

SPRING 2023





Based on one of Roald Dahl's most poignantly quirky stories, Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach JR. is a brand new take on this "masterpeach" of a tale. Featuring a wickedly tuneful score and a witty and charming book, this adventurous musical about courage and self-discovery is destined to be a classic.

When James is sent by his conniving aunts to chop down their old fruit tree, he discovers a magic potion that grows a tremendous peach, rolls into the ocean and launches a journey of enormous proportions. James befriends a collection of singing insects that ride the giant piece of fruit across the ocean, facing hunger, sharks and plenty of disagreements along the way.

WHAT IS YOUNG PERFORMERS COMPANY? Young Performers Company is Main Stage Youth Division's school year musical theatre education program. Performers with or without prior experience may audition for performance groups corresponding to their age, skill level, scheduling preferences and personal goals. The mission of the program is to provide performance training to Humboldt County youth through first hand experience of participating in a musical production. Company members have opportunities to perform in either a full length or family series musical each fall and spring. As an education program, the production experience is enriched by show specific musical theatre training taught by local and guest teaching artists. Being a part of a production experience also allows students to learn responsibility, flexibility, focus, and teamwork, in a tight knit family environment.

As a performance company, opportunities often extend beyond the production. Our performers regularly perform at community and special events and have also been invited to participate in master classes with industry professionals.

AUDITION INFORMATION

Thank you for your interest in auditioning for Main Stage Young Performers Company! Attached you will find some helpful information to help you learn more about The Young Performers Company program, know what to expect at auditions, and the production commitment for *James and the Giant Peach Jr.*

2022/2023 AUDITION SCHEDULE

Thursday, January 5th | North Coast Dance Studios (426 F St. Eureka)

Grades K-2 4:30-5:30pm Pre-Company

Grades 3-6 5:00-6:00pm Young Performers Ensemble

*Those who auditioned in the fall of 2022 do NOT need to re-audition.

WHAT TO EXPECT/HOW DO AUDITIONS WORK? Arrive dressed for movement (dance or athleticwear), and wearing dance shoes or sneakers and bring a water bottle. Performers do not need to prepare anything for auditions, we will teach each age group a short combination to learn altogether to assess how they pickup movement, as well as a song to sing in small groups.

COMPANY PLACEMENT/PRODUCTION CASTING We aim to cast as many performers as possible. Performers are selected for performance companies and cast in productions based on work ethic, enthusiasm, maturity and rehearsal behavior, not prior experience. Productions require performers to be able to follow directions, have a dedicated work ethic, and a positive attitude. Company placement emails will go out Friday, January 6th. Casting for James and the Giant Peach Jr. will be set by Wednesday, January 18th.

AUDITION REGISTRATION After reviewing the overview packet complete the audition form on our website or linked in your email.

SPRING SCHEDULE

Young Performers Company members selected for the season are placed in a company group. Each group attends rehearsals that meet either 1x or 2x/week throughout the season. You can let us know which days and times work best for your family on your audition form.

SPRING 2023 YOUNG PERFORMERS COMPANY SCHEDULE: JANUARY 11th-MAY 14th, 2023

| Grades K-2 (PRE-COMPANY) | Wednesdays Thursdays | 4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm FULL |
|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Grades 3-6 (YOUNG PERFORMERS ENSEMBLE) | Wednesdays Thursdays | 5:00-6:00pm 5:00-6:00pm FULL |
| Grades 7-12 (TEEN ENSEMBLE) | Wednesdays | 6:45-8:00pm |
| | *Thursdays Teen Ensemble performers may be called to some Thursday rehearsals depending on their role. You can note whether or not your performer is available on Thursdays on your audition form. We will specify on your performer's placement email whether | 6:45-8:00pm |

| or not they will be needed Thursdays, and which weeks if so. | |
|--|--|
| William Wooke II co. | |

TUITION

Tuition is due by the first rehearsal of each season. Main Stage does not charge registration fees, costume fees, or additional participation fees, tuition is all inclusive. Youth Division scholarships are available each season depending on fund availability. If you are interested in applying for a scholarship please reach out to us as soon as possible, childrendivision@mainstagehumboldt.org. Payment plans are also available with the first payment being due by the first rehearsal and the second due by October 12th (fall) or February 8th (spring)

A \$50 deposit is paid to reserve your audition spot. This deposit is rolled over to company or class tuition costs (pending placement) following auditions.

| 2022/2023 Young Performers Company Tuition | \$250/season (paid in the fall & spring) |
|--|--|
| Payments Due Dates | 8/31/22, 1/12/23 |

SPRING 2023 IMPORTANT DATES

Below is a spring season calendar and list of important dates for the upcoming season. Please be sure to review these dates carefully and be ready to list any conflicts at the time of auditions.

