

## **Audition Information for Shrek Jr**

Shrek Junior is for Young People who are ages 10– 18 as of July (there are no exceptions to this age limit as this is a contractual requirement.)

All parts are available. No role has been pre-cast.

Auditioners should come prepared with a completed audition form, signed by the parent or guardian. A resume attached, if they have one, is nice but not required. A headshot is also not required.

At auditions actors will be asked to sing a song and learn a dance. If they have a song which they are already familiar with and have prepared they may bring the sheet music for accompaniment and sing that song. Otherwise we will ask that they sing one of the songs specified below. Nobody will be allowed to audition with a pre-recorded track. It is ok if someone wants to sing a song from the show for their audition. We will probably only ask for a section to be sung – we don't need to hear the whole song. If the actor knows what section they would like to sing, they can let the accompanist know.

### **Happy Birthday**

**Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer (without the lightbulbs please!)**

**Twinkle Twinkle Little Star**

**What's Up Duloc? (Part 1) up to measure 20**

**Freak Flag from M11to measure 24**

There is nothing to learn in advance for dance auditions. Students will be taught a sequence of choreography, review it, then dance in small groups in front of the choreographer/directing team. They may perform this sequence plus some across-the-floor moves for technique. Remember that your face is one of the most important things in a dance audition. Don't watch what others are doing. They may get it wrong and throw you off. Keep your eyes up. And SMILE!

Some actors who are interested in a featured role may be asked to read from sides which are posted here. It is not necessary to memorize the dialogue but it is good to be familiar with it so that the actor can react to the situation and other actors. It's more important to show that you can listen to others and the directing team and adapt to any changes you may be asked to make.

We will ask that the actor be on time for their scheduled audition block and plan to stay for up to one hour. Actors should wear comfortable clothes that they can move in. We recommend sneakers, as the floor can be slippery.

Please remind your child that their behaviour during everyone's audition will be observed and may play a part in whether or not they are cast. We are looking for young people who can be respectful of each other and the directorial team and demonstrate that they are team players.

Parents will wait outside while the auditions are taking place unless they are invited into the audition room by the staff.

After all auditions have been completed, the individuals who are cast will be notified by email. Please make sure that your email is clearly printed on your audition form. This may take a day or two as we work our way through the list. After that process has been completed we will reach out to those who are not being cast for this production.

We encourage young people to audition only if they are willing to accept any role given to them. It is normal to want to go after specific roles. But once the casting is announced, our expectation is that they will receive whatever role(s) they are assigned by the directing team. They can be disappointed, of course; that's normal. But after a few

days all actors are expected to handle their casting with grace and be part of the team as we practice and perform the show!

**Please note that we are thrilled when a child expresses an interest in theatre and the performing arts. We are going to do our very best to make sure that they have a fun and fulfilling experience as a part of the cast. Please speak to your child before deciding to have them audition to make very sure that this is something they are comfortable with and that you both understand the time commitment necessary to put on a good show. If they are at all hesitant about being a part of a musical or if you are not able to do your part to make sure they attend scheduled rehearsals, please don't audition. There's nothing more difficult for a cast than to work with a teammate who doesn't show up for rehearsals or who doesn't really want to be there, or even worse, who drops out halfway through the rehearsal process. You, as parents, understand your individual situation and child best. We ask you to use your best judgement when deciding to allow your child to participate!**

If your child is cast we expect that **YOU COMMIT** that they will be able to attend all scheduled rehearsals and be on time and fully prepared with their script, a pencil, a water bottle and any other items that may be necessary such as the appropriate footwear. Sandals, clogs or flip flops are NOT appropriate footwear!!!! We can't stress this strongly enough. They are not safe to move in.

Actors will be asked to not only practice their parts at rehearsals, but also do some home practice as well. We will post the musical tracks that can be used for practice, along with choreography videos that they can use to practice their steps. This is a vital part of being a part of a play!

You are being asked to declare all conflicts during the months leading up to the show on the audition form. We will base the rehearsal schedule on that information so please be as complete as possible. If you are not sure on some dates we would appreciate you listing "possible conflict" rather than leaving the date off of the form. Once casting is complete and before the rehearsal schedule is published a cast member may submit an additional conflict to the director. Obviously family emergencies, school conflicts and illness may be considered excused. Letting the directorial team know in advance and in writing anytime a conflict arises as soon as possible is very important. Too many unexcused absences may result in the actor having to sit out a scene or being completely cut from the show.

Rehearsals will begin in May and continue up to the show dates in July. There will be rehearsals on both Saturday and Sunday afternoons and some Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Actors may be asked to attend up to 4 rehearsals per week, depending on their role and the proximity to the performances. **The rehearsals after July 4<sup>th</sup> and leading up to the performance are MANDATORY. Actors must be completely available July 5 – 19 with no exceptions.**

Parents are not permitted to sit in during rehearsals unless invited by the production staff. This can be distracting not only to your own child, but to others as well. We want the kids to feel completely free to be creative as directed by the production staff. Trust us to do our jobs! All adult staff will be appropriately background checked prior to the auditions and rehearsals.

We do welcome parent's assistance on production teams! Parent's assistance on set construction, costume construction, prop gathering and making, lighting, wrangling during rehearsals and the performances as well as front of house teams like refreshments, box office, ushering will be most welcome! We're hoping that each family can devote at least 2-4 hours of volunteer time to help the production be successful.

**Please note if you are cast there is a \$80 fee that will cover the script, a Cast T-shirt and a show video.**

If you have any questions please email wilbunitedplayers@gmail.com