

# WELCOME TO AUDITIONS FOR FHT Youth Theater

We're delighted that you've decided to audition for this production. Fountain Hills Youth Theater is very proud of the quality of our productions and we are looking forward to another success with this show. The purpose of this letter is to avoid confusion and let you know what will be happening today as well as what will be expected of you. If you are a first time auditioner, a word of advice: **Relax. Don't panic. Have fun.** We have all been at a first audition and we are on your side.

First, please fill out your audition form and attach a headshot and resume if you have them. **Above all, be honest and truthful in listing your conflicts!** It is easier to re-write the schedule now than to surprise us with a string of conflicts later on. If you would like to volunteer to assist on a crew, please let us know that as well then turn in the form to one of the theater's volunteers and have a seat.

To begin with, the Director will introduce themselves and give you some information on what is expected for the show. They will then begin calling you up one at a time and ask you some simple and perhaps silly questions. Just relax, be yourself and answer honestly and with energy. Then you will be asked to present either your monologue or your song (*be certain your presentations are appropriate for young ears!*) Please keep your monologue under 2 minutes in length and your song between 16-32 bars. Please be sure that your sheet music is marked with a starting and stopping point for the music director. You may consult with the music director briefly on your sheet music.

After this portion of the audition is complete, the Director will then have you join the choreographer in small groups and ask you to do a simple combination. Remember, the key to this is to have fun and commit to whatever it is you decide to do. People with heads drooped, hands in pockets and mumbling may be all the rage at the mall, but unless it is called for in the script or by the director, they have no place on stage.

You will be contacted on the evening of the final audition if there are to be callbacks. At callbacks, you may be asked to read scenes from the script and you will sing from the show's score. Remember, not everyone needs to be seen at callbacks, and not being called does not necessarily mean you have not been cast.

**If you are offered a part, please understand that by accepting the role, you are making a serious commitment to the FHT Youth Theater and your fellow cast members. You must be on time to rehearsals and performances, observe deadlines, and assist in making this production successful and fun both on stage and off.**

If, however, you have not heard from the theater within 72 hours after final auditions and callbacks, you have *not* been cast. If you are not cast, please do not take it personally. It is not a reflection upon you or your talents. You may simply have been the wrong type, age, range, etc. Chalk it up to experience (or the lack of intelligence, taste or just plain stupidity on the director's part) and be gracious and try again for the next one! We're looking forward to working with you. Break a leg!

## AUDITION DETAILS FOR “LITTLE WOMEN”

The play begins that memorable Christmas when Marmee leaves to visit her sick husband and Jo sells her beautiful hair to help finance the trip. It ends just a year later when the happy family is again preparing to celebrate not only Christmas but also the return of Mr. March. In between these two events, we again live, laugh, love and cry with Meg, Jo, Amy and Beth as they go through the many trials and tribulations that have made this story a classic.

### **Auditioners should prepare:**

- 1-2 minute age appropriate comedic monologue from a previously published work.
- Headshot and resume if available
- List of possible rehearsal conflicts from January 15 – March 6
- Audition form (included in this packet) and filled out
- Proof of vaccination

### **Casting for:**

#### **Ages 10-19:**

**MEG** 16 years old The oldest. Very neat and tidy

**JO** 15 years old. A tomboy and writer

**BETH** 14 years old. Shy and timid, sweet and peaceful.

**AMY** 12 years old. She has a very strong self-image and is always conscious of her appearance.

**MRS MARCH (MARMEE)** Their Mother

**AUNT MARCH** Their outspoken Aunt

**HANNAH** The family servant

**SALLIE MOFFATT** A friend

**AUNT CAROLL** The timid aunt

# Rehearsal Schedule

A tentative rehearsal schedule is included in this packet. Rehearsal dates and times are subject to change.

On your audition sheets, please mark down any conflicts your child might have between the dates of January 15th and the closing performance day on March 6th.

Rehearsals are typically Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays 6pm to 9pm, Saturdays 10am to 3pm, and Sundays 12pm to -3pm. Monday evenings will always be listed as TBD and will be called if extra rehearsals are necessary. **Be sure to mark down conflicts for these days as well.** Please be aware that we appreciate 100% participation for tech week February 19<sup>th</sup> through 24<sup>th</sup>, plus all performance dates.

## COVID Info

Because our actors will be performing indoors and in close proximity, we are requiring that each actor is vaccinated against COVID-19 before the first rehearsal on January 15th. They will also be required to wear masks during rehearsals at all times and wear face shields during performances, both onstage and off. Cast members will be required to be tested 1x a week, as well as temperature checked at the start of each rehearsal. (Free test kits are presently available through Fountain Hills Library or free testing is available through the school.) The audience will be required to be masked while indoors at all times as well. The safety of our young performers and our community is our number-one priority, and we greatly appreciate your understanding. Proof of vaccination will be required to be presented at auditions.

\*PLEASE NOTE COVID PROTOCOL REQUIREMENTS ARE BEING RE EVALUATED CONSTANTLY! WE WILL KEEP ALL INFORMED IF ANYTHING CHANGES!.

