

HASTINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL
DRAMA CLUB
presents



Parent Handbook & Audition Packet

*Parents, carefully read through all of the
audition information with your child!*

All students should join the “Freaky Friday” Schoology group!

1. *Login to Schoology*
2. *Click “Groups”*
3. *Click “Join”*
4. *Enter the Code: TMNWG-6QHW7*

***Return signed Audition Form to
Mr. Monseur by Wednesday, December 5**

Freaky Friday

Parent Handbook and Audition Packet

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PARENT LETTER INTRODUCTION

November 19, 2018

INTRODUCTION

Your son or daughter is interested in participating in this year's Hastings musical **Freaky Friday** to be performed on **March 1-3, 2019**. This show provides a great opportunity for all interested students to work together, regardless of experience or grade level! It also is a big undertaking, and we need to know that the students who choose to participate will be able to commit to the time and attention required. Please read through this handbook and do not hesitate to contact Mr. Monseur (dmonseur@uaschools.org) if you have any questions.

AUDITION FORM

Please help your child fill in the attached audition form accurately. After you have completed and signed the form, return it to Mr. Monseur no later than **Wednesday, December 5th**. Preferences for tryout dates will be honored in the order received. The directors will assign tryout times and post them on the bulletin board outside Mr. Monseur's room.

Tryouts will be held on Monday, December 10, Tuesday, December 11 with callbacks on Wednesday, December 12th. Callbacks are only for roles that are still in question. Those not called back may already be cast!

TRYOUT INFORMATION

Students should prepare one of the attached monologues and a short song from the attached song choices. An optional practice to learn the music will be held on **Tuesday, December 4th (3:30-5:00)** in the choir room.

Once the musical is cast all actors will receive a rehearsal schedule. We will do our best to work around known student conflicts. **All actors will be expected to attend all assigned rehearsals.**

PARTICIPATION FEE

All students (cast/crew) are required to pay a \$30 participation fee. This fee helps defray some of the production costs (supplies, royalty rights...). Scholarships are available. *No student will be excluded from participation due to inability to pay.* Participation Fees will be paid through the district's online EZ-Pay system.

PARENT MEETING

There will be a mandatory parent meeting on **Tuesday, December 18th** at 7:00pm in Mr. Monseur's classroom (122). At least one parent/guardian **MUST** attend this meeting. At this time we will confirm accurate contact information and answer any questions you may have.

PARENT COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Because of the large number of students involved and the many different needs to create a successful production, all parents are expected to serve on at least one of the Drama Production committees.

Head Production Committee Chair
Costumes
Publicity
Ticketing
Set Crew
Props

Cast Needs
Concessions
Makeup
Strike Crew
Cast Party

COMMUNICATION THROUGH SCHOOLOGY

Prior to auditions, students must add themselves to the “Freaky Friday” Schoology group. Access Code: *TMNWG-6QHW7*

Production information will be transmitted/posted via Schoology. Parents also will be able to access the page and receive updates and schedules. Personal communication with staff should be made via email.

IMPORTANT DATES

Prior to Auditions	Join “Freaky Friday” Schoology Group (Code: <i>TMNWG-6QHW7</i>)
Tues. Dec. 4	Optional “Audition Music Practice” – choir room (3:30-5:00)
Wed. Dec. 5	Completed & signed <i>Audition Form</i> returned to Mr. Monseur
Mon. Dec. 10	Auditions begin at 3:45pm (choir room)
Tues. Dec. 11	Auditions begin at 3:45pm (choir room)
Wed. Dec. 12	Callback auditions 3:45pm (choir room)
Mon. Dec. 17	First Cast Meeting! – ALL CAST (receive scripts & music) 3:30-5:00
Tues. Dec. 18	Mandatory Parent Meeting in Mr. Monseur’s room/7:00pm
Fri. Jan. 28	Last day to turn in Participation Fee (\$30)
Mon. Feb. 18	Students bring personal laundry basket with name on it
Mon. Feb. 18	All-day rehearsal-TBA (Presidents Day-no school/lunch provided)
Feb. 24-28	TECH WEEK-Mandatory rehearsals until 7:00pm/ NO EXCEPTIONS
Fri. March 1	Show #1 – 7:30pm
Sat. March 2	Show #2 – 7:30pm
Sun. March 3	Show #3 – 2:30pm
Sun. March 3	Stage Strike/Cast Party (following final performance)

