

## **JSA Musical Expectations Packet**

Auditions are IN-PERSON  
Monday, August 25th OR Tuesday, August 26th  
2:45 PM - 5:30 PM in the JCPA

Those called back will be notified by Wednesday, August 27th  
Callbacks will be Thursday, August 28th at 2:45 in the JCPA  
Cast list will be posted after Friday, August 29th

Please choose **one** day and plan to be there for the entire audition.

Being part of a production comes with a large commitment. Students need to be fully committed to the show and our mission. This includes being a positive member of the team. This Musical Expectations Packet outlines the guidelines and expectations for everyone involved. Quality productions need talent, time, and a commitment to excellence.

### **Jackson School for the Arts Theatre Mission Statement**

The Jackson School for the Arts Theatre Program is designed to enable students to discover their creative abilities while inspiring them to strive for artistic excellence.

- To produce the highest quality performances we are capable of creating
- To challenge ourselves with productions that stretch our talents and abilities
- To encourage students to attain a mastery of the theatre arts
- To develop a lifelong appreciation for and involvement with theatre
- To develop integrity, positive attitude and rigorous work ethic in our company

### **Audition Checklist**

- ☐ Please make sure you have read & understand the entire musical expectations packet
- ☐ Complete the [audition Google Form](#) which includes selecting your audition date (wait to do this in the fall)
- ☐ Bring in a physical signed copy of the Student Performer Contract and Parental Consent Form to your audition

Auditions are open to all Jackson Local High School students. Please take the time to fully prepare for your audition. We realize the auditioning process is usually met with varying degrees of nervousness. The more time you take to prepare, the more confident and poised your audition will show. Remember, we want to see you at your best. Take time to prepare. Show up for your audition fully memorized, ready to share your best talents. There is a huge difference between performing a well-rehearsed piece and something you memorized the night before. We can always tell. Practice in front of other people. The first time you perform your audition piece should not be at the audition. Arrive in appropriate audition attire that allows you to move freely but is still professional. You should dress up but not wear a costume. Imply the part you want without going over the top.

### **Dance Auditions**

Students should show up to auditions in dance attire. A dance combination in the style of the show will be taught to all auditioners.

Students will learn the audition together as a large group and then perform in small groups. Remember to act through the dance and show personality and style in your performance. The dance portion will be followed by individual singing auditions, so as soon as your small group is done, you may exit quietly to change and prepare for your singing audition.

### **Vocal Auditions**

Due to the vocal demands of this production, [we are providing four audition cuts](#) from the show for students to use. Please select one of the vocal selections included in this audition packet. Recorded accompaniment tracks are also available through THIS link on Mrs. Rissler's website. You must be logged in to Bearworks to access these materials. Songs must be memorized. Before you sing, you will provide a "slate" or introduction. State your name, grade, and the title of the song you will be singing. Make sure to act through your vocal selection.

**Callbacks:** Callbacks are a second audition and a chance to be seen by the directing team a second time, focusing on reading/singing for specific roles in the show. Please remember that callbacks are not always an indication of the final casting. We are providing the full vocal callback materials ahead of the auditions for students to familiarize themselves with.

**Casting:** We always try to include as many actors as possible, but it's impossible to cast everyone due to the size of our stage and the requirements for the show. Our audition process is designed to be fair, educational, and transparent. At the same time,

auditions can be stressful, and the outcomes are occasionally disappointing. Regardless of the outcome, auditions are an opportunity for learning and growth. We are looking for ability and unique skills, as assessed by the directing team in auditions & callbacks. In addition personal character, professionalism, ability to work as part of a team, and commitment, as demonstrated in involvement with the program at large and in school. ***We realize it is part of the audition process for students to think about who might be cast in specific roles. Please refrain from talking among yourselves and pre-casting the show. It is not respectable for everyone auditioning and sets up expectations that may not be achieved.***

### **Rubric**

The selection committee will be looking for the following:

- Engaging, expressive, and believable facial expressions and body movement
- Expressive singing
- Clear and precise pitch, diction, rhythm
- Tone quality that shows exemplary maturity, control, beauty, vowel control, and vocal clarity

**What if I Don't Get Cast?:** Please do not get discouraged; it is a part of the process. Learn, grow, and audition for future shows and groups. Every show is different, and just because there was not a role for you in this production, there may be a perfect role for you in the next one. Remember, casting is like assembling a jigsaw puzzle. It is not always about the individual pieces but about forming and creating the entire picture.

