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MountainYouthMusicals@gmail.com

Family Handbook



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Vision and Mission

Welcome to Mountain Youth Musicals!

Our Vision: Mountain Youth Musicals (“MYM”) is a non-profit organization dedicated to encouraging the love of music and theater in youth by giving them the opportunity to participate in a creative, nurturing and positive environment.

Our Mission: To produce youth musicals with an emphasis on process, teamwork, leadership and joy; while instilling a strong work ethic with high performance and rehearsal expectations.

Mountain Youth Musicals was founded and received its official 5013c non-profit status in 2017. MYM gives mountain area youth the opportunity to work as a team; combining students from multiple schools to create a final production that is high quality, uplifting, and entertaining, as well as a positive reflection of the students and the process. We practice inclusivity and strive to make the rehearsal process and performances positive and confidence-building experiences. We are governed by a board made up entirely of volunteers. The board manages the growth of Mountain Youth Musicals and supports its mission and vision.

Mountain Youth Musicals:

- Engages more than 80 student participants each school year
- Entertains more than 800 people annually in our community as audience members
- Benefits from more than 150 volunteers, who dedicate more than 1,650 hours each year
- Managed by a board of eight volunteers
- Produces two shows and one audition workshop each school year
- Offers unique leadership and theatre tech opportunities to high school students

Inclusivity Statement: Mountain Youth Musicals is committed to offering a diverse, inclusive, and safe space for authentic and creative expression and mutually respectful teamwork. We believe in equity, justice, inclusion and belonging for all, whatever their age, sex, gender, identity, race, ethnicity, color, religion, creed, national origin, ancestry, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation or identity, transgender status, marital status, physical ability, disability, affiliation, political service, military status, veteran status or socio-economic status. We value differing abilities in our productions to help create the vibrant community we all cherish.

Mountain Youth Musicals seeks to encourage the love of music and theater by giving youth the opportunity to participate in a creative, nurturing and positive environment.



Mountain Youth Musicals Team

Board:

Trista Hertz - President
Susan Weingardt - Vice President
Liesl Parker - Business Manager
Serri Miller - Treasurer
Tonje Williams - Secretary
Gretchen Moritz - Artistic Director
Krista Choate - Community Representative
Jack Wales - Alumni Representative
Sophie Saxon - Community Representative

Production team:

Gretchen Moritz - Director, Middle School and Elementary productions
Colleen Lee - Director, Middle School productions
Katrina Glaser - Co-director, Elementary productions
Liesl Parker - Business Manager
Laurie Morill - Set Design and Construction for Middle School and Elementary productions
Tonje Williams - Costumer for Middle School and Elementary productions
Greg Hertz - Audition Workshop instructor



2022-23 Productions, Workshops and Show Schedule

Productions

Base Camp Company (Elementary School, Grades 3-5)

Our elementary company is open to all students grades 3 - 5. We put on one production each fall. We currently rotate through a selection of three to four musicals. Rehearsals start at the beginning of the school year in September with a show at Center Stage in November. This is often students' first experiences on stage. We emphasize team-building, fun and stage basics.

Ascent Company (Middle School, Grades 6-8)

Our middle school company is open to all students in grades 6-8. Our middle school company brings one production to Center Stage each spring. We hold optional auditions in early December for key roles. All students who register will have a part in the production.

Workshops

Audition Workshop

The audition workshop is for middle school students. In this two-session workshop, students gain experience and practice in selecting and presenting their audition monologues and solos. Once monologues and solos are selected, students focus on character work, delivery and clarity, and have the opportunity for peer performance and input. This workshop is open to students at all levels, is ideally timed to help students prepare for auditions for the middle school production, and focuses on confidence building and fun. It's also a great way to meet new friends!

Stage Craft Workshop - Coming Soon!

The stagecraft workshop is an opportunity for kids in 6th - 8th grade to learn the magic making behind the scenes. Participants will learn basic lighting, stage crew, set design, and sound. They will then have the opportunity to put their learning to use in an actual Center Stage tech week.

2022-2023 Show Schedule

Base Camp Company Production: HONK!

- Parent Meeting: an informational meeting for parents is scheduled within the first three weeks of rehearsals.



