

STUDENTS ON STAGE

2019-20 Information Package

Program Goals:

The Sudbury Theatre Centre is proud of the *Students on Stage Program* which began in 2003.

The program is intended to provide students with an opportunity to grow and to provide a more in-depth theatre education beyond the Saturday Youth Drama/Vocal classes.

This unique program moves toward a product of a final performance, but process is where the emphasis lies. The rehearsal space is a place to take risks, experiment, build self-confidence and develop skills in personal relationships and team-work.

This program includes theatre training in acting, voice, and movement. Students will also have the opportunity to learn about the many interesting elements that contribute to a theatrical production including costuming, set and props, lighting and sound, and backstage work.

The success of the program is the result of the skill and dedication of a collaborative team of teachers, theatre professionals and volunteers. The support of STC personnel has been a huge factor in the development of the program.

The program expects students to behave in a professional manner and show respect for the professional environment.

Overview:

The program is open to students from Grades 5 to 12. Between 20 and 25 students are accepted into the program following an audition process. Auditions will be held in late September. Students wishing to audition for the program should have had some previous theatrical experience, in the community, at school or in drama classes. (see pages 2-3 for more information about the audition process)

The program runs from the first weekend of February 2020 to the first weekend of June 2020. This includes two rehearsals per week for 15 weeks, followed by a week of technical rehearsals. If rehearsals have to be cancelled due to bad weather or other unforeseen circumstances, make-up rehearsals will be arranged, or other rehearsals will be extended. A week of technical rehearsals, invited dress rehearsal, six to eight matinees for schools and four public performances are all mandatory components of the program. (see more details on page 4) A complete list of all rehearsal and performance dates will be provided to all approved participants at the first rehearsal.

Answers to some *Frequently Asked Questions* about the SOS program can be found on pages 5-6.

For more information about *Students on Stage* and other STC educational programs, please visit our website at www.sudburytheatre.com or contact the STC DiBrina Box Office at 705 674 8381 x 21.

We are looking forward to another fun and engaging season of *Students on Stage!*

Ralph McIntosh
Director of Education
Phone 705 674 8381 x 27
Email education@sudburytheatre.ca

AUDITIONS

How to Register:

Entrance to the Students on Stage program is by audition only.

To book an audition time, students/parents must contact the STC box office at 705.674.8381 x 21

Information required: Student's name & age / Parent's name, email & phone number

Audition Dates and Times:

Auditions will be held at the Sudbury Theatre Centre on **Sunday, September 29, from 5 to 8 pm.**
(If required, additional auditions will be scheduled on Monday, September 30, from 4 to 8 pm.)

*Students cannot simply show up on either date – they must pre-book a scheduled audition time.

*If these two dates prove impossible for a student to audition, they may submit their contact information to the box office and ask to be placed on a waiting list for an alternate audition date.

The following information will be provided by email to those who sign up for an audition:

- a) Audition date and time
- b) Audition information package, including how to prepare for the audition, rehearsal schedule, performance dates, frequently asked questions, etc.
- c) Two SOS application forms: Student Registration form and Student Information form

Please complete the **Student Registration Form and Student Information Form** and bring them with you to your audition

Both of these forms are also available on our website www.sudburytheatre.com/students-on-stage/

Audition Process:

Students should arrive 20 minutes ahead of their scheduled audition time.

Auditions are held in groups of 6-8 students of similar ages, and last approximately 50 minutes.

Students must complete the Audition forms beforehand, and bring them to their scheduled audition.

(1-2 volunteers will be in the lobby to greet students and ensure that their forms are complete. We will have extra forms on hand just in case.)

Parents will have the opportunity to learn more about the program in the lobby when the students are in their audition. A member of the SOS production team will be available to answer questions.

Preparing for your Audition:

- Come prepared to have FUN!
- Wear comfortable clothing that allows you to move around, sit or lie on the floor, etc.

- *Students are asked to prepare a very short passage of text from the script (see next page). They are also encouraged to prepare one verse or chorus of any song of their choosing.*
- The audition will also include a brief group warm-up and some movement and group improvisation exercises.

Audition Panel:

The audition panel usually consists of 2-4 production team members and/or STC staff (e.g., SOS Directors, STC Artistic Director, etc.).

Notification of Audition Results:

Students will be notified by email by **Friday October 11** regarding whether they have been accepted into the program or not.

