



GHOSTLIGHT PRODUCTIONS "YOUNG THESPIANS" PARENT GUIDE

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the GLP Board of Directors, the Production Staff for this upcoming production, and as GLP Artistic Director, I want to welcome you and your child(ren) to our "Young Thespians" (YT) program. We are thrilled to be able to offer this series as part of GLP's regular programming and have been overwhelmed with the excitement it has already generated. I have always felt that the performing arts are integral to personal development and I want to thank you for exposing your children to the arts early. In this program, regardless of the role or position your child plays, they will be immersed in a hands-on creative atmosphere that will allow them to experience teamwork, problem solving, responsibility and leadership. At GLP, we hold our company to high standards and our YT program is no exception. Because of the very nature of the performing arts, especially theater, I wanted you, our parents/guardians, to have a resource to help us in our mission to "entertain, educate and enhance the quality of life in our communities through excellence in the performing arts". In this packet you will find important information regarding to our production process from audition to final bow. As always, feel free to reach out to me or your production staff if you have any questions or concerns.

On with the show!!!!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark A. Lorentzen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, looping 'L' at the end.

Mark A. Lorentzen

Artistic Director

Ghostlight Productions

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OUR AUDITION PROCESS

We work very hard at GLP to make sure our audition processes are a positive, uplifting, and transparent experience for all our performers. This section will provide answers to some frequently asked questions regarding our auditions.

FAQS

What is involved in the audition process?

While each show is unique in their requirements, the process for every show has a similar feel and flow. The audition will most likely consist of two major parts: Sing/Read and Dance. In the Sing/Read room, your performer will sing a short musical selection and read a short selected scene from the show. The materials are available on our website under the auditions tab. The performer will then be taught a short dance combination by the choreographer. There may be callbacks for certain roles on a designated day if the director deems it necessary.

How much does it cost?

Nothing. There is no performance fee or “pay-to-play” at GLP.

Do we need to bring anything to auditions?

Please bring appropriate shoes for the dance portion and, if necessary, printouts from our website of the selected song and scene. Memorization is fine but not required for auditions.

Can I be in the audition room with my child?

We prefer that parents not be present in the audition rooms however you are welcome to wait in the waiting area with your performer.

When will we hear results of the audition?

We make every effort to get the cast list out promptly. Occasionally circumstances arise that might delay the announcement (ie. Callbacks). We will do our best to communicate any delays.

What happens if my child is not cast?

This is always a difficult one. Please understand that we agonize over decisions like this but at the end of the day, we often have to put a limit on our cast sizes and not everyone can be the lead. We encourage performers that are not cast in a show (or not cast in the role they were hoping for) to stay involved! Remember to ask about other possible opportunities backstage or in tech. Our mission with the YT program doesn't end with the onstage performers. We want to be training the next lighting designer, sound engineer, set builder, and stage manager. We feel it's important for parents to help their young performers understand that a “no” really only means “not right now” and that there are other fun ways to be involved and other future opportunities.

OUR REHEARSAL PROCESS

A sample rehearsal schedule for the upcoming production has been posted to the website in the auditions section. The finalized schedule will be posted via Cast98 once the cast list is complete. Please understand that consistent attendance to rehearsal is integral to the success of the production. Attendance during the final week(s) of rehearsal is mandatory.

A few things for your performer to know about rehearsals:

1. It is important to be on time and prepared for the rehearsal. This means looking over the material beforehand.
2. Be “present” during rehearsal. Focus on what is being taught. There will be periods of downtime, and while we don’t expect you to be perfectly silent, please try to be respectful of others who may be working.
3. Come to rehearsal with an open mind and a willingness to try new things. Don’t worry if you don’t get it the first time. That’s why we have rehearsal!
4. No cell phones out during active rehearsal. We provide breaks when phones can be checked.
5. Please do not perform any special tasks or use any equipment that you have not been properly trained for.
6. Pay close attention to the rules of the performance facility. This means staying out of the areas that have been deemed restricted and listening to the direction of the production staff.

PERFORMANCE TIME

We typically do between 6-8 performances in our YT series. These performances will typically take place over a two-weekend period with performances Friday and Saturday evening and matinees on Saturday and Sunday. This means that the performers will have the possibility of performing in a two-show day. Most of the YT shows are 60 minutes, without an intermission. Here are some important things to know about performances:

1. Along with GLP Staff, we always have backstage parent volunteers to assist. For security purposes, apart from those volunteers, the backstage area is closed. When your child arrives for call, they will check in with a designated monitor.
2. Call time for a performance is one hour but no later than one half hour prior to curtain.

I realize there are circumstances this guide may not cover. In the event one comes up, we will do our best to communicate it to all parties involved in the production in a timely manner. As always, please feel free to reach out to us with any questions!

BREAK A LEG!!!!