Dates listed in red are mandatory for all groups in order to perform in James in the Giant Peach Jr.

| Thursday, January 5th | | Winter/Spring Auditions |
|---|-------------|---|
| Wednesday, January 11th Thursday, January 12th | | First day of rehearsals for 2023 Spring Season |
| Wednesday, January 18th | | James and the Giant Peach Jr. casting announced \ |
| Wednesday, February 22nd Thursday, February 23rd | | President's Break - No rehearsals |
| Wednesday, April 11th Thursday, April 12th | | Spring Break- No rehearsals |
| Wednesday, April 26th | 5:00-7:00pm | James and the Giant Peach Jr. Pre-Tech |
| Thursday, April 27th | 5:00-7:00pm | James and the Giant Peach Jr. Pre-Tech |
| Tuesday, May 2nd | 5:00-7:00pm | James and the Giant Peach Jr. Run |
| Wednesday, May 3rd | 5:00-7:30pm | James and the Giant Peach Jr. Tech (Arcata |

| | | Playhouse) | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---|--|
| Thursday, May 4th | 5:00-7:30pm | James and the Giant Peach Jr. Tech (Arcata Playhouse) | |
| PERFORMANCES (ARCATA PLAYHOUSE) | | | |
| Friday, May 5th | | 7:00pm (5:30pm call time) | |
| Saturday, May 6th | | 2:00pm (1:30pm call time) | |
| Saturday May 6th | | 7:00pm (5:45pm call time) | |
| Sunday May 7th | | 2:00pm (1:45pm call time) | |
| Friday, May 12th | | 7:00pm (5:30pm call time) | |
| Saturday, May 13th | | 2:00pm (1:30pm call time) | |
| Saturday, May 13th | | 7:00pm (5:45pm call time) | |
| Sunday, May 14th | | 2:00pm (1:45pm call time) | |

^{*}Some roles may be double cast, meaning performers perform only one of the two weekends. You can let us know whether you'd prefer to be scheduled for one or both weekends on your audition form.

YOUTH COMPANY POLICIES

These policies help our youth division create successful experiences for both families and staff. Be sure to read all policies carefully to ensure you are aware of expectations if your performer is selected for a company group.

ABSENT/LATE: Parents/guardians need to let us know in advance if your child is going to be late or absent unless it's an emergency situation. The best way to do so is by email: childrensdivision@mainstagehumboldt.org OR by leaving a message on the youth division phone line 707-200-1778. **Performers with three or more absences within a season will not be eligible to participate in productions.**

REFUNDS: A 50% refund can be issued for students withdrawing before the start of the season or workshop. No refunds can be given after the start of the season or workshop.

PICKUP/DROP OFF: Please do not bring or drop off your performer to their rehearsal/performance any earlier than 10 minutes prior to their scheduled time. Staff will not be on site to supervise and/or we may not have access to the rehearsal space before our scheduled time. Please pick up your performer promptly after their scheduled time. Please let us know if someone other than the adults listed on your child's authorization form will pick them up.

COMMUNICATION: Parents will need to check their email regularly. Most all production and company information will be sent via email.

SCHEDULE/LOGISTICS CHANGES: Families should understand that live performance (especially with many moving parts) is a living, breathing entity. Things don't always go exactly as planned, so changes in the plan (scheduling, logistics, added events etc.) may be made throughout the company season. We will always do our best to give you as much advance notice as possible on any changes that arise and will be understanding if the changes do not work for your family's schedule. This is especially important for advanced groups that are often invited to last minute events or rehearsals that run later than expected.

DRESS CODE: The Young Performers Company dress code is set to ensure members and class students are prepared for all classes and rehearsals, dressed appropriately for dance and movement. Performers will need to the following for each rehearsal:

- Black jazz shoes (slip on or lace up)
- Plain black jazz/athletic pants/leggings or dance skirt
- Black or white YPC t-shirt or leotard
- Black or white tights or socks

T-shirts are included in tuition and provided at the beginning of each season. If you need assistance finding any additional items, links will be sent out before the start of the season.

PERFORMER/PARENT EXPECTATIONS

- We expect our company performers to behave professionally during rehearsals, classes and performances.
- We expect that parents will support their child by honoring production commitments, communicating with staff about any issues that arise, and ensuring their child is prepared, and on time for rehearsals and performances.
- Words and actions should always be safe, appropriate, and kind
- Come prepared: Bring your YPC binder and/or script, a water bottle, and arrive dressed appropriately.
- Performers will be asked to review material at home
- Engage-performers are expected to participate with a positive attitude!
- Respect the rehearsal/performance environment: This includes cleaning up after yourself, using manners, not running, yelling, rough housing, and using spaces and/or materials as intended
- Respect your fellow performers and instructors

While we rarely run into behavior issues with performers, any recurring behavior issues will be brought to the attention of the parent/guardian. If the issue continues the performer will not be eligible to participate in performances and/or rehearsals.

STAFF & CONTACT INFORMATION

Daphne Endert Artistic Programming & Administration

Mackenzie Urch Director, Choreographer

Reagan Geach Director, Music Director

Fiona Ryder Music Director

Ryan McGaughey Accompanist

Professional Performance Prep Guest Instruction

<u>childrensdivision@mainstagehumboldt.org</u> | 707-200-1778 mainstagehumboldt.org/youthdivision