DIRECTORS' CONTACT INFORMATION

David Monseur	dmonseur@uaschools.org	Advisor/Music Director
Jodi Stechschulte “Steck”,	jodisteck@gmail.com	Stage Director
Lynda Guenther	guenther76@aol.com	Technical Director

MAKING THE COMMITMENT

Participating in the musical requires the same commitment and dedication that playing on the school's sports teams requires. Just as students need to attend sports practices to learn to work together as a successful team, they need to attend rehearsals together to create a successful production! Rehearsal time is precious and the drama staff works hard to plan rehearsals that will maximize the students' use of time.

Parent communication and involvement are essential! Without the support of parents, the musical could not happen! The directors are committed to constructing a rehearsal schedule that makes the best use of the students' time while being sensitive to the children's personal lives and academic responsibilities.

We also rely on *your* help in planning and scheduling with our rehearsal schedule in mind. When possible, please help us by scheduling appointments/lessons which do not interfere with pre-planned rehearsals. Should conflicts arise, please notify Mr. Monseur or Mrs. Stechschulte as soon as possible. It is very difficult to re-stage or re-teach choreography when cast members are missing. Students who miss rehearsals may need to be removed from those scenes/songs in the production.

Parents, because of the many needs, we need adult help in numerous areas. ***Parents are expected to serve on at least one committee. The required parent meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 18th at 7:00pm in the choir room.*** Please mark this important date now!

The dedication of the students, staff, and parents working together makes the Hastings Drama program a special place to be - a place where *all* students are welcome; and where all students are encouraged to explore and create through the performing arts. Regardless of grade level or experience, kids build lasting friendships and create life-long memories. We hope that students and parents know and understand what is needed to make a commitment to participating in the musical.

We are looking forward to an incredible experience!

Hastings Drama Staff

WHAT TO EXPECT

Auditions (December)

Students should read this audition packet with a parent and turn in a signed audition form **by Wed. Dec. 5th**. Students will be assigned to an audition group and present their prepared monologue and song in front of both directors and students. Once all students in the audition group have finished, they are welcome to leave. If necessary, students may be asked to return to “Call-Back Auditions” on Wed. Dec. 12th. *Do not worry if you do not make callbacks!* Often, students are not called back because they already have been cast!

Rehearsals (January – February)

At the beginning of the rehearsal process, the directors will work with groups of students, depending on the cast list. Tuesday is designated as **All Cast Members**, when everyone is required to be at practice. Rehearsals usually run from 3:30-5:30pm, Monday through Thursday. *We do not rehearse on Ski-Club Fridays!* Some cast members do not need to be at every rehearsal! Most cast members usually are expected to be at rehearsals 2 or 3 days each week in January. Saturday morning rehearsals occasionally are scheduled (approximately 9:00-12:00) By late January/early February, the rehearsal pace accelerates, with students expected to be at rehearsals 3-4 days each week. Once Ski Club has ended, Friday rehearsals begin.

Tech Week (Feb. 24-38)

“Tech Week” is the final week leading up to the performances. February 24 to 28. This is when all of the pieces of the show come together. Students should plan on being in rehearsal until 7:00pm. **All students MUST attend every rehearsal during Tech Week. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Costumes

1. All students bring in a laundry basket, labeled with their names, to keep all of their costumes/props on **Monday, Feb. 18 “Costume Parade Day”**.
2. Please put their names in **EVERY COSTUME PIECE!**
3. Most characters will be responsible for providing their own costumes. Because some costume pieces will need to be ordered, additional fees may be incurred (*this is separate from the Participation Fee*).