## Production Fees

If cast, your child will be receiving over 110 hours of professional direction from trained, industry professionals. Please be advised that if your child is cast in this show, there is a production fee of \$100.00 per participant which includes a show t-shirt and a flash drive of production photos. Parents are also required to volunteer for 10 hours (or opt-out fee \$100). Scholarships and additional volunteer options available. NO ONE will be denied participation based on ability to pay. Fountain Hills Theater is a 501(c)(3) organization. All gifts are tax deductible. The Theater is 100% funded by ticket sales and donations. Ticket sales alone do not cover operating expenses. For more information about donating or volunteering, please call 480.837.9661 x3 or read here.

# January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 5:45PM AUDITION LITTLE WOMEN	11 5:45PM AUDITION	12 5:45PM AUDITION	13	14	15 10-12 PM READ THRU LITTLE WOMEN
16 12-3PM TBA	17 <i>MLK DAY</i>	18 6-9PM TBA	19 6-9PM TBA	20 6-9PM TBA	21	22 10AM-3PM TBA
23 12-3PM TBA	24	25 6-9PM TBA	26 6-9PM TBA	27 6-9PM TBA	28 <i>MAINSTAGE OPENS GREASE</i>	29 10AM-3PM TBA
30 12-3PM TBA	31					

# February 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6-9PM TBA	2 6-9PM TBA	3 6-9PM TBA	4	5 10AM-3PM TBA
6 12-3PM TBA	7	8 6-9PM TBA	9 6-9PM TBA	10 6-9PM TBA	11	12 10AM-3PM TBA
13 12-3PM TBA	14	15 6-9PM TBA	16 6-9PM TBA	17 6-9PM TBA	18	19 10AM-12- DRY TECH (NO ACTORS) 12:30-4 WET TECH (ALL)
20 12-4PM FINAL TECH	21 5:30-? FIRST DRESS NO HAIR AND MAKEUP  <i>PRESIDENTS DAY</i>	22 5:30-? SECOND DRESS ADD HAIR AND MAKEUP	23 5:30-? FINAL DRESS	24 5:30 CALL- 7PM CURTAIN PREVIEW	25 <i>LITTLE WOMEN OPENING NIGHT 5:30 Call 7pm Curtain</i>	26 <i>LITTLE WOMEN PERFORMANCE 5:30 Call 7pm Curtain</i>
27 <i>LITTLE WOMEN PERFORMANCE 12:30 Call 2pm Curtain</i>	28					

# March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 <i>LITTLE WOMEN PERFORMANCE 5:30 Call 7pm Curtain</i>	5 <i>LITTLE WOMEN PERFORMANCE 5:30 Call 7pm Curtain</i>
6 <i>LITTLE WOMEN CLOSING PERFORMANCE 12:30 Call 2pm Curtain</i>	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



# Audition Form

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Show: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Email(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB(month/day/year) \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in the following roles: \_\_\_\_\_

I will accept any role: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Vocal range: Soprano \_\_\_\_\_ Mezzo \_\_\_\_\_ Alto \_\_\_\_\_ Tenor \_\_\_\_\_ Baritone \_\_\_\_\_ Bass \_\_\_\_\_

Theatrical experience (*resume attached* \_\_\_\_\_)

Production	Role	Theater

*(Parents and Auditioners!)* I would like to help with:

Costumes: \_\_\_ Props: \_\_\_ Set Construction: \_\_\_ Painting: \_\_\_ Lights: \_\_\_ Sound: \_\_\_  
Sound/Projection Design: \_\_\_ Publicity: \_\_\_ Fundraising: \_\_\_ Make-up: \_\_\_ Stage crew: \_\_\_  
Also add me to your volunteer database for the above choices: \_\_\_

Conflicts: list any conflicts you have with the rehearsal schedule.

*I understand that by accepting a part in an FHT youth production, I am making a commitment to be on time to all scheduled rehearsals and performances, including any tentatively scheduled performances and school day performances. I understand that FHYT does not understudy or double cast, and that school day performances will require a day off from school.*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Parents: please be advised that if your child is cast in this show, there is a production fee of \$100.00 per participant which includes a show t-shirt and a flash drive of production photos. Parents are also required to volunteer for 10 hours (or opt-out fee \$100). Scholarships and additional volunteer options available. No one will be denied participation based on ability to pay.**

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## FHT YOUTH THEATER AUDITION TIPS

So you want to audition? Here are a few tips to help make that process a little easier for you and for us!

If you received an audition notice, it probably said 5:45PM. This is to give you time to do a final check of the rehearsal schedule and make sure your audition sheet is complete and accurate. If you heard about the auditions from a friend who says auditions are at 6PM, bear in mind that arriving on the hour does not allow us to start on time. Try to be at the theater 10 to 15 minutes early so that you have plenty of time to get everything done.

Fill out your audition form as neatly and accurately as possible, especially phone numbers and emails for both parents and auditioners! We use email and phone to keep in touch, so we like to have that information already available when we are making out the cast and crew list. If we cannot read your form, we cannot call you! And we know you are hoping for that call!