**Rehearsals:** Rehearsals begin on September 2nd with a read through and are typically scheduled on school days 2:45 - 5:30. Tech week rehearsals run a little later from 2:45 - 7:00. Once the show is cast, a specific rehearsal calendar will be created, and cast members only need to attend rehearsals on the scheduled days. We do our best to value your time, so you will only be called on days we are working on scenes you are involved in. This means attendance is important on days you are scheduled. Leading roles will be called nearly daily, and featured roles will start with 1-2 times per week until we start running the entire show. Rehearsals are closed to anyone other than cast/crew.

**Mandatory Rehearsals:** Tech week is mandatory and starts on October 20th. All cast and crew must be in attendance. These rehearsals run from 2:45 - 7:00. If you are unable to commit to these mandatory dates, we may not be able to cast you. During Mandatory Rehearsals, the show is a priority over appointments, work, travel, sports, and other activities. Please review these dates and plan accordingly. Any exceptions to this rule must be disclosed on the audition form prior to casting. Conflicts for mandatory rehearsals that arise after the show is cast may lead to dismissal.

**Performances:** There are three performances. Thursday, November 6th and Saturday November 8th at 7:00 PM and Sunday November 9th at 2:00 PM. Call times will be at least two hours before curtain but may differ depending on your role in the production.

**School Expectations:** Tech Week is characterized by lengthy rehearsals leading up to a weekend full of late performance nights. Students are expected to prioritize their school work and not miss school. Cast and crew are encouraged to be proactive with school work and, if possible, work ahead.

**Conflicts:** Please disclose all conflicts on your audition form. Conflicts are always a consideration when casting but most school sponsored activities we are able to work around. If cast, actors will be excused from rehearsals listed as conflicts on their audition form. Once cast, any additional conflicts should be for illness or emergencies only. This conflict schedule is also important as we assemble the master calendar, hopefully avoiding as many actor conflicts as possible. Please also list the flexibility with your conflict (for example, "I can move my voice lesson to another day if necessary").

**Sports Conflicts:** Each JLSD sport and coach is different. If you are auditioning, it is up to you to communicate the commitments outlined in this packet to your coach and note your practices/games on your audition form. We are unable to accommodate any tech week or performance conflicts. If you are on another sports team outside of JLSD, please review our commitments to ensure no conflicts with our rehearsals, especially our mandatory dates.

**Expenses:** The musical is a self-sustaining school organization. The musical is quite costly with all of the funds being raised through advertising and ticket sales. We do assess a fee to the students to cover some of their costs. This fee is \$50 and includes: the show t-shirt, the recording of the production and costume rental. In addition, actors may need to provide: 1) jazz or character shoes, 2) stage make-up, 3) simple items for their costumes requested by the Costume Designer (socks, undershirts, tights). There is a \$10 crew fee if you want a show t-shirt. All production fees are due on Tuesday, September 2nd. If there is a concern with this cost please let us know.