Successful candidates are required to attend a full cast meeting on Monday November 18 from 5pm to 7:30pm. More details about this meeting will be provided by Friday November 15.

AUDITION MONOLOGUES

- **Please prepare one of the following monologues for your audition.** Memorization is encouraged but not necessary, and it is perfectly fine to have your monologue with you while you audition. We are most interested in seeing you have fun and use your imagination!
- **You are also encouraged to prepare a verse or chorus from any song of your choice,** as we may have some opportunities for solo singing in our show. If this is of interest to you we would love to hear you sing!

Prepare either Stepsister role – one of the directors will read the other part for you.

GRIZELDA How about the prince's tall squire? He's very handsome. I wouldn't mind being caught on a dark night by him.

ESMIRELDA Don't be ridiculous, Grizelda, why you're so short, the first time you tried to kiss him you would have to stand on a box.

GRIZELDA (to the audience) Hey, who told you you could laugh? No-one laughs at us without permission.

ESMIRELDA (joining her) And don't you forget it, you old windbags. You know the difference between a pantomime audience and a cow with laryngitis, don't you?

GRIZELDA Yes, one boos madly and the other moos badly!

ESMIRELDA Hey, Grizelda, there's a boy down there still laughing at us. Right there, do you see Him?

GRIZELDA What, that really ugly one there on the end of the row?

ESMIRELDA No, you idiot, that's Mary's mum.

GRIZELDA Really? I never knew she had a beard.

ESMIRELDA No, the one...1..2..3 from the left...Oh, I'll show you. Just a minute.

OR Prepare this monologue

Producer: (Panicked.) Okay, what's it going to be? We can stand here and point fingers, call each other names and go home losers. Or we can remember why we're here. We are all here for love. Love of theater. Love of the art. And love of each other. We are artists. We live on a higher plane and set a higher example. We support and love each other. That's why there are so many production romances and celebrity divorces. We are all bonded by this experience. And it's our duty to let our love shine like a beacon to the rest of the world. So everyone can live in peace and harmony. I, for one, am ready to save humanity. Who's with me?

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

- There are six hours of rehearsals per week, beginning on Sunday, February 2, 2020.
 - Rehearsals are on Sunday and Monday evenings from 5pm to 8pm.
 - A complete rehearsal schedule will be provided at the first rehearsal.
 - Rehearsals will not be held on the following dates:
Sunday February 16 (Family Day weekend), Sunday March 15 and Monday March 16 (first weekend of March Break), Sunday March 22, Sunday April 12 and Monday April 13 (Easter weekend) and Sunday May 17 (Victoria Day weekend).
 - If we lose a rehearsal due to inclement weather, we will make up the lost time by extending the time of other rehearsals.
- Extra rehearsals will be required during the week leading up to the first performance.
 - Daily rehearsals will be held Monday, May 18 to Friday, May 22, from 5pm – 9pm
 - There will be a full day dress rehearsal on Saturday, May 23, starting at 10 am

PERFORMANCES

There will be six to eight matinees for school audiences, and three to four public performances.

- School Matinees: Monday, May 25 to Thursday, May 28
Two shows per day - 9:30 am & 12:15 pm
*We may add an afternoon matinee on Friday May 29
- Public Performances:
 - 1) Friday, May 29 @ 7 pm
 - 2) Saturday, May 30 @ 2 pm
 - 3) Saturday, May 30 @ 7 pm
 - 4) Sunday, May 31 @ 2 pm

*The number of matinees will depend on the number of booking requests from the schools. Students will be required to be absent from school on all scheduled matinee dates.

REGISTRATION FEE

- **The course fee is \$300 (includes HST) or \$280 for children of STC subscribers.**
*Students who are registered in other STC programs (e.g., Saturday drama or vocal classes) also receive the \$20 discount on their SOS registration fee (\$280).
- *A non-refundable deposit of \$50 is due within two weeks of acceptance into the program (by Friday, October 25, 2019).*
- The balance of the course fee is due no later than the first rehearsal on Sunday, February 2.
- Students requiring some financial assistance may apply for a Student Bursary. Application forms are available from the STC Box Office.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Will every child who auditions get a part?

Only 20 - 25 students are accepted into the program.

When will students find out if they are in the program?

You will be notified by email or by phone approx. two weeks after the audition dates.

