

Welcome Parents and *Lion, Witch & Wardrobe* Cast!

We are so excited to have your student spend the next 7 weeks with us bringing our first non-musical Springboard production to life on stage!

“This dramatization of C.S. Lewis' classic work faithfully recreates the magic and mystery of Aslan, the great lion, his struggle with the White Witch, and the adventures of four children who inadvertently wander from an old wardrobe into the exciting, never-to-be-forgotten Narnia. The intense action features chases, duels and escapes as the witch is determined to keep Narnia in her possession and to end the reign of Aslan. All the memorable episodes from the story are represented in this exciting dramatization: the temptation of Edmund by the witch, the slaying of the evil wolf by Peter, the witnessing of Aslan's resurrection by Susan and Lucy, the crowing of the four new rulers of Narnia, and more. The supporting characters are also here: the unicorn, the centaur and other forest animals, along with Father Christmas, Mr. and Mrs. Beaver and Tumnus the Faun. This story of love, faith, courage and giving, with its triumph of good over evil, is a true celebration of life.”

Our show will be mounted fairly quickly, with rehearsals meeting on Mondays from 4:00pm-7:00pm for the next seven weeks. Rehearsal and practice time outside of group rehearsals is expected.

Communication:

Email is our primary form of communication. Please make sure we have the correct email on file for you and that our emails aren't being sent to your Junk Folder.

Tuition:

Tuition is \$200 including a \$25 non-refundable deposit due upon registration. This deposit will be counted towards tuition. The deposit ensures that all students who enroll are planning on doing the show and not just holding a spot. It is very difficult, once the show is cast and costumed, when students withdraw - please make sure if you have registered you plan to participate! If a student withdraws after the show has been cast and rehearsals have started, no tuition refund will be offered. This will accommodate for the extra time our team will have to invest in restructuring the show.

****Auditions:** Please read very carefully!**

When: Saturday, December 28th, 2024 from 9:00am-1:00pm: **
(This is not a rehearsal! Only those auditioning need to attend.)

Where: CenterStage Performing Arts Academy**

250 Hancock Street Gallatin, TN 37066

Students do not need to audition to be a cast member in *The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe*. The director and production team work hard to make sure each student is featured in the performance. However, if students are interested in a speaking role they must audition. Only students who are registered for *The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe* may audition.

Audition Signup:

A Sign Up Genius should be located in the bed of the Welcome email you received. Please review the available Sign Up Genius slots in your Welcome email and click on the button to sign up. Include your name and what character you are auditioning for in your sign up. Signups are divided into 30 minute blocks with 5 available slots in each block. Students should only sign up for one block.

(9:00am - 9:30am, 9:30am - 10:00am, 10:00am - 10:30am, 10:30am - 11:00am, 11:00am - 11:30am, 11:30am - 12:00pm, 12:00pm - 12:30pm, 12:30pm - 1:00pm). Up to 5 students will perform cold reads together during each 30 minute block. This will allow the production team to see how different students/characters interact together.

What to expect on the audition day:

Students will perform cold reads from the script. Sides (small scenes) will be provided 2 weeks prior to the audition. These sides do not need to be memorized but it is recommended that each student read and familiarize themselves with them prior to the audition. Be prepared to read for multiple characters.

Please let us know in your audition if you have dance, martial arts, fencing and/or stage combat experience.

When you arrive, please sign-in at the front desk and wait in the Purple Dance Studio for further instruction from one of our team members. Students should arrive 15 minutes before their audition time to make sure all forms are completed and costume measurements taken.

The first block of auditions will begin at 9:00am. When it is your turn to audition, a team member will direct you onto the Theater Stage for your audition.

Once you have completed your audition, you are free to go. Please do not linger in the Purple Dance Studio or the lobby after your audition. If you feel the need to socialize, please do so outside.

Unless your student lets you know they are ready to be picked up, please assume they will be with CenterStage until 1:00pm.

** If you are unable to attend the in-person auditions on Saturday, December 28th, the director must be notified in advance so that alternative arrangements can be made for you to audition on another day.

No video submissions will be accepted. In-person auditions let us know if you can handle the pressures of performing in front of a live audience. Please email Amanda McReynolds (LWW Director) at amanda@performcenterstage.com.

Casting:

The cast list will be released on Saturday, January 4th. We understand that students may have high hopes of achieving a specific role in this show. They are not alone, and competition is steep! Unkind social media posts or emails regarding CenterStage's casting, accusations of favoritism, or slander of another student will call for immediate dismissal from this show without a refund. We will not tolerate this type of behavior.

Rehearsal Schedule:

Where:

CenterStage Performing Arts Academy
250 Hancock Street Gallatin, TN 37066.

When:

Mondays: 4:00pm - 7:00pm (Rehearsals 1-6)

Please arrive by 3:45 PM to get water, use the restroom, and get shoes on.