## **STUDENT PERFORMER CONTRACT**

*Everyone involved in the production is held to a standard of Ethics and Responsibility. It takes everyone working collectively together as a team to achieve high standards of excellent theatrical performances. By signing this form, you fully agree to this contract's terms.*

1. I will share my talents, give my best effort, and maintain a positive and supportive attitude at all rehearsals and performances.
2. I will be a respectful, open-minded, and productive member of the cast and crew, working collaboratively to create exceptional theatre.
3. I will follow all guidelines and directions given by the Artistic Team, including directors, designers, stage managers, and student leaders.
4. I will attend all scheduled and MANDATORY rehearsals and performances unless previously excused by the director, understanding that unexcused absences may result in dismissal from the cast.
5. I will arrive on time and fully prepared—with my script, pencil, appropriate footwear, and any required materials.
6. I will remain in good academic standing, including maintaining consistent school attendance, throughout the rehearsal and performance process.
7. I agree to memorize all lines, songs, and choreography by the specified deadlines, understanding that this will require work outside of rehearsal time.

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Student Name (printed)

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Student Signature

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Date

*Bring a hard copy of this signed form to your audition.*

## **PARENT / GUARDIAN CONSENT FORM**

We ask all parents/guardians to review and complete this consent form. Signing the consent form means you have read this entire packet, understand the expectations and give permission for your child to participate fully.

1. I have reviewed the Student Performer Contract and understand the expectations and responsibilities that my student is committing to by participating in this production.
2. I have reviewed the production fee details and understand that there is a \$50 fee. I understand that if the fee is not paid, my student will not receive a script or show t-shirt and may not be able to participate. If there is a concern with this cost I will reach out to Mrs. Gardner for assistance.
3. I have reviewed the entire audition packet, including all mandatory dates. I agree to have my student note any potential conflicts on their audition form, and I understand that conflicts not listed may not be honored, which could result in dismissal from the production.
4. I understand that while the directing team makes every effort to include as many students as possible, not all students may be cast. I accept that casting decisions are final and will support the choices made by the directing team. If my student is not cast or does not receive a desired role, I will help them process the disappointment in a healthy way and encourage personal growth through the experience.
5. I understand that this production is not only focused on the final performance, but also on the process of artistic and personal development. I will support my student as they work to build confidence, develop their talents, and contribute positively to the ensemble.
6. I will help ensure that my student upholds their responsibilities to the cast and crew, and I will do my part to help make this a positive, respectful, and memorable experience for all involved.

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Parent/Guardian Name (printed)

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Student Name (printed)

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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Date

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Emergency Contact Phone Number

*Bring a hard copy of this signed form to your audition.*

## **Audition Material Access and Instructions**

The full "[Student Audition Materials](#)" folder contains sheet music and tracks for the following:

[Think of Me](#) - Christine Vocal Line

[Angel of Music \(Where in the World\)](#) - Meg Vocal Line

[Music of the Night Excerpt](#) - Phantom Vocal Line

[All I Ask of You](#) - Raoul Vocal Line

As outlined in the audition packet, callbacks will be held by invitation only on Thursday, August 28th at 2:45 PM in the Jackson Center for the Performing Arts (JCPA).

While not all students will be called back, the callback packet is being provided to everyone in advance. This allows all auditioning students to understand the material and expectations we'll be focusing on during the callback process. Reviewing the packet will help you prepare in the event that you are invited to participate.

### **Callback Materials**

#### **Notes on preparing these materials:**

- Make sure you warm up before attempting to sing these songs to avoid vocal injury.
- The audition cuts of each song are notated in red brackets on the sheet music.
- Memorize the words and music so you can sing without the sheet music.
- Focus on musicality, diction, and intonation.
- Some phrases end on very high notes. If these notes are out of your range, do not attempt them. That could cause vocal injury. Instead, replace the high note(s) with note(s) within the chord structure that fits your vocal range.
- The "Angel of Music" cut includes Christine's vocal line. We want to make sure that Meg candidates can hold their part against the melody of Christine. Please sing Meg's part only. When Christine has a solo section, act as if she's on stage with you and respond accordingly through your performance.
- The initial audition will not include a monologue, so it is essential that you act through your songs. Use facial expressions, body language, and vocal choices to bring the character and story to life. This is your opportunity to showcase your acting skills through song.