



YOUTH SHOW EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

There's a lot of information below. Please read it, digest it, and decide if this opportunity is right for you and your child(ren).

1) SHOWS: There will be 2 separate shows this summer, each geared toward different age groups, each with only 40 young actors/actresses!!!!

FOOTLOOSE will be for students who, over the summer, are "entering grades 7-9." **NO EXCEPTIONS.** The show is edited to be G-rated, and each will be a shortened, 1-hour version of the Broadway musical.

NO CONFLICTS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR SHOW DATES OR FOR TECH WEEK – all students who are auditioning **MUST** be able to attend all shows and all tech week rehearsals.

All shows and all rehearsals will take place at CENTRAL HEIGHTS MIDDLE SCHOOL, located at 220 Kronke Dr., Sun Prairie .

Show dates will be:

FOOTLOOSE (entering grades 7-9)

JULY 26 – 7pm

JULY 27 – 2pm and 7pm

JULY 28 – 2pm

2) REHEARSALS: Rehearsals will be held at Central Heights Middle School (220 Kronke Dr., Sun Prairie) from 5:30-8pm, Monday-Thursday for 6 weeks for each show. All students will come to rehearsals at their scheduled time by scene/song (schedule for rehearsals will be emailed to each family when you are cast in a show). **THERE WILL BE NO CONFLICTS ALLOWED DURING TECH WEEK OR ON SHOW DATES:**

Rehearsal Dates:

Week 1: June 17, 18, 19, 20

Week 2: June 24, 25, 26, 27

Week 3: July 1, 2, 3 (No rehearsal on Independence Day)

Week 4: July 8, 9, 10, 11

Week 5: July 15, 16, 17, 18

Tech Week (no conflicts allowed) July 22, 23, 24, 25

3) AUDITIONS: All students must audition **IN PERSON**, unless there's an extenuating circumstance that directors are aware of ahead of time. Auditions will consist of singing a song from the show (see additional materials [HERE](#)), and learning a short dance. Auditions will be held at the SUN PRAIRIE CIVIC THEATRE BARN, 550 S Bird Street, Sun Prairie, and students will sign up for a 30-minute slot with 7 other students. Our audition document can be found at the end of this document. Slots will open on March 1 and close on May 1.

We will create new audition times until all students who want to audition are seen. If your child is auditioning for a lead role in one of the musicals, please be prepared to be called back on the Sunday Evening that pertains to your show's audition dates. ALL CONFLICTS MUST BE DISCLOSED ON YOUR AUDITION FORM. Auditions dates:

Friday, May 3; and Saturday, May 4.
CALLBACKS – Sunday, May 7, 5-7pm

4) COMMUNICATION: You must communicate ANY absences with our staff by emailing kidsshows@sunprairiecivictheatre.com. If your child is struggling with anything, let us know, and we will try to help! The lines of communication must stay open! Also, please let US know as soon as YOU know your child won't be at rehearsal.

5) ABSENCES: If you know you will be absent for a rehearsal, we must know at AUDITIONS, unless your student is unexpectedly ill. Students are allowed 3 EXCUSED absences (absences with advanced notice or because a student is ill) before we will have a meeting about dismissal from the show.

Absences will be UNEXCUSED if no email is sent and/or if we are not notified of a vacation 3 weeks in advance. Students with unexcused absences may be dismissed from the show after just 1 unexcused absence.

OUR SHOW NEEDS TO BE A PRIORITY – every time your student misses practices, we have to reblock, reteach, and reposition. It messes with our lines, spots, scenes, and the “give and take” that only comes when your child is there to practice with all other actors in their scene. Showing up is not only important - it is IMPERATIVE.

If you believe your child will be missing more than 3 practices, please consider having them participate in our Rising Stars opportunity instead.

6) BEHAVIOR: All students are expected to behave in a respectful, responsible, and safe manner at rehearsals, shows, auditions, and strike. This includes respect toward directors, staff members, high school mentors, parent volunteers, and fellow actors. It also means respecting our rehearsal space, props and costumes. Giving other actors suggestions or notes is inappropriate. Touching props that aren't theirs, running loose in the school, not respecting people asking you to behave – these things will not be tolerated and will warrant a meeting with the director AND your parents. RESPECT is key.

7) RESPONSIBILITY: Each family is responsible for getting your student to rehearsal (5:30pm), picking them up on time (8pm), finding costume pieces at home that you're asked to provide, sending a water bottle (clear water only – no sports drinks or water flavoring as it stains floors and ruins our rehearsal spaces), pencil, and script to every rehearsal, and helping your student learn their lines and dances. We will have a google drive with all information for those who make the show including PDF of scripts, music tracks, and videos of dances we teach. Take time to make sure your child is learning these on their off-time – they'll need more than just rehearsal time to let everything sink in. Think of it as homework – you're not good at math if you only do it 10 minutes every other day.

8) MENTORS: Last year we had a few high school students help with our summer shows. This year we are going to implement a mentorship program that includes a 3/1 ratio of students to staff. High school students who are experienced in musical theater are volunteering their time to help mentor your children in their musical theater journey, from auditions to strike. They will help your student with costumes, makeup, expectations, blocking, learning lines, and just being a positive theater role model for the group of students of which they are

in charge. We hope this builds positive community relationships between many ages of theater students and that they become fans of each other for many years!

9) COSTUMES: Students will wear costumes this year for shows. Costumes for **Footloose** will be a combination of school clothes, church clothes, and western wear, with some roles having costumes specific to their occupation in the show. Costumes will be kept at CHMS and must be taken care of by each student. Makeup will be TBD.