AUDITION INFORMATION

Optional Practice Before Auditions!

Students are encouraged to attend an optional practice on **Tuesday, December 4th (3:30-5:00pm)** in the choir room. We will learn/sing through all of the songs and answer any questions you might have about the auditions. Our goal is to help you prepare as much as possible!

Preparing for Your Audition

All students auditioning for *Freaky Friday* will need to present a monologue and sing a short song.

Once you have turned in your signed permission form, you will be placed in an audition group (usually around 15-20 people). You will present your monologue and song in front of your audition group.

Directions

1. Choose 1 of the monologues and 1 of the songs to memorize and present.
2. You are NOT auditioning for a specific part.
3. Say your first and last name loudly and clearly.
4. Tell us your grade.
5. Tell us which monologue and which song you've chosen.

Example: *"Hello, my name is John Smith. I'm a 7th grade student at Hastings Middle School and I'll be doing the monologue "Listmaster" and singing "Biology".*

Monologue Information

Your directors are looking for expression, creativity, preparedness, and a commanding speaking voice from the stage! Have fun with your monologue! Don't be afraid to try something different! The best way to prepare is to actually practice this **out loud** in a full voice! Pair up with a partner and present your monologues to each other! Practice out loud in front of your mom or dad! Video record yourself on your phone and watch for ways to improve!

All the monologues involve one character talking to another. It is appropriate to pause for their missing comments and let us see your reaction to them.

About the Show

When an ultra-organized mother and her spontaneous teenage daughter magically swap bodies, they have just one day to put things right. Masquerading as each other, they must work together to solve the mystery of how to break the spell. By spending a day in each other's shoes, Katherine and Ellie come to appreciate one another in a way they never could have imagined. In the end, both learn the true power of love and the strength of the bond between a mother and daughter in this heartfelt and hilarious adaptation of the new Disney movie.

GIRLS MONOLOGUES

(choose one of the four)

“TONIGHT” - Katherine

(Katherine, mother of Ellie and Fletcher, professional caterer, engaged to Mike. Ellie has just asked permission to go to the Hunt, an all night school event, instead of attending her mom’s rehearsal dinner.)

Tonight? As in the rehearsal dinner night? *That* tonight? Oh no. I know about the Hunt. Kids stay up all night taking pictures of themselves doing crazy things all over the city. It scares me to death. Honey, tonight is the rehearsal dinner and *Down the Aisle* magazine is going to be here. I need to show them that it is really possible to “Design Your Own Wedding”. And I want the whole family rested for the big day tomorrow. The answer is no. No. Sorry.

“COVER STORY” - Katherine

(Katherine explaining to Ellie why it is important for her to stay home and convincingly portray her mother today)

Ellie, I took out a second mortgage on our house to grow my catering business. A cover story from a major wedding magazine will make or break me. If this story happens, it would mean more publicity, more business, more clients -- yay! If this story doesn’t happen...? We could lose our house. I didn’t tell you because I didn’t want you to worry. I swear we will get that hourglass and switch back today. But until we do -- I need you to stay here and be me.

“MISS SCHOOL” - Ellie

(Ellie, Katherine’s daughter, is a high school sophomore and typical teenage girl not getting along with her mother)

Mom, I can’t miss school! If I have one more unexcused absence, I’ll fail tenth grade. We both have to be at a mandatory parent-teacher conference today. Did I forget to mention that? There is no way you can handle a day at my school! You don’t know how to talk! You don’t know how to act! You’re going to be weird and people will think I’m weird and it will last forever! Please don’t embarrass me!