Saturday, February 22nd: 10:00am - 12:00pm (Final Dress)

Please arrive by 9:30 AM in Costume & Makeup. **(Please bring a packed lunch.)**

January 6th: (1st Rehearsal)

January 13th: (2nd Rehearsal)

January 20th: (3rd Rehearsal)

January 27th: (4th Rehearsal)

February 3rd: (5th Rehearsal)

February 10th: (6th Rehearsal)

*February 17th: (7th Rehearsal. In Costume!)

February 22nd: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM *** Final Dress Rehearsal (Please bring a packed lunch.)

****Rehearsals are closed; if a parent chooses to wait for their student, the lobby is available.**

What to bring & what to wear:

Please make sure your performer comes ready to move. Students should wear dance or tennis shoes. *No flip flops.* Students can also wear dance attire or something they can move around in. *No visible midriffs. No low cut tops. No jeans.* Please bring a water bottle and multiple light snacks daily.

Practice Materials:

Scripts will be provided for each cast member. Cast members are encouraged to put their name inside the first page of their script. Scripts must be brought to each rehearsal along with a pencil for blocking notes.

Rehearsal videos will be uploaded weekly to our YouTube channel, CenterStage Performing Arts Academy. Additional resources will be uploaded in a Student Access Folder in Google Drive. Links to the resources will be provided in the rehearsal recap emails.

Rehearsal at home is crucial to the success of the show! We expect that as students go home each day, they will continue to practice and polish what they have learned. We will not have time to re-teach material.

Speaking Roles:

We will be sending out scene information one week prior to the rehearsal in which the student will need to know it. This is to ensure your student has plenty of time to feel confident about their lines! If the student doesn't know their lines on the day of the rehearsal we have listed, they will have one additional week to have them learned. The lines do not need to be perfect, but the student needs to show that they have rehearsed. If the student still doesn't know their lines after the one-week grace period, we reserve the right to give the role to another student.

Absences:

Because of how quickly the show is to be mounted, students are allowed to miss one rehearsal day, with the expectation they will make up their work at home. A student who misses multiple rehearsals or comes to rehearsal unprepared may be asked to sit out of some portions of the show and/or have any featured roles removed if the circumstance warrants.

Covid 19 Protocol:

- We recommend a heightened sense of awareness at home and ask that parents monitor temperatures and any symptoms before coming to rehearsal. If a student has any concerning symptoms or feels unwell, that student should stay home and rest. In many cases, this proactiveness is the best course of action
- While a student is recovering, CS directors and staff will do everything they can to make sure students stay learning and do not fall behind in their choreography. This could include Zooming them into rehearsals if directors know ahead of time
- Just as important as students' health and safety is their privacy. Under privacy laws, CenterStage is prohibited from disclosing personal health details of students or staff. If parents wish to disclose information with friends, that is a personal choice

Show Schedule:

Saturday, February 22nd: FIRST SHOW! Call time 1:00 PM

Doors open: 1:30 PM

Show Time: 2:00 PM

Saturday, February 22nd:, SECOND SHOW! Call time 5:00 PM

Doors open: 5:30 PM

Show Time: 6:00 PM

Sunday, February 23rd,THIRD SHOW! Call time 1:00 PM

Doors open: 1:30 PM

Show Time: 2:00 PM

Sunday, February 23rd, FOURTH SHOW! Call time 5:00 PM

Doors open: 5:30 PM

Show Time: 6:00 PM

***All Middle and High School students are expected to stay after the final show to strike and clean the theatre.**

Costumes & Makeup:

Most of the characters in this show are animals and/or fantasy creatures. We will create these characters with makeup, costumes and accessories that suggest to the audience what the character is.

For this show, once cast, students will be given a costume and makeup list they will need to purchase. This will help make our show cohesive and united! We anticipate this cost for costuming/makeup will be anywhere from \$25 - \$100.

A leotard must be worn under the costume for the ladies.

Compression shorts and an undershirt must be worn under the costume for the guys.

Snack Money:

During the show weekend, we ask students who have been given snack money or an allowance by their parents, to leave this in an envelope with a staff member at the soundboard or front desk. We have had students accidentally leave this money on seats or another student pick it up.

If a student is caught purposefully stealing from another cast member, they will be asked to leave the production and CenterStage permanently. CenterStage has a zero tolerance policy in this matter.

Parent and Volunteer Expectations:

“Front of House” operations during our show weekends rely heavily on our generous parent volunteers who run concessions, take tickets, and much more! We thank you for your contributions and know that your involvement helps strengthen the CenterStage culture. In order to continue providing top-quality performances, we want to help inform our parents on CenterStage’s offstage policies and expectations:

If you are prepping or helping your student on show weekends, please do this as quickly as possible and then find your seats to enjoy the show! At no point in time should anyone other than cast and crew be backstage while a performance is going on. If your student needs something from you, you can give it to a member of the staff and they can deliver it.

The backstage dressing and green room of a theatre is special and holds the same privacy as the locker rooms for a football team or the dugout for baseball – we prepare, deliver notes, and pump up our cast here. Our students are backstage enjoying this special time with their friends, preparing themselves, and getting into the performance mindset to put on an amazing show for their audience. Having people that aren’t cast or crew backstage not only hurts focus and concentration but can also cause students to be late or miss cues. If your student needs you, we will come find you!