Dress comfortably, but neatly. No short shorts, mini-skirts, revealing shirts, high-heeled shoes, sandals, flip-flops, or overly baggy clothing. We are not looking at your fashion sense, so make sure you are comfortable, put together, and able to move freely if there is a dance audition. You will not be able to dance in flip-flops and we do not allow you to be barefoot on the stage. If you have dance shoes you may bring them along. It can be just as hard to show off your footwork ability in big heavy running shoes as in flip-flops.

No Gum! That is a big theater no-no! You should also not arrive bearing fast food or sodas. Bottled water is fine, but we do not allow that food or soda in the theater, so it is best to leave that for later or take care of it before you enter the lobby!

Make sure you are truthful about conflicts. We understand that everyone has a few conflicts from time to time, but it is important that you are available for most rehearsals and available for scheduled stumble-through, run-through and technical/dress rehearsals as well as every single performance. We do not double cast or understudy, so we are depending on you. If you realize that you will not be able to do the show, you are still welcome to audition. It is a great experience and we are happy to watch you! We would appreciate it if you would mark your audition sheet "Conflicts prevent me from being able to do this show, so please do not consider me for casting".

If you are interested in working backstage or in the tech booth, please indicate that on your audition sheet. You may audition for a part, but you can also let us know that if you are not cast you would like to be considered for technical work. If you would like to be considered for tech only, please come in to fill out an audition sheet and mark as "Tech only". You still need to be prepared to list conflicts, since we do require techs to be at run-throughs, all tech/dress rehearsals and all performances. We also welcome any volunteers for a myriad of other necessary projects such as set construction, painting, costume assistance, etc., which can be covered by parents as well as youth.

Be sure to check the list of characters for the show so you may note what role you would like to audition for. Unless you will only accept a role for a specific character or characters, please write "ANY" in the space provided. If you list only a specific character or two, we will not consider you for another part, and you may miss out on an opportunity to be cast.

Turn your completed sheet in to the producer or other theater volunteer, along with your picture and your resumè. It is important to bring a picture if at all possible. We do not require professional headshot; a recent school picture is perfectly fine. If you have not appeared in any productions in the past, please mark "NONE" in the area provided. If you have appeared in productions in the past, you may list them, but if you have a reasonable amount of theatrical experience, it is a good idea to have a resumè. This would

include your past productions, the character you played, the venue in which you performed, and you should also include any special classes, technical work you have done and special skills (i.e. roller skating, accents, juggling, tap dancing, etc.). Take the time to create your resumé! It makes it easier on you and easier on the theater for which you are auditioning.

If you are auditioning for a musical, please have your music ready. Your sheet music should be in the appropriate key and the measures you will be starting and stopping marked. If you will be using an electronic karaoke track, be sure it is queued to the appropriate start. Pick your song wisely. We think Britney Spears is very cool, but we would rather hear something from a stage production. Pick a song that shows off your voice, that you are comfortable singing, is theater friendly and age appropriate, and is preferably not from the show you are auditioning for.

Monologues: All auditions require a monologue. It should be no more than 2 minutes in length, been previously published, and be age appropriate (this is a G-rated “youth” theater). There are plenty of age appropriate monologues available in books, through your theater classes, and online. This is your chance to so keep your head up and project. If you need a chair for your monologue, we will have one available. If your story requires you to move about the stage, you are welcome to do so. Just make your movements purposeful... have a reason for the movement! Make sure that you are performing your piece for the casting staff. Memorize and practice! We know all about those pesky nerves and it is okay if you get stuck and need to start over. We want you to have the best audition you can.

All auditioners will sit together, as a group, front and center of the theater. Parents are permitted to watch the auditions except when a director decides to “close” or hold individual auditions. If parents are permitted, they will be asked to take a seat off to the side. Videotaping and photographing of auditions is not permitted. We appreciate parents might be concerned and try to assist their auditioner with prompting or special comments to the casting staff, but we prefer that you let them fly on their own. Rehearsals will be closed, and if your child is cast, you will not be able to assist them through rehearsals. This is an opportunity for them to grow as an individual. We appreciate your cooperation with this!

Please do not bring along friends unless they are planning to audition also. If you are a youth planning to audition on the next scheduled date, you are not permitted to be in the theater to observe the first day/night of auditions. Please come only on the day/night you plan to audition.

If you are not cast, this does not mean that you did not have a good audition. Many considerations go into casting and sometimes there just may not be a good fit for that show. We do 5 shows each year, and we encourage you to come back! We will let you know, at the end of auditions, when you may expect a call. We do not call the auditioners who were not cast. If you have not received a call, please do not call the theater office or the director to find out if you were cast. We absolutely promise that we will try every number possible, more than once, and leave messages. Remember to fill out the audition form accurately and return our messages, because if we cannot reach you for your acceptance, we will have to drop you.

As a final tip, to both parents and youth, when you do get that all important call offering you a role in the play you have been dying to get into, please do not ask the producer about other auditioners or casting. Please also do not post your casting on social media. We prefer that auditioners hear about casting decision from us rather than a friend’s social media post. The theater will post a cast announcement on Facebook and the website. You will learn who your castmates are soon enough, especially when you meet everyone at the read-through!

See you at auditions, and may you “break a leg!”