



KCT's THE LION KING JR.

AUDITION INFORMATION PACKET

SIX PERFORMANCES: Fri-Sun: March 3, 4, 10, 11 at 7:30 PM & March 5, 12 at 2:30 PM

Auditions:

Monday, December 19 from 3-9 PM BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Tuesday, December 20 from 3:30-8 PM BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Call backs, if needed: Wednesday, December 21 from 1-5 PM. There will be no wait list, in spite of Theater Forms providing one (we can't change that). The Theater Forms appointment link will be posted on our website on December 6 at 6:00 PM CST. Do not call the Box Office for appointments.

Read Through at KCT:

SATURDAY, January 7 at 9:30-11:30 AM - REQUIRED.

Parent Meeting at 11 AM.

Rehearsals beginning January 9:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 4:00 – 6:15 PM

Some evenings TBD 7:00-8:15 PM

Dropbox Files with audition music (to be downloaded on your own device):

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/je334xf1cvoqoc8ur88um/h?dl=0&rlkey=vs12ph8nrt785gmm91l3czc1e>

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for your interest in participating in **The Lion King JR.** at KCT. This is a rare opportunity for our ACT youth, as this production is part of the five mainstage season shows for the 45th Season of KCT. Therefore, you may find some things are different from a regular ACT production.

Before auditioning, please consider all of the following:

1. **DATES:** Please double check family, school, and extra-curricular calendars against the rehearsal calendar on Theater Forms (available 12/6). If you have a conflict with a performance and the weeks prior, you ***should not*** audition. Please check with music teachers for spring concert dates. If you have a few rehearsal conflicts here and there, you can still audition, but please note them on the audition form. Those will *many* conflicts will not be cast.
2. **LIMITED AVAILABILITY:** Please be aware that there are only a limited number of Principal Roles in this production, and only a select amount of students will be chosen for these roles. If you are not selected for one of these roles, this does not mean that you are not talented. The ensemble is a very important part of this production and is on stage more than anyone. All students auditioning agree that they will accept any offered role. If your student only wants a particular part, they should not audition.
3. **FEES:** There is a **Production Fee of \$15.00** to participate in the musical to pay for your script, which is then yours to keep. If your script is lost prior to the performances, you will be required to purchase a new one (approx. \$25). Payment is due at the first rehearsal, January 7. Check, card, and cash are accepted. If this is a hardship, please let us know. We have scholarships available.
4. **TIME COMMITMENTS:** Producing a successful musical is very rewarding, but it requires a lot of hard work and dedication. Theater is just like any team sport: all the players are important and when one performer is missing, it affects everyone. Before auditioning for the show, please make sure that you are aware of the large commitment involved in participating in this production:
 - **Cast Rehearsals** will be on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays from 4:00 – 6:15 PM. Some evening rehearsals will be called TBD.
 - **Schedule:** Performers must attend all of their scheduled rehearsals, however, please note that not all students will be needed for each rehearsal. A student's individual rehearsal schedule will be based on the role that he or she is playing in the production. Cast members will receive a detailed rehearsal schedule the week of January 9.
 - **Memorization:** All students will be expected to work on lines and song words at home, as well as at rehearsals.

- **Absences:** Please note that **2 unexcused absences from rehearsals will result in removal from the show.**
 - **Excused Absences Include:** Illness, family emergencies, anything the school would consider an excused absence, and any dates/times listed as conflicts on the Theater Forms Audition Form or discussed with the director at minimum of a week in advance of the rehearsal date and agreed upon with the Director's approval.
 - **Unexcused Absences Include:** Any full rehearsals missed that are NOT due to illness, family emergencies, and those dates communicated on the Audition Form.
 - **Tech Week:** During the final week (Tech Week) the rehearsals will be Monday-Thursday (including Wednesday) in the evenings and will be held 6:15-9 PM. REQUIRED.
 - **During Tech Week, all conflicts will be considered unexcused.** Please notify all coaches/dance instructors/music teachers of this anticipated schedule conflict before auditioning.
 - **Conflicts:** Please include on your Theater Forms Audition Form ALL anticipated absences.

- 5. **SPORTS, DANCE & OTHER EXTRA-CURRICULARS:** We believe in the well-rounded student who experiences several different activities including sports, dance, music, martial arts, gymnastics, etc. We also know that many of these commitments require extra time and may conflict with each other. As moms of two kids each who were involved in music, dance, theater, work, sports, and so on, we understand wanting them to be involved. **Please use Theater Forms to indicate all anticipated conflicts.** For example, if the student already takes dance or has swim at 4:00 pm every Thursday, be sure to indicate that on the audition form. Also, please be prepared to miss that class during Tech Week (no exceptions).