- Rehearsals: Weekly on Fridays 3:30 to 5:30 and Wednesdays for lead actors. A rehearsal calendar is distributed at the beginning of the rehearsal period, and is on the Mountain Youth Musicals website. Weekly emails are sent to provide the most up-to-date rehearsal schedule. Rehearsals are held at Evergreen Christian Church 27772 Iris Drive, Evergreen.
- Tech Week: The week of the performances is “tech week.” Daily rehearsals will take place at Center Stage the week of November 14th leading up to the performance.
- Performance 2022 : Thursday, November 17th and Friday, November 18th at 6:30 p.m. at Center Stage Theater, 27608 Fireweed Drive, Evergreen.

Ascent Company Production: Peter Pan, Jr.

Auditions for those interested in key roles (Optional): December 7th beginning at 3:30 at Evergreen Christian Church.

- Parent Meeting: an informational meeting for parents is scheduled within the first three weeks of rehearsals
- Rehearsals: Once or twice a week from 3:30 to 5:30. A rehearsal calendar is distributed at the beginning of the rehearsal period, and is on the Mountain Youth Musicals website. Weekly emails are sent to provide the most up-to-date rehearsal schedule. Rehearsals are held at Evergreen Christian Church 27772 Iris Drive, Evergreen.
- Tech week April 2023. The week of the performances is “tech week.” Rehearsals will take place at Center Stage this week.
- Performances: 3 Performances in April 2023 at Center Stage Theater, 27608 Fireweed Drive, Evergreen.

Workshops

Ascent Company Audition Workshop:

- The audition workshop provides an opportunity for extra practice and support with choosing and performing monologues and solo pieces.
- The audition workshop will have two parts: A one-to-one consultation to be held either in-person or online AND a group workshop to be held in-person in late November/early December.



Registration Information

Please visit www.mymusicals.org/registration to register and pay all fees.

- The registration fee for *HONK!* (Base Camp Company, 3rd - 5th graders) is \$250, which can be paid in two installments..
- The registration fee for *Shrek, Jr.* (Ascent Company, 6th - 8th graders) is \$350, which can be paid in two installments.
- The Audition Workshop Registration Fee is \$50 and includes both an online individual consultation and in-person group workshop.

Participant Fee

Fees are due at the time of registration. Scholarship options and payment plans are available through our Business Manager, Liesl Parker at mountainyouthmusicals@gmail.com.

Participant fees help pay for stage rental, costumes, musical rights, accompanying music, scripts, contractor salaries, set, and much more. MYM strives to keep fees as low as possible to allow for maximum participation. A late fee of \$30 will be assessed to registrations not paid by the final payment due date.

Refund Policy

In order to keep our cast a reasonable size, we limit the number of students who can register for each production. When you enroll, you are holding a spot for your child, which cannot be used by another student. We understand that situations happen where your child can no longer participate in the program. Our refund policy is as follows:

Students have until the Parent Meeting (scheduled during the first three weeks of rehearsals) to drop out of the production and receive a full refund. After that time we will, unfortunately, not be able to extend a refund for any reason.

Force Majeure: MYM will not be liable for any failure or delay in performing due to any of the following causes: acts of God, natural catastrophes, changes in laws or regulations, accidents, epidemics, pandemics, quarantines or civil commotion.



Participant Contract

All participants are required to sign the following contract at the time of registration.

Participant Contract

CONTRACT for Students

- I agree that my behavior at rehearsal and performances will be constructive and respectful. I will be courteous and kind to my fellow Cast Members, Crew and Directors.
- I agree that each rehearsal is valuable and will attend as best as I can. I will notify my director(s) about conflicts in advance.
- I agree that cell phone usage is unacceptable during rehearsals and shows, unless the director(s) has specifically granted me permission..

CONTRACT for Parents/Guardians of Participating Students.

