full or by splitting it into two payments. No refunds are offered once casting has been announced.

## Rehearsals

Please note: Rehearsals are closed to parents. You can check in through the windows, or by listing in the lobby but please do not enter the rehearsal room as it disrupts the learning process.

Rehearsals consist of three areas

Blocking – These rehearsals are where you learn where you go on the stage when there is no music.

Choreography – These rehearsals will teach the dances for all the dance numbers.

Vocal – In these rehearsals, you will learn all the music for the show. If you have any conflicts, please fill out a conflict notice at the front desk and turn it in to any staff member. Failure to attend a rehearsal may result in you not being in that scene or song. It is your responsibility to learn the blocking/song/choreography. Time permitting we will fit in those who missed. The only time conflicts will not be accepted is during Tech Week

## Schedule

After casting, we will distribute a new schedule so you know what we are focusing on each day

## Dress Code

**Cast members are required to wear appropriate clothing to ALL rehearsals. Failure to do so may result in not being able to participate. Snug fitting shirts, pants or shorts are acceptable. NO JEANS ALLOWED. No skirts, strapless shirts, or dresses are allowed (shorts underneath make dresses and skirts and option). You must be able to move in anything you wear. Jazz shoes are REQUIRED for all rehearsals. If you do not yet have Jazz shoes, you will be asked to remove your street shoes and participate in your socks. Starting the second week of rehearsals, if you do not bring your jazz shoes, you will not be allowed to participate in that rehearsal.**

## Ticket Requirement

There is no ticket requirement for this program—however—to watch the show you must purchase a ticket—parents included. Tickets to the performances are \$10 per person per show. 2 and under is free when sitting on a lap.

## Costumes

All costumes will be provided by Musical Mayhem Productions and will remain the property of Musical Mayhem Productions. MMP does not provide shoes or tights for the production. If specialty shoes and/or tights are required, you will be notified. Each cast member will also need to wear a changing leotard, shorts and a tank top, or a swimsuit during the performances. Dressing rooms may not be used and they will need to change in front of others.

**Discounts for dance wear can be found at the front desk from [www.discountdance.com](http://www.discountdance.com) Use teacher code TP70063 to save 10% on your first purchase and 5% on future purchases**

## **Tech Week and Performances**

Tech Week is the week our show opens. . It is imperative that all cast members are there for these rehearsals as it is our only time to work on the stage before we open. Tech week rehearsal are closed to parents, friends, and other family members. Please send your child with a snack and a labeled water bottle

Performances have a call time and a show time. The call time is when all cast members need to arrive. Audience members (including parents) will not be allowed in the theater until the doors open 30 minutes before showtime. Seating is on a first come, first serve basis. Tickets are required for anyone watching the show. If you are in a seat, you need a ticket. Children 2 and under are free only when sitting on a lap. The line generally begins forming one hour before showtime. If you have special seating requirements for a certain show (wheelchairs, walkers, etc) please inform us before we open the doors so that you can be accommodated. If you do have a special seating requirement, we will only be able to hold a seat for that one person and one guest. The cast is not released to leave until the green room is cleaned up and costumes have been properly put away. Please remember that some cast members move more quickly than others. Cast members are the only ones allowed backstage. Please wait patiently near the door for your cast member.

## **Casting**

We will announce casting on the first day following auditions. No refunds will be given after casting is announced. There are many factors that go into casting a show. Think of it as a big puzzle and everyone has to fit. Our creative team works hard to make sure the puzzle fits! No matter the role, each cast member is vital to the success of the production.

All cast members will be required to audition. We do this mainly to teach the audition process and to properly cast the show. The main objective is to HAVE FUN! Everyone will be in the show, no matter what! Remember that everything is an audition. Inappropriate behavior and being disrespectful to fellow cast members will have an impact on your audition.

Please practice a "Slate"

For example: My name is Jane Smith and I am 9 years old.

Dance auditions will be taught – there is no need to prepare a combination

Acting Audition—There is no monologue required for this program. Cast members may be asked to repeat lines or read from small scenes

Vocal Audition—Please learn the song below.

We will also go over it the day of auditions

## EVERYBODY WANTS TO BE A CAT

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of four staves of music. The first staff is divided into three sections: 'Crazy, man, crazy' in 3/2 time with a tempo of ♩=80 and a 4-measure rest; 'Fast swing' in 4/4 time with a tempo of ♩=200 and a 7-measure rest; and 'Easy, baby' in 3/4 time with a tempo of ♩=132 and a 7-measure rest. The second staff, starting at measure 14, is labeled 'SCAT CAT:' and contains the lyrics 'Ev - 'ry - bod - y wants to be a cat be-cause a'. The third staff, starting at measure 16, contains the lyrics 'cat's the on-ly cat who knows where it's at.\_\_\_\_'. The fourth staff, starting at measure 18, is labeled 'O'MALLEY:' and contains the lyrics 'Ev - 'ry - bod - y's pick-in' up on that fe-line beat\_\_\_\_'. The fifth staff, starting at measure 20, contains the lyrics ' 'cause ev - 'ry-thing else is ob - so - lete.'.