Time is one of our most important resources, and we will respect everyone's time by offering a detailed rehearsal schedule well in advance of rehearsals. In addition, we will always strive to release them from rehearsal on time. In return, we ask that for the few weeks of rehearsals, the cast's time is respected as well. Your child's absence affects everyone in their performance group. Family emergencies and illnesses will happen and are out of our control. We are usually willing to compromise on most conflicts with adequate communication (students may be able to leave rehearsal a little bit early and be a little bit late to their next activity.) Our request is that the actual performance/tech weeks are treated as a priority and the other conflicts shared before auditioning for the show. Please take the rehearsal schedule into serious consideration when planning family activities. Because this is a mainstage production, fewer conflicts will be expected from those cast. Those with a lot of conflicts that "just come up" will be removed from the cast.

- During the audition and evaluation process students and parents must be transparent about potential and actual conflicts. We would like to give priority to those who would like the musical to be their priority.

7. **BEHAVIOR:** Failure to behave in an appropriate manner during the rehearsal and production period will potentially result in removal from the show.
8. **AUDITIONS:** Students will be expected to sing portions of two songs from the show (prepared prior), and will read from the script (no preparation). More detailed information is outlined on the following pages. **The link will be active and sign-ups for audition times can be accessed DECEMBER 6th at 6:00 PM until full.** Please look for the link on the KCT website. They are in 12-minute increments.

AUDITION PROCEDURE:

The Theater Forms Audition Form must be completed before the audition date, including uploading a current photo. Link is active on December 6 and will be posted on our website at kearneycommunitytheatre.com.

Parents should accompany children in case of questions, but are asked to wait in the foyer during auditions.

This audition will include three portions:

1. VOCAL AUDITION –All students auditioning will individually sing two excerpts from the musical with provided recorded accompaniment. They will be singing in front of the Director, Assistant Director, and possibly one of the three Board Member Producers. The songs listed below are options from which they may select for their audition. The audio samples/accompaniment/sheet music may be heard/seen in Dropbox here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/je334xf1cvoqoc8ur88um/h?dl=0&rlkey=vs12ph8nrt785gmm91l3czc1e>

Song Audition Options: - Students should prepare **the assigned excerpts from TWO of the songs listed below** for their grade level and will sing with accompaniment only. Sing the entire excerpt shown. ALL students will be considered for ALL roles, regardless of the songs they sing at the audition, and regardless of grade level. This helps to insure we are not hearing the same song for six hours in a row, and provides some guidance for appropriate audition material. Sheet music is available in Dropbox. We are looking for those who can tell a story with their voice, face, and body.

- Circle of Life (Rafiki) – Boys/Girls in Grades 3-8
- They Live In You (Mufasa) – Boys in Grades 6-8
- I Just Can't Wait to be King (Young Simba, Young Nala) – Boys/Girls in Grades 3-6
- Shadowland (Nala) – Girls in Grades 7-8
- Be Prepared (Scar) – Boys in Grades 6-8

The directors need to put together a big puzzle and find just the right pieces to put it together best. They are not there to “judge” you – they are really hoping that you’ll be the right fit for one of the puzzle pieces. Your job is to help the directors solve their puzzle. So, there’s no need for you to be nervous!

If you find you are nervous anyway, “hide” behind the character. Remember that it’s not “you” up there; it’s your character. Tell your character’s story the entire time when you audition. Get involved in telling the story and don’t spend time thinking about how your voice sounds when you sing. Make a strong, active choice for your character, and play it fully. We can’t tell anything about your character if you don’t show us an active personality.

Try to be aware of what your face and body are doing when you sing. Regardless of how your song sounds, if your face doesn’t tell the story of the song, the audience isn’t going to understand the story. Our brains process pictures before they process words, so if your hands are busy doing something unrelated to the song (for instance: tugging at the bottom of your shirt) the audience is going to think your song is about something else (a shirt), no matter what words you’re singing!

Use clear diction. We need to understand every word that you sing.

2. SCRIPT READING AUDITION – All students will read lines from at least one scene from the script. This is called a “cold reading”. They will not get to see these lines in advance. This is to see how well they can quickly show vocal and facial expression, tell a story, and make bold character choices.

Trust us to know that, even if your child sings/reads for one part only, we will know where best they will shine in the production.

The final cast list will be emailed to *all* auditioning and be posted on our Facebook page by December 23. We do not give feedback on auditions.

We are VERY excited to see you on December 19 & 20!

Please direct any questions not answered here or on Theater Forms to actatkct@kctonline.com. The Box Office will not have audition information. **Please email**, rather than call, FB message, or text, and we will answer in a timely fashion. Thank you!

Judy Rozema, Artistic & Music Director
Dee Dee Kitzelman, Assistant Director

The Lion King Experience, JR. at KCT