- I understand that the production depends on a commitment from the cast and crew. I will make every effort to have my child attend each rehearsal. If there is a conflict, either my child or I will notify the director(s).
- I will treat Directors, Volunteers, Cast and Crew with courtesy and respect. I understand that Mountain Youth Musicals leadership strives to make decisions for the benefit of the entire production and for the development of cast and crew.
- I understand that parent/guardian volunteer support is vital to each production. A member of our family will participate in one or more volunteer roles or shifts under the supervision of Mountain Youth Musicals Leadership. I will act in accordance with the rules and guidelines as specified by the organization.
- I understand that there is a fee associated with participation and agree to pay the fee by the second rehearsal unless prior arrangements have been made with the Business Manager.
- Force Majeure: MYM will not be liable for any failure or delay in performing due to any of the following causes: acts of God, nature catastrophes, changes in laws or regulations, accidents, epidemics, pandemics, quarantines or civil commotion.

CONTRACT for Adult Volunteers Working Directly with Students:

- I understand student safety is of utmost importance. I have never been convicted of any crime or been accused in any lawsuit, claim or criminal charge involving sexual abuse, sexual misconduct or domestic abuse.
- I understand that activities and instruction will be conducted within sight or hearing range of other program leaders or participants.

**** Any failure to adhere to this contract may result in the removal from the program without tuition refund.***



Expectations

Mountain Youth Musicals is a commitment for all of us. Our programs are successful because of the effort and dedication of our students, parents and production team.

Behavior: All participants, including cast, crew, staff and parents are expected to share responsibility for the well being of each other and Mountain Youth Musicals. We will treat each other with respect and behave in a kind and courteous manner. MYM's emphasis is on team and community. We expect behaviors to reflect that emphasis.

Health & Safety Protocols: We expect all participants to adhere to our health and safety protocols. In terms of COVID, we will be using guidance from the state and county, and we must also follow the COVID protocols set by those who oversee our rehearsal space (Evergreen Christian Church) and performance space (Center Stage/Ovation West). At this time, participants can make their own choice whether they wear masks at rehearsals. We will determine the COVID protocols for on-stage performances closer to the show dates.

Attendance: Mountain Youth Musicals expects participants to uphold their commitment to excellence and teamwork by attending rehearsals and performances to the best of their ability. If a participant needs to miss a rehearsal or performance, timely communication is expected. If a student's low attendance is impeding the cast's progress, a meeting will be held with parents and directors to ascertain how to best move forward, keeping in mind what's best for the cast and the individual.

Cell phones and wearable technology: Phones and wearable technology are not to be out during rehearsals or backstage during performances.

Volunteer Requirements: Parents or guardians of MYM participants are expected to volunteer their time and talents to our productions. This team approach builds community, shows students our support of their efforts and hard work; and keeps fees low while allowing us to continue offering the high-quality productions our audiences and participants have come to expect.

A Parent Meeting is scheduled during the first three weeks of rehearsals. During this meeting, volunteer roles are outlined and opportunities to sign up are made available. Generally, each given area has an experienced 'lead' volunteer, allowing those who are new to theater and/or MYM the opportunity to share their time and talent without needing specific knowledge or skill. Below is a list of some of the volunteer roles available.



Expectations (continued)

Some of the many volunteer opportunities with Mountain Youth Musicals:

- Set Assistants - Help our professional set designer and builder transport, build and/or load-in the set.
- Costume Assistants - Help our professional costumer gather, create, sew, organize, fit, and / or monitor backstage for our costumes.
- Props - Help gather or make hand props.
- Snacks - Help our snack coordinator gather food and monitor snack time during long rehearsals and tech week.
- Makeup and Hair - Help apply makeup and style hair before shows.
- Front of House - Help with flower sales, ticket taking, intermission treats, or ushering during show time.
- Backstage - Monitor backstage during tech week or show time.
- Cast Party - Set up, organize and monitor the cast party.
- Dress Rehearsal Dinner - Make, gather donations, or purchase the food for our dress rehearsal dinner.
- Clean Up - Help clean up the lobby and stage area after a Center Stage rehearsal or show.

Communication: Updates from the Directors and will be sent weekly. These emails are time-sensitive and important for both the cast member and parents/guardians to read.

Social Media: Follow us on Instagram: [@mym_mymusicals](#) and on Facebook: MYMusicals

Questions: Email mountainyouthmusicals@gmail.com