10) WHAT IF I DON'T MAKE THE SHOW OR WHAT IF I HAVE TOO MANY CONFLICTS TO BE IN THE SHOW? Because we are only casting 40 students per show, there is a chance that your child will not be cast in one of our musicals this summer. **DO NOT FRET** - there is a **BRAND NEW OPPORTUNITY** called "Rising Stars" that will include a week-long camp and **PERFORMANCE** opportunities! The camp will help performers become more confident by teaching them audition techniques, acting techniques, and a song and dance to perform as the prelude for each of our shows.

RISING STARS - Grades 7-9 (Perform before "Footloose" as a pre-show)

Camp: 5:30pm-8:00pm July 15, 16, 17, 18 & 9:00am-Noon Sat. July 20

Tech rehearsals: 5:30pm-8:00pm July 22, 23, 24, 25

Shows: July 26 – 7pm; July 27 – 2pm and 7pm; July 28 – 2pm

DATE CHEAT SHEET:

FOOTLOOSE (Grades 7-9):

Auditions: Friday, 5/3; and Saturday, 5/4; CALLBACKS – Sunday, May 7, 5-7pm

Rehearsals 5:30pm-8:00pm:

Week 1: June 17, 18, 19, 20

Week 2: June 24, 25, 26, 27

Week 3: July 1, 2, 3 (No rehearsal on Independence Day)

Week 4: July 8, 9, 10, 11

Week 5: July 15, 16, 17, 18

Tech Week (no conflicts allowed): July 22, 23, 24, 25

Shows (no conflicts allowed):

JULY 26 – 7pm

JULY 27 – 2pm and 7pm

JULY 28 – 2pm

Rising Stars:

Camp 5:30pm-8:00pm July 15, 16, 17, 18

9:00am-Noon July 20 (Saturday)

Tech rehearsals: 5:30pm-8:00pm July 22, 23, 24, 25

Shows: JULY 26 – 7pm

JULY 27 – 2pm and 7pm

JULY 28 – 2pm

ROCK OF AGES (Grades 4-6):

Auditions: Friday, 5/17; Saturday, 5/18; CALLBACKS - Sunday, 5/19, 5-7pm

Rehearsals 5:30pm-8:00pm:

Week 1: August 5, 6, 7, 8

Week 2: August 12, 13, 14, 15

Week 3: August 19, 20, 21, 22

Week 4: August 26, 27, 28, 29

Week 5: September 3, 4, 5 (no rehearsal on Labor Day)

Tech Week (no conflicts allowed): September 9, 10, 11, 12

Shows (no conflicts allowed):

SEPTEMBER 13 – 7pm

SEPTEMBER 14 – 2pm and 7pm

SEPTEMBER 15 – 2pm

Rising Stars:

Camp: 5:30pm-8:00pm September 3, 4, 5

9:00am-Noon September 7 (Saturday)

Tech rehearsals: 5:30pm-8:00pm September 9, 10, 11, 12

Shows: SEPTEMBER 13 – 7pm

SEPTEMBER 14 – 2pm and 7pm

SEPTEMBER 15 – 2pm

FOOTLOOSE PLOT AND CAST DESCRIPTIONS

Teenager and dance-lover Ren McCormack is new to the tiny town of Bomont where dancing is outlawed due to a tragic accident after a local dance. Ren meets his match in Reverend Shaw Moore, who is the biggest advocate for the banning of dance, and who makes sure Ren feels unwelcome. However, the Reverend's daughter, Ariel, is a bit of a rebel, and she develops a crush on Ren. Ren and Ariel team up, along with friends Willard, Rusty, Urleen and Wendy Jo, to try to get dancing back at their school.

As always, we are doing the Youth Edition of the show, which makes the show G-rated and about an hour long.

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS:

Ren McCormack (Lead - many solos): Male - Energetic, emotional, rebellious, likable; emotes his pain through quirky sarcasm and dance; strong dancer, singer, and actor.

Reverend Shaw Moore (Lead - many solos): Male - The powerful, traditional local church leader; strict, stern, and solemn, still struggling with the death of his son.

Ariel Moore (Lead - many solos): Female - Smart, a bit of the bad girl with an edge, sweet, the rebellious minister's daughter; role requires strong belt, must be a strong singer/dancer.

Vi Moore (Supporting - solos): Female - Reverend Moore's loving, supportive, resilient wife.

Rusty (Supporting - many solos, trio harmony): Female - Ariel's friend; a bit scatterbrained, sweet, fun, knows everything about everything; role requires strong belt, strong comedic timing and dance.

Willard Hewitt (Supporting - solos): Male - A simple country bumpkin with a warm heart and a big smile; comedic timing and dance a must.

Ethel McCormack (Supporting): Female - Ren's mother; had a tough go, just trying to make it...would do anything for her son.

Chuck Cranston (Supporting): Male -The local bad boy and Ariel's boyfriend.

Urleen (Supporting): Female - Ariel's friend; the smart one of the group; role requires strong belt, comedic timing, and dance.

Wendy Jo (Supporting): Female - Ariel's friend; strong belt, comedic timing, and dance required.

Jeter – Willard's friend **Bickle** – Willard's friend **Garvin** – Willard's friend - can be any gender, all sing backup with Willard on one song

Cowboys and Cowgirls (small singing roles): part of the local band that sings at the Bar-B-Que

Ensemble (Chorus / Ensemble): Males & Females, 18-70.

Small roles that each have a small speaking part and require a lot of character!

Lulu Warnicker – Ren's aunt

Wes Warnicker – Ren's uncle

Coach Roger Dunbar – Gym teacher

Eleanor Dunbar – Roger's Wife

Lyle – Chuck's buddy

Travis – Chuck's buddy

Principal Clark - School Principal

CHORUS:

ADULT CHORUS - appear in many scenes and songs, all need to sing and dance

TEEN CHORUS - appear in many scenes and songs, all need to sing and dance