

Ranney Middle School Presents...



Open Audition Dates:

Tuesday - Friday, September 11th and 14th

Commons Stage 3:30PM – 5:30PM

Students are encouraged to attend multiple days!

Rehearsals:

To be held after school from 3:30PM - 5:30PM

(later as we near performances.) A detailed rehearsal schedule will be made available after consideration is given to casting and review of after school conflicts. All students are asked to review their after school availability before auditioning. Tech weekend is scheduled for Saturday & Sunday, November 3rd & 4th

Performance Dates:

Thursday, Friday & Saturday, November 8th – 10th, 2018

@ 7:00PM in RSPA Panther Hall

At the Auditions:

1. **Singing Requirement:** In a “musical”, singing and dancing play an essential part of the story. Although there might be limited “non-singing” roles, the entire cast is required to be part of full cast production numbers. Therefore, be prepared to sing ***at least*** 16 bars of a **Broadway Song** of your choice which would show off your voice in the best way possible. Remember, your song selection and **how** you prepare is important and tells us a lot about **YOU!** You may bring sheet music, tracks, or you may sing a cappella. Also, remember we are **looking** as well as **listening**, so you might want to “act” out your song in some way, but don’t overdo hand or arm motions or try to dance. Don’t grab your clothes or play with your fingers or hands. Think ahead of time about what you want your body and face to reflect!

Check out the songs from the show:

<http://www.tamswitmark.com/shows/bye-bye-birdie-young-performers-edition/>

2. **Acting Requirement:** At the audition you will be required to read a cutting from the script. There are numerous ways to prepare for this. Consider searching the internet for script excerpts. At the audition, read over the scene given to you, identify the appropriate lines, and remember to use vocal inflections and movements/gestures to help the scene along. Don’t just stand there and **read**, remember to **act**. Keep the stage movements simple and unencumbered. The director wants to hear your voice, projection and interpretation of the dialog.
3. **Other Requirements:** Musical theatre is a **collaborative** effort and to that end, every member of the cast is important! **Divas** and/or **Spot Light Seekers** will not be tolerated! Also, preparing for a musical performance is hard work and time consuming. Therefore, attendance at rehearsals is **expected** and a commitment to working towards the best performance possible is **required!** If you cannot meet these expectations, **DO NOT AUDITION!**

Tips on How to Prepare for Your Audition



1. **Know the Show!** In musical theatre, there's **no excuse** for not being familiar with the show you're auditioning for. There is a wealth of information about musicals on the Internet. When preparing your audition material choose a song that's similar in style.
2. **Be Prepared!** This seems really obvious but make sure that you know what's expected of you and always give yourself plenty of time to learn your audition material. Know your lyrics and your music and do not hold a cheat sheet or the sheet music, or look over a pianist's shoulder.
3. **Choose the Right Song!** Another obvious tip, but many singers fall short here! Choose a song that suits YOU! This means you need to reflect on who you are, your strengths and weaknesses, etc. If you have a low voice, don't pick a song that is too high and vice versa. Also, in order to connect with your audience you're going to need to connect with the song itself. Be sure to select something that you enjoy singing, and equally important – understand what the song is about.
4. **Be in Good Voice!** If you haven't sung in a while, you can't expect to go into an audition and ace it! Singing every day is essential for keeping your voice healthy and strong. Warm up before you audition! If you are not feeling well on the day of the audition, let the director know so other arrangements can be made, if at all possible.
5. **Do Not Stop!** If you make a mistake while singing, **do not stop!** An audition is like a performance. Just keep going and do not let your face or body language reveal the fact that you've made a mistake. Although this is the hardest thing to do and you're probably feeling crushed at the moment, pushing through the mistake and persevering shows your grit and that you can think on your feet and not fall apart during an actual performance. A good director will see past the mistake and attribute it to nerves.
6. **Don't Wander Around!** When you sing, just stand there and sing. Never do excessive choreography or blocking to accompany your song which can come across as frantic! **DO** use hand and arm movements providing they are natural. This is no time to be shy, so sing out and give a performance. Remember your body language (especially your facial expressions) enhances the story you want to tell, so use these to your advantage. Practice in front of a mirror or family and friends!
7. **Be Confident!** Enter the audition with confidence – first impressions are key here. Keep good posture and walk with confidence, even if you're terrified! Don't apologise. Not for any reason. Make no excuses. Always be professional.
8. **Be Friendly!** Remember, part of your audition is showing you are a team player, get along with others, and have a good attitude. No one wants to work with a ***Diva*** or a ***Spot Light Seeker!*** Don't be overly talkative and don't be a pain. Smile and be personable.
9. **Say Thank You!** After your audition, smile, say "thank you", and then walk confidently off the stage. After you leave the stage, continue to present a good attitude as your audition lasts for as long as you remain in eyesight! **Lastly, accept any part you are offered as an opportunity to grow and learn.**