If a parent is concerned about anything regarding their student’s ability to perform in their role, they should encourage the student to speak with the director or member of staff. This could include things like choreography, music, blocking, quick changes, etc... We are in our students’ corners and want nothing more than for them to have a wonderful experience and show. Receiving a communication from a parent, no matter the intent, escalates the situation. Oftentimes these concerns are best hashed out between performer and director. If it is a serious health or injury matter, then it is certainly appropriate for parents to reach out to staff. In these instances, please email us. This is the best way to get a hold of us. The team checks their emails several times an hour looking for such issues.

All parents must watch the show from a seat. Aisles and the wall at the back of the house is reserved for staff only. The soundboard often has staff running to communicate changes to staff backstage or performers mid show. When the pathway is not clear, it can inhibit our ability to communicate and negatively affect the production. Stage managers will be asking patrons to find a seat if they are standing.

Brendan Tramel, CenterStage's Office Manager, ensures that patrons have an easy and positive experience upon entering and exiting the building. She is over our front of house volunteers, which include ticketing and concessions. Brendan is highly regarded in this role by CenterStage leadership, and we ask that you extend her courtesy and trust in this very busy and demanding role.

During our rehearsal process, our students learn a phrase called "Make It Work," and it means just that. There are many times in live theatre that things don't go the way we expected them to, and in those moments, we smile, and figure out a way to do things.

We thank all of our volunteers for also having a "Make It Work" mentality, as well!

Behavior Policy:

CenterStage students are expected to conduct themselves professionally, kindly, and with humility towards all CS staff and cast members. CenterStage believes in teamwork and everyone is truly important to the success of a production. In that spirit, our staff goes out of its way to never show favoritism, casting is always subjective. We expect all students to abide by the expectations stated above without exception. The production team and (ultimately) the director(s) have the final say on all aspects of a production. This includes changing staging, assignment of solos, or the order and content of the show.

When addressing a student's behavior, CenterStage will always have at least two staff members present and hold the conversation behind closed doors or in private. Directors usually give a student two - three opportunities to correct their behavior before bringing in the parent for a meeting. If the behavior is unsafe or of an urgent nature, the directors will act quickly and request a meeting with the parent and student.

Regarding parents, and all other concerned friends and family, we always welcome comments whether it be a "thank you", comment, critique or concern. It is truly our desire to create the best production possible with the most favorable experience for every performer. We understand everybody wants their student to be "the star" front and center. We hope you all realize this is an impossible task from a director's stand point. It is important that all involved understand the mammoth job every production is. Once rehearsals start, all staff are living, eating and breathing the work at hand, normally working very long hours with very little sleep. We use the talent available to perform the show as written, often making changes to choreography, song length, lyrics, etc. to create the best effect for every number in the show.

If your student is part of the CenterStage Family, we assume that you trust our staff to make these judgment decisions without outside influence.

Noting the points above, we respectfully ask that all commentary be submitted in writing after the last performance. We will not have time to read, address and respond to your communication until possibly a week after the production has ended. We continue to "fine tune" the show throughout the performance schedule and often correct your concern as the schedule proceeds.

Unless it is an absolute emergency (the director has final say on what an emergency is) requests for meetings will not be addressed until the week after the run of the show.

***Tickets:**

Tickets go on sale Saturday, February 10th at 1:00 PM at performcenterstage.eventbrite.com.

***Ticket Prices:**

- \$11 for adults
- \$9 kids aged ten and under
- \$9 for seniors 65+
- \$9 for active military (thank you for your service)
- \$0 kids aged 4 and under (must sit on a lap)

Purchasing tickets online:

- using a computer, you are able to select your assigned seat
- using a cell phone or tablet, you will automatically be assigned the best available seats
- you will also be able to pre-order your DVD and/or poster at check-out
- tickets purchased together will be seated together
- tickets will be emailed to you
- you do not need to wait in line to purchase tickets, or enter the theater on show day
- ticket availability is guaranteed
- tickets will have an additional surcharge of around \$2 per ticket

Purchasing tickets at the door (available at CenterStage, 1 hour before the show begins):

- tickets can be purchased with cash or credit card
- you will not be able to select your assigned seat.
- All tickets purchased at the door will automatically be assigned the best available seat
- you will need to order your DVD and/or posters for your student at the information table before/ after the show or during intermission
- if you are attending the show with others who purchased tickets ahead of time, you will not be able to sit together
- ticket availability is not guaranteed
- tickets will have an additional surcharge of \$1
- if purchased with credit card there will be a \$0.30-\$0.80 charge added to your order (not per ticket)

If you do not purchase tickets before the show day, we cannot guarantee availability.

If you need assistance purchasing tickets, please stop by the front desk during regular business hours or email info@performcenterstage.com.

All tickets purchased ahead of time, either online or in person will be subject to the surcharge.

Refunds:

No refunds will be issued the day of the show. Please organize payment and attendance with your party ahead of time. Tickets cannot be transferred from seat to seat or show to show. You will need to request a refund and note the seat you would like to refund.