

ELF, JR! GENERAL CASTING INFORMATION

The Process: Our goal is to provide your children with the tools necessary to participate in an ensemble, and have a fantastic time learning and growing in this group process. We strive to give as much stage time to every child as possible and encourage them to be part of an ensemble group no matter what character they are cast to play.

Casting: When casting your child, we take many things into consideration including their audition, ability, and work ethic.

Auditioning: We base the majority of our casting choices on the audition of your child. We encourage them to give the best audition that they can by being prepared, showing character work and researching the musical or play.

Child's Ability: Some students may or may not be ready for certain parts in the show. We ask that you trust our experienced instructors and staff to place your child in a part that will encourage him or her to grow as an artist, and at the same time minimize feelings of anxiety or fear.

Hard Work: Hard work is critical regardless of the role. Nothing is more exciting than seeing a student work hard and give 100% in rehearsal and to the show.

Rotation of parts: Some students may have a leading role in one session and/or an ensemble role in another.

No part is too big or too small: Encourage your children to be enthusiastic about their roles, and please discourage them from counting their lines. We are sensitive to the fact that some "lead" parts are bigger than "ensemble" roles, but children who participate in the ensemble often have more stage time than the leads do! During the rehearsal process, many ensemble players are assigned solos or are featured in dance numbers. Please encourage your child to see ensemble roles in this way. It takes an ensemble to make a show; everyone's role is essential.

Disappointment: If your child is unhappy with their role, we ask you, as parents, to be as supportive as you can. When a child doesn't get the role he or she wanted, it is natural to feel some initial disappointment. Please re-read the advice in the first paragraph with your child, and understand that disappointment most often turns to delight when your child realizes how important their role is to the production.