

## Joining Riverfront Theatre Company

Have you seen a show? Are you interested in being part of something this cool?

Riverfront Theatre Company Inc. is a charitable organization for youth of Windsor and Essex County. The 2023-2024 school year will be our 20th season.

We provide theatrical training and performance experience to the youth of Windsor and Essex County in a annual program that runs throughout the school year, through the generous support of our sponsors and our community, with the help of an all-volunteer staff, at no charge to the participating families.

We have two levels of actors. The Juniors, ages 6-10, rehearse from 10 a.m. to noon every Saturday, for a show that is customarily presented to friends and family at a smaller venue without official ticket sales, to accustom them to performance in a kindlier environment. After their December production, the Juniors have a hiatus, returning to rehearsals after March Break, for half-days on Saturdays, joining the rest of the company in rehearsal for a full-company spring production taking place in May. Juniors will perform in TWO of the three shows of our 20th Season.

**\*\*NOTE:** ONE Junior will be required for our January production; that student will be required for full-day attendance throughout the entire season.

Our Seniors, ages 11-18, rehearse every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. They are guaranteed roles in 2 of the 3 shows being put on in our 20th season. Some of them will be required to play adult roles in our Christmas production. Those students are unlikely to be cast in the January production. They may, however, have larger roles in our musical at the end of May.

All seniors are expected to perform in our musical, at the end of May.

Our Christmas production, **The Velveteen Rabbit**, will not have a regular full week of tech week. There will be one dress rehearsal on the Friday evening (December 15th); the show itself will occur on two matinees, December 16th and 17th. (Note: Our production of The Velveteen Rabbit will be a straight play with music - mainly Christmas carols).

Both the January and May shows require the students to miss two days each of school for our Friday morning school performances. They each have a two week run, with a tech week of evening rehearsals at the theatre, going into the performances.

Our January production, **A Wrinkle in Time**, therefore, will have tech week January 15-18th, with performances January 19-21 and 26-27. (Note: our production of A Wrinkle in Time will be a straight play, not a musical.)

Our May production (full-company musical) will have tech week May 13-16th, with performances May 17-19 and May 24-26th. (Our May production will be a musical - this show will be announced once the contract with the licensing agency is finalised.)

Tech week rehearsals are customarily 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday in tech week, with performances starting the Friday morning. Attendance for all of the tech rehearsals is MANDATORY. Every student registered in the Company is assured of getting a part in at least two shows this season.

Auditions will be held after registration is complete. **First year students with Riverfront are not permitted to audition for lead roles.** Primarily for this reason, we do not accept grade 12 students for first time registration.

Students are required to agree to accept any part for which they are cast. Students withdrawing from the program after casting will not be re-admitted to the Company in subsequent years, unless extenuating circumstances require individual consideration. It ought generally to be understood that students who have proven their reliability in attendance and performance are more likely to be assigned substantial roles than newcomers or those with a history of attendance or performance issues. Riverfront Theatre Company is a major commitment. Our students' faithful attendance and participation makes or breaks a show. This is, in every way, a team effort, and the team will not succeed without full participation of the individuals.

There is no fee to register at Riverfront – some small costs apply for the purchase (or replacement!) of scripts, optional t-shirts and sweatshirts, and dance shoes appropriate for the stage. Families are expected to participate in fundraising activities (such as a car wash, our annual Bowlathon Trivia Fundraisers, and so on), to assist us in spreading the word looking for sponsorship and advertising partners, to help promote and distribute information about the plays, and to volunteer some time in supporting the Company, as well as, obviously, attending our performances.

We try to provide opportunities for students (and family members) to assist with costuming, prop construction, set construction and painting. Prior to committing to join the Company, every family must consider their ability to commit the time and effort required, and whether their schedule permits regular attendance at rehearsals and UNFAILING attendance at all performances.

It's important to consider that this might mean missing birthday parties, losing Saturdays off, giving up sporting events, and consulting closely and well in advance with your directors for essential absences, so that rehearsals may be planned around them. Repeated absences may result in the loss of all or part of a role. Registered families must also sign a photo/video release, and agree to our code of conduct.

Community Service hours are not granted to our high school students for either rehearsals or performances, though they may be earned at our fundraising activities, or participation on costume teams or other such assistance.

For updates and more information, please visit our Facebook page, or our website at <http://www.RiverfrontTheatreCompany.com>