“QUEEN OF THE HUNT” - Savannah

(Savannah, the mean girl)

Someone said you said you thought you could win the Hunt. You! Win the Hunt?!! Not a chance! You won’t because I’m going to win. I got this! I’m queen of the Hunt. You’re green, you’re a grunt. You’ll lose girl, if you choose to refuse to see you shouldn’t begin with a war you can’t win ‘cause I’m smarter than sin, and I’ve got perfect skin! I never fail. No, I always prevail. Just ask Harvard and Yale.

BOYS MONOLOGUES

(choose one of the three)

“LISTMASTER” - Adam

(Adam is a cool high school student. He likes Ellie and the sandwiches her mom makes for her lunch)

Hey, Ell, what sandwich did you bring today? Ham and brie? *(Grabs it and takes a bite. Talks with mouth full.)* So you prepped for the Hunt? *(swallows)* The Hunt is epic! Y’know, my brother was pretty much the school’s legendary Listmaster until he graduated. So...now that I’m the Listmaster, I feel some pressure to live up to his hype. And I really wanna make the Hunt super community-building... bring people together. Y’know?

“APOLOGY” - Mike

(Mike is Katherine’s fiancé, Katharine is apologizing for how the day before their wedding has gone including the hurtful things Ellie has said to him.)

You owe me an apology for today? Well, I was warned. You told me if you catered our wedding you’d be a crazy person. I didn’t know how crazy but -- No, you don’t need to apologize for Ellie. I don’t want to speak out of school, Katie, but... You’re too hard on her. Ellie can be mad. It’s okay. She lost her dad. I could never replace him. And I wouldn’t try. I need Ellie to accept me on her terms.

“MAGIC” - Fletcher

(Fletcher is Ellie’s little brother who’s naive and obsessed with magic. Fletcher is running away from home, sitting at the bus stop when Adam comes by.)

Hey. You go to Pinewood Falls? That’s where my sister goes. Do you know Ellie Blake?... She hates me... She called me a weirdo.... I don’t think she meant it as a compliment. It sure didn’t sound like it. Anyway, I’m going to Hollywood, Me and Presto. I’m going to be a magician. Want to see some magic?

AUDITION SONG INFORMATION

Join the “Freaky Friday” Schoology group (Code: TMNWG-6QHW7)

Reminder! Optional practice before auditions is Tues. Dec. 4th!

All students auditioning for *Freaky Friday* will need to:

1. Enroll yourself in the *Freaky Friday* Schoology group page.
2. Listen and practice with the recordings on Schoology. (found under “Resources”)
3. Sing a short section from one of the required songs for your audition.
4. You may be asked to sing short patterns so the directors can hear your vocal range.

SONG CHOICES

(song clips are found on the *Freaky Friday* Schoology group page)

1. Go (Boys or Girls)
2. I Got This (Girls)
3. Just One Day (Boys or Girls)
4. Oh, Biology (Boys or Girls)
5. Watch Your Back (Boys or Girls)

GO

(Boys or Girls audition song)

Pop $\text{♩} = 153$

4

Go where you nev - er thought ____ you'd go.____

7

Go way ____ too far ____

where the thing you have to find

10

— can be found.____

Go there ____

Go there and be

14

where you are,____

be where you are!

(PAGE 13 – Audition Song “Go”)

I GOT THIS

(Girls audition song)

Samba $\text{♩} = 100$

3

I got this. Yes, I

7

got this, I'll be bright and de-mure, act right 'til I'm sure they've

11

bought this. I'll show you. No, no-bod-y will know it's not

16

you. Leave it to me 'cause how hard can it be? When I've

19

got my de-gree and such es-prit, I got this. Soon you'll see.

