



Audition Packet

Thank you for your interest in auditions for the upcoming SHJHS/SMS Production of Annie.
Auditions are Thursday, August 17-Saturday August 19 (see flyer)

AUDITIONS

- PLEASE ARRIVE NO LATER THAN 3:45. Doors will open at 3:30. 4:00-5:00 is the required dance portion. Please wear comfortable clothing that does not limit movement. Individual auditions will take place after the dance auditions. You will sign up for an audition slot when you arrive prior to the group dance audition. To protect the integrity and free expression of the actors, auditions and callbacks will be closed to all except the person (or group of dancers during the dance portion) auditioning, the production staff, and an Executive Board member. On the day of your audition, you may wish to bring a snack and something to keep you occupied, as you may have to wait depending on your audition time.
- You may audition for more than one role but you must attend BOTH days of auditions depending on the roles. For instance, you may audition for Annie/Orphan on Thursday and the role of Grace on Friday, but you will need to prepare ALL materials from this packet for both of those characters.
- When you go in to your audition, loudly and clearly state your name and grade. Then you will sing the character's music along with a provided track and recite the character's monologue (found in packet) FROM MEMORY. The production staff may or may not ask to hear something again, and may or may not ask you questions about your production experience. Bring your packet and your completed audition form from your packet to your audition.
- If you are auditioning for ensemble but not a speaking role, you will still be required to dance and sing, but will not be required to recite a monologue. If you are nervous about singing, the staff will work with you during your audition. If you are auditioning to be an acrobat, you will still be required to dance.

CALLBACKS

- If you are not called back for a role, it does not necessarily mean you will not be cast, nor will all roles be required at callbacks. For the acting portion, you will be asked to do cold reads from the script with others who are called back. For the singing portion, you will sing the callback song for your character (in packet). You may be asked to try multiple songs if we are considering you for multiple roles. Callback songs are not required to be memorized..

CASTING and CAST LIST

- It is the job of the director and the production staff to decide who fits best in each role. The production staff will always try to cast a show in the best possible way for the overall quality of the show. Although disappointment in roles is inherent in the world of theatre, young actors must learn that theatre is a TEAM activity, and that the art of working on a show, no matter the role, is the entire point of participation. Casting a play is like putting together a puzzle – all the pieces must fit to make a good cast, and the production staff takes casting very seriously.

- Conflicts will affect casting. Please list ALL known conflicts on your audition form. If you participate in sports, please list your practice/game schedule to make sure you can attend theatre rehearsals. One absence affects EVERYONE, not just yourself. If the production staff feels that you have too many conflicts, you will not be cast, even if you are right for a role.
- The cast list will be posted on the SHJHS website and on Mrs. Prewitt's door by Monday, August 21. If you are cast, your role acceptance/actor contract is due to Mrs. Prewitt by Tuesday, August 22 at the end of the school day. Remember that if you turn down a role because you are unhappy in how you were cast, you will not be considered a team player and this will affect casting decisions in the future. If you need to turn down a role for other reasons, please arrange to speak with Mrs. Prewitt in person ASAP.

REHEARSALS

- Rehearsals for Annie will typically be Monday-Friday from 3:30-5:30 at either Holy Family Hall or the SHJ gym. Rehearsals will run longer and will include weekends as we get closer to show dates. Not everyone will be called for every rehearsal. Leading/supporting roles will be called to rehearsals more often than ensemble actors. As stated above, conflicts do affect casting, and unexcused absences will not be tolerated.
- If cast, your parents/guardians will be asked to help out. There are a variety of jobs that we need parent help for - productions take a village!
- Finally, there are necessary activity fees for anyone who is cast in the production. The fee helps defray royalties and production needs. Since Annie is a full-length production, costs have risen because of higher royalty fees. The participation fee for Annie is \$50 for one child, \$70 for families with two children cast, and \$90 for families with three or more children cast. Your participation fee will need to be paid online at the following link no later than Monday, August 28th:
- <https://annie-performance-fees.cheddarup.com>

READ-THROUGH

- All cast are expected to attend the first read-through on Tuesday, August 22nd from 3:30-5:30 in the SHJHS Cafeteria. **There will be a PARENT MEETING from 5:30- 6:00 to answer any questions you may have and to clarify procedures.** At least one parent or guardian MUST attend this meeting.

ROLES

ANNIE Annie is a complex, tough, streetwise urchin who is nevertheless vulnerable when she thinks she might lose what has become most important to her: a newfound “family” who loves her. She has to be motherly, independent, overwhelmed, needy, and hopeful for the future. The actor who plays Annie must be extremely strong vocally and musically. She must be capable of vocal projection without strain. Although she is at times aggressive or crafty, the audience should never doubt Annie is a friendly and caring person; she will go to any extent to gain the love of a family to which she can belong.

