



The Biz Production Basics

Winnie the Pooh Junior

Performance Dates: February 20, 21, 22

Thanks so much for your interest in auditioning for a Biz Production! We want this to be a fun and educational experience for your child and you. This information sheet is intended to inform you of our policies and procedures for creating a successful show, and to answer questions you may have about this process.

AUDITIONS

We want our audition process to be FUN! We understand that auditions can sometimes be stressful, but we pride ourselves in providing a safe and encouraging environment in which to show us what you can do. For musicals, we ask that you bring sheet music for 16-20 bars of a song of your choice, preferably in the style of the show you are auditioning for. You will also be taught a short dance sequence and perform it for the Directors. For any audition, you should dress nicely, and bring something comfortable for dancing, including appropriate footwear. Your “job” is to impress the director! Be yourself, and show your personality!

CALLBACKS

After auditioning, you MAY be notified to come back later that day or the next day, to sing or read a specific part. If you don't get called back, that doesn't mean you are not cast, or don't have a lead. Sometimes the Directors can cast leads just from the first audition. The purpose of a callback is to see more of what you can do, and help the Directors decide what role you are best suited for.

PRODUCTION FEES

\$120 for those not currently enrolled in classes at The Biz

\$100 for those currently enrolled in classes

- The Production Fee helps cover the cost for the rights and royalties of the show, venue rental, some costumes, props, set, etc. Each cast member will also receive a show t-shirt and two comp tickets for the show.
- The Biz requires a \$25 annual registration fee that covers our liability insurance. Your child will get a Biz tee shirt with the \$25 registration fee. If they are renewing the registration fee, they may choose a Biz Bag instead of the Biz tee shirt.

The Production Fee/Registration Fee will be collected at the first “Meet and Greet” rehearsal, which is scheduled for Friday, January 9th at 6:00.

CASTING

The final cast list will be sent to you by email. After you receive the list, you will need to inform us if you choose to **NOT** accept the part you were given. Please be courteous and let us know within 24 hours, so that we may fill the role with another cast member as soon as possible. Every effort is made to cast roles preferred as stated on your audition form, but obviously that can't always be done. **Actors can learn a lot from ANY role they have in a show, and know that EVERY role is vitally important to the success of a show!**

All successful actors know that the audition process is **not** an objective one. The "best singer" will not necessarily get the lead role. There is acting and dancing that figures into the Director's choices, as well as height, your "look", and sometimes even hair color. Understanding this is an essential part of being in theater! A Director has a "vision" of his/her show, and he/she looks for actors they feel can best fulfill that vision.

How a parent reacts to their child's disappointment after auditions has a tremendous influence on the child. Although disappointment is painful, know that all actors go through this process, and it can bring about a new understanding of goals, and what needs to be done now for future successes. If your child is upset about a casting result, please encourage them to ask the Director what they can do better next time. Some students may benefit from classes to work on areas they may be weak in.

PARENT EXPECTATIONS

Parent volunteers are an integral part of this process, so please be willing to sign up to help when asked. We would like to ask every parent to volunteer approx. 6 hours of personal time to the success of this production! Some areas of need soon after we start are set building, costumes, and props. I will be asking for volunteers to head these committees up soon after the rehearsal process begins. Once we enter our final two weeks, we will need additional help, and will communicate those needs to you at the appropriate time.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

All conflicts must be listed on the audition form! There may not be ANY conflicts listed from the weekend prior to tech week through the run of the show. All cast members are expected to be at all scheduled rehearsals and performances **on time** unless previously discussed with one of the Producers. If an emergency comes up, or you are running late please contact me at the number below ASAP. Attendance will be taken at each rehearsal. If you don't show up to a scheduled rehearsal for which you are not excused, or give us conflicts for tech week AFTER auditions, the Directors have the right to re-cast or replace you without a refund.

REHEARSALS

At this time, it looks like rehearsals will take place on mainly Monday and/or Friday evenings, Saturday afternoons, and Sunday afternoons/evenings. Leads should plan on 3 days a week, and ensemble on 1-2 days a week. The week of opening, also known as Tech Week, plan on rehearsing every evening.

Every effort will be made to keep to the scheduled rehearsal times. Occasionally things will come up that require changes. Please understand these changes can't be helped, and we will do everything possible to keep these changes to a minimum. Our evening rehearsals will be from 6:00 to 8:00 for the younger kids, and older kids may be expected to stay until 9:00. In theater, the final week before opening is an exception to that rule, and we most likely will need to keep the entire cast until 9:00. If your child cannot function well with a bedtime after 9:00, please reconsider your decision to allow them to audition.

The entire schedule for *Winnie the Pooh Kids* will be available on-line soon after the "Meet and Greet" rehearsal.

All communication will take place through email, so be sure we have your correct email address. Please be sure to check your email daily for any last-minute changes, even though we'll try to keep them at a minimum!

CAST BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

At rehearsals, **all** cast members are expected to be respectful to adults **and each other**, and to behave appropriately. Cast members are expected to follow the directions of all adults in charge. We will introduce those adults in charge to parents and cast at the "Meet and greet" rehearsal.

Please bring something to do when you come for rehearsals. There may be times when you are not directly needed, and may have a little "down time." (This becomes more frequent as we get closer to opening.) We try our hardest to schedule things so that you don't have to sit and wait often, but sometimes this can't be helped.

WELCOME to this awesome experience! We hope you enjoy it!

Producer, Jan Van Paris - 317-435-2629, Director, Jeff Van Paris -317- 435-2188
Music Director, Craig Whitcombe

Please sign and bring **this page only** to auditions, or at the very latest, the “Meet and Greet” rehearsal on January 9th. Please also bring your Production fee and if needed, the annual registration fee. We take cash and checks made out to The Biz. All credit card payments are subject to an additional 3% charge.

I have read and understand the expectations outlined above, and will do my best to follow them.

Production: *Winnie the Pooh Kids*

Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Cast Member Signature: _____