



YOUTH SHOW EXPECTATIONS FOR FAMILIES AND STUDENTS

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.

ROCK OF AGES will be for students "entering grades 4-6." **NO EXCEPTIONS.** Shows are 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:

ROCK OF AGES (entering grades 4-6)

SEPTEMBER 13 – 7pm

SEPTEMBER 14 – 2pm and 7pm

SEPTEMBER 15 – 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: 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

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 at the end of this document), and learning a short dance. Auditions will be held at the SUN PRAIRIE CIVIC THEATRE BARN -550 S Bird St, Sun Prairie, and students will sign up for a 30-minute slot with 8 students. 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 17; Saturday, May 18

CALLBACKS – Sunday, May 19, 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 **Rock of Ages** will be rock T-shirts with some 80s pieces and 80s hair. 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 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. Students interested specifically in the Rising Stars program may include that in their registration form and they will still be expected to participate in the audition process.

GRADE 4-6 RISING STARS - Perform before “Rock of Ages” as a pre-show
Camp: 5:30pm-8:00pm September 3, 4, 5 & 9:00am-Noon Sat. Sept. 7
Tech rehearsals: 5:30pm-8:00pm September 9, 10, 11, 12
Shows: Sept 13 – 7pm; Sept 14 – 2pm and 7pm; Sept 15 – 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): 5:30pm-8:00pm 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

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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

ROCK OF AGES PLOT AND CAST DESCRIPTIONS

Set on L.A.'s famous Sunset Strip in 1987, *Rock of Ages* tells the story of Drew, a city boy from South Detroit, and Sherrie, a small-town girl, who have both traveled to L.A. to chase their dreams of making it big and falling in love. This classic love story is set against the troubles at the Dupree Room, a “legendary temple of rock 'n' roll excellence” under threat by developers, Franz and Hilda, with the blessing of the Mayor, of being torn down and replaced with a strip mall. The threats of closure bring legendary rocker Stacey Jaxx to town to try to keep the Dupree Room open, and an opportunity for Drew to chase his dream to rock out with the best.

Trouble brews as Drew abandons Sherrie for his dream of stardom, rock 'n' roll bad boy Stacey lures Sherrie away, and the Dupree Room is surrendered to developers. Can Drew and Sherrie rescue their love? And can the Dupree Room be saved before it's too late?

As always, we will be performing the Youth Edition of this musical, so it will be G-rated and last 1 hour.

LONNY BARNETT ANY GENDER - the dual role of omnipotent narrator and secondary male lead character (but can be played by a female, if necessary), with a storyline that includes a bro-mance with Dennis. He is a charming and funny guy who gets along with everyone. Many monologues.

DENNIS DUPREE MALE - the owner of The Bourbon Room. He's a bit older than the others and a little burnt out on the party scene. Cast someone with a big presence, strong acting skills and a good voice. Dennis should pair flawlessly with Lonny as the other half of their bro-mance.

DREW BOLEY MALE - “just a city boy, born and raised in south Detroit” who moved to L.A. to rock. Unfortunately, every rocker has to do his time, so Drew barbacks just to make rent. While the music and setting of the show is pre-1980s, Drew is a classic musical theatre archetype – the nice guy with big dreams.

SHERRIE CHRISTIAN FEMALE - the female lead and, like Drew, is a musical theatre archetype – a sweet, small-town girl moves to the city to pursue a brighter future. She hopes to get her break in the acting business despite her parents' obvious disapproval.

FATHER MALE - the classic disapproving dad.

MOTHER FEMALE - more nurturing and sympathetic.

MAYOR ANY GENDER - chooses the money over the music and is more than willing to sell himself and his city out to the highest bidder.

REGINA FEMALE - Mayor's assistant, helps lead a revolution against the Sunset Strip development. Strong female personality!

HILDA KLINEMAN FEMALE - a German real estate developer who has her eyes on turning the Sunset Strip into a strip mall. With her son Franz by her side, Hilda won't take no for an answer.

FRANZ KLINEMAN MALE- the son of the overbearing Hilda, and he dreams of running a confectionary shop back in Hamburg.

STACEE JAXX MALE - the comedic villain of the show, is a bona fide rock star who doesn't quite realize through his selfish and wild antics that he's reached the peak of his career.

JUSTICE CHARLIER FEMALE - the owner of the Venus-A-Go-Go Dance Club. She's a smart woman who looks out for her girls.

WAITRESS #1, #2 and #3 FEMALE - work at The Bourbon Room and exemplify the era of 1980s rock with style and flair. They're often referred to as “Waitress 1, 2 and 3.”

PROTESTOR #1, #2 and #3 ANY GENDER - a group of die-hard rockers helping Anita save the Sunset Strip. Be sure to remind your troops that these ensemble parts are the bedrock for the show. They must capture the need and desire to keep rock alive and kicking. Cast dynamic speakers.

THE BAND (Lead Guitarist, Second Guitar, Bass, Piano and Drums) ANY GENDER - members of Arsenal, once led by Stacey Jaxx but are now separating from their front man. Actors in these roles need to be able to fake playing instruments.

CONSTANCE SACK ANY GENDER - an inquisitive reporter who interviews Stacey Jaxx just as he's about to part ways with his band.

JA'KEITH GILL ANY GENDER - becomes Drew's agent and in the process, destroys Drew's rock star dreams by forcing Drew to join a boy band.

TOM, JERRY and MUGGER ANY GENDER - cameo roles, some with few speaking lines, and all feed into the vivid world of the Sunset Strip of the 1980s.

GROUPIES, FANS, CROWD, PROTESTORS and SHADOWS OF THE NIGHT - Ensemble