OLIVER “DADDY” WARBUCKS He must appear middle-aged, self-assured and confident. At first awkwardly affectionate toward Annie, he soon finds himself completely charmed by her. The student who plays Warbucks will need to be extremely focused throughout the show. His posture, walk and speech patterns are very important. Capable of showing emotional transformation and maturity. Warbucks is required to sing, although speak-singing is also possible with this role.

GRACE FARRELL Warbucks' assistant is classy, sophisticated and businesslike, mature, calm, cool and "together." She is classy and businesslike when dealing with Miss Hannigan and Warbucks, yet maternal toward Annie. The student playing Grace can set herself apart from the other characters simply by the sophisticated way she walks. Grace should seem ready with an answer for just about anything. Each dramatic situation should seem to come "under control" the moment she glides into a scene.

MISS HANNIGAN This woman is definitely a "has-been." Her distaste for her job and the children that are part of it should be obvious in every line she speaks, every song she sings and every move she makes. The student who plays her must have a very strong voice and an excellent sense of comic timing. The acrid delivery of her lines and the torch-like rendition of her songs must distinguish her from the other characters in the show.

LILY ST. REGIS Distracted airhead, a bit bumbling, girlfriend to Rooster.

ROOSTER HANNIGAN Flashy, self-assured, brother to Miss Hannigan. Con-man always looking for a quick buck.

ORPHANS These girls are gritty, neglected and vulnerable, yet basically honest and potentially lovable. The actors portraying them must be able to have mischievous fun with each other as well as "sibling-style" fights. Each student should be able to create and shape her own character. Need to have vocal strength and be visually expressive.

DUFFY The biggest orphan

JULY The quietest orphan

KATE (also Annie's understudy) The next-to-youngest orphan

MOLLY The littlest orphan

PEPPER The toughest orphan

TESSIE The crybaby orphan

DRAKE (BUTLER), MRS. GREER, MRS. PUGH, CECILLE, ANNETTE Attentive domestic help. Head is always held high; rarely shows emotions.

BERT HEALY The ultimate radio personality. Helps Annie by broadcasting about the search for her birth parents.

BOYLAN SISTERS These beautiful celebrities appear on the Bert Healy show and get to wear beautiful costumes! There may be anywhere from 3-6 sisters cast. Must be strong singers.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT The 32nd President of the United States. A Democrat and friend of Warbucks.

STAR TO BE Arrives in NYC fresh off the bus – must be a confident singer.

OTHER ROLES There are numerous other named roles in this show – Mr. Bundles and his assistant, Sophie and other Hoovervillians, Lt. Ward, Dog Catcher and his assistant, Chauffeur, FDR's staff, radio show staff, just to name a few. If you are cast in the ensemble, you may be eligible for one or more of these roles. Some ensemble cast members may play more than one role.

AUDITION FORM

Please fill in the information as accurately as possible in neat handwriting and bring this form to auditions with you.

Your Name (First & Last): _____ Grade: _____

Cell Number: _____ Email: _____

Age: _____ Height: _____ Weight: _____ Hair Color: _____

Are you willing to cut or color your hair? (Will not be required of most roles in this production)

Yes, both Cut Only Color Only Neither

List any specific roles you are interested in, in order of preference:

If you are not cast in a principal role, will you accept a role in the Ensemble? Yes No

Are you willing to understudy a principal role? Yes No

Vocal Range:

Soprano Alto Tenor Baritone Bass I don't know

Can you read music? Yes No

Would you be comfortable serving as a dance captain (leading dance rehearsals)? Yes No

Please list dates/times of any conflicts you have during rehearsal/performance time:

Previous Performance Experience (previous productions, characters you've played):

Dance Experience: list ANY and what type (tap, ballet, etc.)

Special Skills (acrobatics, juggling, instruments, etc.):

I understand that participating in auditions is a sign of my commitment to the production.

Signature: _____

ACTOR CONTRACT

If you are cast, this form is due to Mrs. Prewitt no later than August 22, 2017.