(PAGE 14 – Audition Song “I Got This”)

JUST ONE DAY

(Boys or Girls audition song)

Bright $\text{♩} = 156$

4

4

Just one day, ____ that's all ____ we get, 'til the

7

vows, the Hunt, the sto - ry. ____ Just one day, ____ sun - rise, ____ sun - set. Then that

11

night in all ____ it's glo - ry. ____ Just say the word and we'll be on our

14

way, on our way _____ for one stress-ful, bus - y,

18

anx - ious, high - stakes, do or die, cra - zy

21

day! _____

(PAGE 15 – Audition Song “Just One Day”)

OH, BIOLOGY

(Boys or Girls audition song)

Pop $\text{♩} = 122$

4



Oh, bi - ol - o - gy, look what you've done to me. My heart is

8



in a pan, my brain is out to sea. Oh, bi - ol - o - gy, why won't you

11



let me be? Please help me if you can. Please hear my pain - ful plea, bi -

14



ol - o - gy, _____ bi - ol - o - gy, _____ bi - ol - o - gy, _____

(PAGE 16 – Audition Song “Oh, Biology”)

WATCH YOUR BACK

(Boys or Girls audition song)

Soul $\text{♩} = 108$

4

Watch your back! Bet-ter watch your back! (ooh) With a

7

look o - ver __ your shoul - der, with a look back down the track. To

9

run with wolves now, ba - by, you got - ta please the pack. — Bet-ter

12

run like heck. Save your neck. Bet-ter watch your back.

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(PAGE 18 - Keep this page)

Freaky Friday Audition Form

Aud. # _____

GENERAL INFO

Name _____ Grade _____ Height _____

Parent Email _____ Parent Phone _____

Parent Email _____ Parent Phone _____

(PRINT clearly – be sure to tell the difference between “1” and “L”)

T-Shirt Size (adult sizes, please circle)

XS S M L XL

Please list any dietary restrictions _____

AUDITION INFO

Preferred Audition Date Monday, December 10 (starting at 3:45pm)

Tuesday, December 11 (starting at 3:45pm)

No preference

(We will do our best to schedule you on your preferred date! The sooner you turn in your form, the better your chance to audition on the day you want!)

SCHEDULES/CONFLICTS

Are you in a school sport? Yes _____ No _____ If so, what is the sport? _____

Are you in Ski Club? Yes _____ No _____

Can you rehearse after school (3:30-5:30)? **Check Yes or NO for every single day.**

Monday Yes _____ No _____ Thursday Yes _____ No _____

Tuesday Yes _____ No _____ Friday Yes _____ No _____

Wednesday Yes _____ No _____

Can you rehearse on Saturday morning? (9:00-noon) Yes _____ No _____

Please list conflicts! We will do our best to work around conflicts listed on the audition form. Unlisted or multiple conflicts may require a student to be removed from some scenes.

More information on the back

(PAGE 19 - RETURN THIS SIGNED FORM TO MR. MONSEUR BY DEC. 5)

THEATER EXPERIENCE (Please list any theatre/stage experience)**DANCE/GYMNASTICS EXPERIENCE** (Please list any dance/gymnastics experience)**PARTICIPATION FEE**

All students (cast/crew) are required to pay a \$30 participation fee through EZ Pay. This fee helps defray some of the production costs (supplies, royalty rights, guest musicians). Scholarships are available. Fees are due by January 31. Scholarships are available and no student will be excluded from participation due to inability to pay.

PARENT INFORMATION

Thank you for supporting your child's interest in the Hastings drama program! Your directors understand and value the importance of time and the commitment required to produce exceptional staged productions. Rehearsal information will be made available soon after the musical has been cast. It is important that you have that information and we can expect students to be at rehearsals when they are required.

A mandatory parent meeting will be held on **Tues. Dec. 18, 2018**. It is important that a parent/guardian attend this meeting.

Tech Week is February 24-28th . Rehearsals may run as late as 7:00pm. **All students are expected to be at every rehearsal for the full duration during Tech Week. No exceptions.**

Please sign/date this audition form to acknowledge receiving this information.

Parent/guardian signature

Date

QUESTIONS? Email Mr. Monseur at: Dmonseur@uaschools.org

DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Preparedness_____

Energy_____

Stage Presence

Projection_____