Will all the students get lots of stage time, even if they have just a few lines?

YES. This is an ensemble program and every student is an important part of our performance. Each child will have a speaking role as well as other performing opportunities such as movement and music. Please help us in reinforcing that the number of lines a performer has does not indicate how important and rewarding their role will be.

How many adults will be working with my child?

3 adults (two directors, a vocal director, and one or more other volunteer as required) will work with the students throughout the rehearsal process. A team of 4-6 additional adults provide support with the technical aspects of the production over the final two months.

Can the students bring food to their rehearsals?

Dinner breaks are not long enough for students to leave the building to buy their food. Students are encouraged to bring a snack or bag lunch. Please, nothing messy or with **nuts**.

What clothing is required for rehearsal?

Comfortable clothing so that the student can move easily and work on the floor if necessary. Hair is to be off the face for rehearsals (this applies to boys as well as girls)

BLACK Jazz or ballet shoes are required at each rehearsal.

*Please put the student's name in their shoes.

Jazz or ballet shoes may usually be found at Value Village, at JUMP on the Kingsway, or at Stage and Street on Elgin Street. Some dance studios may have second-hand shoes.

Can the student leave the jazz/ballet shoes at the theatre?

Sorry, no. We have no storage facilities for the shoes.

Do I have to buy a costume for my child?

The students, the costume team and parent-volunteers all contribute to the costumes. Students and parents will be asked to provide basic clothing items to wear underneath costumes such as: T-shirts, long sleeved T-shirts, leotards/body suits, leggings/sweat pants, tights, and/or socks.

Confirmation of any required costume pieces will be given prior to the beginning of May to allow students and parents sufficient time to organize and find any needed items.

The black jazz or ballet shoes are needed for all rehearsals.

My child is in high school. How will their participation affect their end-of-term exams?

The production should not interfere with high school exams or end-of-term projects – their final performance is scheduled two full weeks before the June exams begin.

What do I do if my child has a class trip or is on a school sports team?

The commitment to this course is HUGE. Just as members of a sports team understand that they cannot let their teammates down, so the student actors must realize that they are an integral part of the production and **should not miss, arrive late or leave a rehearsal early.**

What do I do if my child is sick and cannot attend rehearsal?

Send an email to studentsonstage@sudburytheatre.ca as soon as possible that day. If the student's condition improves by the end of the day and they are well enough to attend rehearsal, please send another email to let us know that they are coming.

What do I do in the case of snow / icy conditions, or if schools are closed on a Monday?

If the weather is bad or if school is cancelled because of snow/ice, SOS rehearsal is usually cancelled that day as well. Sometimes, the weather/driving conditions improve sufficiently as the day progresses to make it feasible to go ahead with the regularly scheduled rehearsal.

An official confirmation about that day's rehearsal will be sent out via group email by 12 noon.

Are there rehearsals on holiday weekends and the March Break?

A schedule listing all rehearsal and performance dates will be provided. Sunday rehearsals are cancelled on holiday weekends, but some of the Monday evening rehearsals will proceed as usual – please check the schedule carefully.

Am I able to watch rehearsals and classes?

Sorry, parents are not permitted to attend rehearsals or to come backstage at show time.

If I can't watch classes, how do I know what is going on?

Each student is asked to bring a 3-ring binder for their script. They will also be given notes throughout the course which will keep you informed about the course and other details. This binder must be brought to every rehearsal. Group emails will be sent periodically to give updates on any necessary rehearsal changes or other important information.

Are parents involved in the show in any way?

Parents may be invited to help with costumes and props, and other areas of the production. More details will be provided at the Parents' Meeting at the end of the November meeting.

What are the Student Bursaries?

The Koivu Student Bursary program provides financial assistance to help reduce registration fees. A limited number of bursaries are available for eligible students, based on need. Bursaries are generally awarded for 50% of a program's tuition, but in cases of exceptional need full bursaries may be available.

- If the parent/guardian wishes to apply for a Student Bursary for this program, contact Ralph McIntosh, Director of Education, for a copy of the Application Form.
- Please fill out the form and return it to the STC no later than Friday, October 25th (the date that the non-refundable deposit is due).

Any other questions?

Please contact Ralph McIntosh, Director of Education, at education@sudburytheatre.ca or by phone at 705 674 8381 x 27.