By signing this form, I _____, acknowledge and agree that:

Initial each box:

- _____ I will gracefully accept my role and will fulfill all of the necessary obligations through to completion.
- _____ I will bring homework or other silent activities to rehearsals.
- _____ I am available to attend all the rehearsals my character is called for. I will not leave early from any rehearsals unless approved by Mrs. Prewitt.
- _____ If I need to miss rehearsal for any reason, I will email Mrs. Prewitt as far in advance as possible.
- _____ I am able to perform in all performances. Performances are November 2-4
- _____ I am able to attend all Tech Week (show week) rehearsals at The NED.
- _____ I will come to rehearsal early and be prepared to rehearse, with my script and pencil. I will focus and follow directions.
- _____ I will have all of my required lines and music memorized by memorization deadline listed on the rehearsal schedule.
- _____ I will have a ride to and from all rehearsals and shows, and will arrange to be picked up on time.
- _____ I understand there are no small parts and that my joyful participation is important to a great show.
- _____ I understand that others depend on me, and I agree to put forward the positive effort required to make our performance great, and to be a good influence on younger cast members.
- _____ I will follow all school policies, as outlined in the school handbook.
- _____ I will treat all students and adults with respect and kindness, including those who are not involved in the production. I will not engage in bullying or other negative social behaviors.
- _____ I will stay on top of my class work and homework. **I will not use rehearsal or performances as an excuse for not completing homework.**
- _____ **I understand that failing to follow these policies may result in termination from the show or other appropriate actions as determined by directors, administration, or other school faculty.**

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____ T-Shirt Size: _____

Parent name(s) _____ Parent Signature: _____

Parent Phone Number: _____ Parent Email _____

Parent Notes to Production Staff:

AUDITION MATERIALS

If you are auditioning for a speaking role or for two different roles, please choose ONE of these monologues and perform it FROM MEMORY. The character for whom you read for will not determine the role in which you are cast. If you are auditioning for a specific role with two monologues listed, you may perform them both as long as they are MEMORIZED. For callbacks, you may be asked to read lines with other people. Additional callback materials will not need to be memorized.

Annie #1:

No.... no please! I don't want a new one. This locket, my Mom and Dad left it... when they left me at the Orphanage. And a note too. They're coming back for me. I know I'm real lucky, being here with you for Christmas. But... the one thing I want in all the world... (*crying*) is to find my mother and father. And to be like other kids, with folks of my own.

Annie #2:

(*the orphans are all woken up by Molly crying*) Pipe down, all of ya. Go back to sleep. It's all right, Molly. Annie's here. (*giving her a hanky*) Blow. It was only a dream honey. Now, you gotta go back to sleep. It's after three o'clock. Read you my note? Again? OK Molly, but only if you go back to sleep! (*reading note*) Please take good care of our little darling. Her name is Annie. She was born on October 28th, and we will be back to get her soon. (*reacting to others laughing*) All right –do you wanna sleep with your teeth inside your mouth or out?

The Dog Catcher:

You folks see any stray dogs run through here? There's been a report that a swarm of 'em are in the area..Some of 'em are pretty vicious I've been told. You folks had better clear the area until we can round 'em up and bring 'em to the pound.

Lt. Ward (Policeman):

Hey you, little girl.... Come over here. That dog there, haven't I seen him running around the neighborhood? Ain't he a stray? You say he's your dog? Hmmm. So what's his name? Sandy, huh? Okay. Let's see him answer to his name. Call him by his name and if he comes to ya - then maybe he is your dog. But the next time I want to see him with a leash and a license, understand?

Bert Healy:

Well, I see by the old clock on the wall that another of our Thursday-night get-togethers has gone by faster than you can say Oxydent! Yes, this is your old softie, Mrs. Healy's boy, Bert, saying - until next week, same time, same station! Bon soir, buenas noches, guten nacht, buona sera, and gosh, I almost forgot, - good night!

Pepper (an orphan):

Shut up Molly! Can't anybody get any sleep around here? Don't feel sorry for HER. We're the one's who aint getting any sleep! And quit telling me to pipe down. You're just beggin' for a black eye, pal!

Tessie (the crybaby orphan):

Oh my goodness! Oh my goodness!

Molly #1: (the youngest orphan)

Get up! Clean those floors! You'll stay up till this dump shiiiiines like the top of the Chrysler Building!

Molly #2: (*waking from a dream*) Mama! Mama! Mommy! (*sees Annie*) It was my Mama, Annie. We was ridin' on the ferry boat. And she was holdin' me up to see all the big ships. And then she was walkin' away, wavin'. And I couldn't find her no more. Any place. Gee, I dream about havin' a mother and father again. But you're lucky. You really got 'em!

Miss Hannigan: (*catching Annie as she is trying to leave the orphanage to run away*) Aha! Caught you! I hear ya, brat. I ALWAYS hear ya. Get up. Get up! Turn around. I said turn around. Now, what do you say? What... do... you... say? (pause) Rotten orphan. Your parents left you here. That was 1922; this is 1933. Now, for your shenanigans, you'll get down on your knobby little knees and clean this dump until it shines like the top of the Chrysler Building! (laughs cruelly) Now, get to work. Now! Why any kid would want to be an orphan, I'll never know.

Lily #1 (Rooster's girlfriend):

Hi, I'm Lily St. Regis from Jersey City. You know, like the hotel. I'm named after it! So you live in this dump? The city may foot your bill but this ain't exactly Buckingham Palace. (*she laughs*) Your pearls ain't even real. Rooster? I thought you said your big sis was livin' in Clover? She's living' in the skids!

Lily #2: (in disguise as Shirley Mudge - this is all a lie)

Honey, we're your Mom and Dad. You never knew it, dear, but you're Annie Mudge. We was sick and broke, honey, and didn't know which way to turn, and a man give us a chance to work on his farm up in Canada. But we couldn't bring along no baby. Oh, Annie, all the years I dreamed of holdin' you in my arms again. (*to her fake husband*) Ralph, look! Annie's wearin' the locket we left with her! Oh, thank God, Ralph, she's our Annie!

Rooster #1 (Miss Hannigan's conniving brother):

Sure enough. They finally let me out. This time some old geezer said I swindled him out of eleven hundred bucks??? Why did he say I swindled him out of eleven hundred bucks? Cuz.... (*with pride*), I swindled him out of eleven hundred bucks. But I'm not about to sit here while some crummy orphan is living in the lap of luxury and the two Hannigan kids have ended up on the skids. I got a plan.

Rooster #2: (in disguise as Ralph Mudge - this is all a lie)

(To Annie) We was sick and broke, honey, and didn't know which way to turn, and a man give us a chance to work on his farm up in Canada. But we couldn't bring along no baby. We loved you, Annie, but we had to leave you behind. We got in on the Greyhound this afternoon and went straight to the orphanage to fetch our Annie. And the lady there said our baby was up here.

Daddy Warbucks #1 (Annie's adoptive father):

Been away six weeks. Where is everybody? Oh hello, Grace! Ah... it's good to be home. I didn't like what I saw out there. Factories shut down. My factories shut down. You're darn tootin'. When I'm not makin' money nobody is. The flight wasn't too bad. Only took eleven hours and we had to land four times. Now, first thing's first. Has the painting arrived from Paris? Let me see it before they hang it. And any messages? Ahh...the president. I'll get back to him tomorrow. Anyone else? Grace, if you'll get your notebook and -- Who is that? The orphan? But... that's not a boy. Orphans are supposed to be boys.

Daddy Warbucks #2:

(to Annie) Annie, I was born into a very poor family and both of my parents died before I was ten. So I made a promise to myself - someday, one way or another, I was going to be rich. Very rich. But, I've lately realized something. No matter how much money you've got, if you have no one to share your life with, if you're alone, then you might as well be broke. I was in Tiffany's yesterday and picked this up for you. It's a silver locket, Annie. I noticed that old, broken one you always wear. I hope you like it, my dear.

Grace Farrell (Warbucks' Assistant) #1:

Good afternoon. ...Miss Hannigan? I'm Grace Farrell, private secretary to Oliver Warbucks. Mr. Warbucks has decided to invite an orphan to spend the Christmas holidays at his home. She should be friendly... intelligent... and cheerful. And oh! I almost forgot. Mr. Warbucks prefers red-headed children.

Grace #2: (she's been handling the search for Annie's parents) Drake, look at all these questionnaires. Do you realize that I've talked to 617 women who've claimed to be Annie's mother and 619 men who've said that they were her father. That makes...a lot of liars. Drake, I never realized that there were so many dishonest people on the island of Manhattan. They were all liars and fakes, after nothing but the \$50,000. None of them knew about the locket.

Drake/Pugh/Cecille/Annette (All house staff):

Good afternoon, Miss Farrell. Mr. Warbucks hasn't arrived yet, but we're expecting him any minute.

AUDITION MUSIC

Music links can be found on the SHJHS website with playable practice files. If you experience technical difficulty (we are about to release a new website!), you can also find and print the files at the bottom of this website: stevensonvocalmusic/weebly.com/annie.html

These are the same tracks you will be using at auditions. You do not need to memorize the entire song – only the segment. For help learning the songs, search YouTube for the cast recording.

All orphans and Annie will sing "Tomorrow"

Hannigan, Rooster, Lily will sing "Easy Street"

All other speaking roles and chorus can choose between "Easy Street OR "N.Y.C" for your audition song.

CALLBACK MUSIC

Callback music does not have to be memorized, although memorization is preferred. You will sing the following song segments listed for your called role:

Annie: "Tomorrow" and "Maybe"

Warbucks: "Something Was Missing" and "N.Y.C."

Grace: "I Think I'm Gonna Like It Here"

Orphans, Bert Healy, Boylan Sisters: "You're Never Fully Dressed"

Hannigan: "Little Girls" and "Easy Street"

Rooster and Lily: "Easy Street"

Roosevelt: "Tomorrow"

CONTACT MRS. PREWITT at 731-660-4774 x118 F YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.

