

Cornerstone Christian School
Proudly Presents



Disney THE LITTLE
MERMAID

November 6-9, 2024

Mae Wilson Theatre

Moose Jaw Cultural Centre

Disney's The Little Mermaid is presented through special arrangement with
Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIshows.com

**General Information & Audition
Package & Forms
For Grades 6-11 (in June 2024)
For Grades 7-12 (in September 2024)**

Production History

2024	Disney's The Little Mermaid
2023	Disney's High School Musical On Stage!
2022	Disney's Beauty and the Beast
2021	Seussical-The Musical
2020	Theatre Dark (COVID-19 Pandemic)
2019	Annie
2018	Disney's Newsies
2017	Disney's The Little Mermaid
2016	Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
2015	Disney's Mary Poppins
2014	Les Misérables-School Edition
2013	The Sound of Music
2012	Honk!
2011	Disney's Beauty and the Beast
2010	Willy Wonka
2009	Little Women
2008	Annie
2007	Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella
2006	Seussical The Musical
2005	Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
2004	Guys and Dolls
2003	Les Misérables-School Edition
2002	Anne of Green Gables
2001	Annie
2000	Coffee House
1999	The Sound of Music
1998	Anne of Green Gables
1997	Ants'hillvania

The musical theatre program at Cornerstone Christian School began because of the vision and passion of Principal Dr. George Falk in 1997. He was determined to give every student an opportunity to be involved in the performing arts through acting, music, and technical theatre. Dr. Falk emphasized the spirit of community through all-school involvement, skill development, self-improvement, service by one's gifts, and enjoyment through a commitment to excellence.

Between 1997 and 2001, the productions were presented in Hillcrest Church. The 2002 and 2003 shows were moved to the newly constructed Cornerstone Christian School gymnasium. The Mae Wilson Theatre in the Moose Jaw Cultural Centre opened in 2004 and has been "home" to Cornerstone's annual musical productions ever since. It's an honour to share our production with the community of Moose Jaw in such a beautiful facility!

The current adult production team endeavours to honour Dr. Falk's vision and memory by inviting elementary students to participate alongside high school students. Cornerstone students have the opportunity to be involved in ten musicals and six or more one-act plays during their school years. Cornerstone graduates have gone on to study film, acting, music, and dance. Some have gone on to work in television, advertising, professional stage management, and arts education while others continue to enjoy and contribute to the arts through participation in community theatre, churches, and schools.

Important Dates 2024 (subject to change)

June	Auditions for high school students registered to attend CCS in Fall 2024
Early September	Auditions for new students & rehearsals begin ☺
September & October	Rehearsals!! NOTE: We may have guests involved in this production; we will be working around the dates THEY are available. This means that there will be times other than the final weeks of production that students must be able to adjust commitments. We will do our best to get these dates out to you as early as we can.
October 10 & 11	These are the Thursday & Friday before Thanksgiving weekend. There likely will be rehearsals on these days, BUT there will NOT be any rehearsals on the Saturday, Sunday, or Monday.
October 17-Oct 31	Final 2 weeks of rehearsals at CCS Students must be able to clear ALL other commitments during this time (and through to the final performance) Note that we will not have rehearsals on Oct 31.
October 20 & 27 (tentative)	These are Sunday afternoon rehearsals. These are the ONLY rehearsals students will have with the orchestra.
Oct 30 or 31 (tentative as we need to figure out how to best work around the Food Drive & Halloween)	After school & evening-- move all production elements to the Mae Wilson Theatre; begin set up *Parent help required
November 1	Afternoon & evening —con't set up; all crew will be required ** Cast who wear mics will come in for mic training and sound check; time is yet to be determined
November 2 (tentative)	Technical Rehearsal Day 9:00am-9:00 pm (@ Mae Wilson Theatre) All cast & crew will be required; elementary cast & will have adjusted schedule
November 3	DAY OFF
November 4 & 5	Dress Rehearsals (schedules will be provided)
November 6-9	Performances (schedules will be provided)
November 9	Strike (take-down) all production elements and return to CCS following final performance *Parent help required (minimum of one parent per family member involved in show) **High school cast & crew required

A Note About Commitment:

Commitment and behavior expectations are **very high** for the cast and crew members of CCS Productions. Rehearsal times will vary and not all students will be required at all rehearsals. Consideration of the elementary students' ages will be given during the scheduling process. Please understand that commitment intensifies in October and November, and *we expect that no other commitments will conflict with students' availability for the final two weeks of rehearsals and production week.*

We will try to schedule around some consistent, regularly scheduled commitments of *students cast in lead or feature roles*, but we cannot work around every individual schedule. Nor can we work around every youth organization or activity or group in the city. Note that we avoid Friday nights (other than performance week), Wednesday nights, and a majority of Sundays. The earlier that we know a student's schedule—the better. Because we do try to work around some student schedules, our rehearsal period is long. If we were inflexible, we could cut rehearsal time; however, this would greatly limit the number of students who can be involved and negatively impact the quality of our productions. We want to ensure all students can participate in this unique program, so we do what we have to do.

We try to be as transparent as possible about the high level of commitment and time required. Parents, please do not plan major family vacations or events during the rehearsal period no matter what type of role your child may have been given. **Keep in mind that each time your child misses a rehearsal; this means extra rehearsals involving upwards of 75+ students will be needed.** We understand emergencies, but shopping trips and last-minute vacations are problematic. The directors have been approached with requests for time off due to things like “unexpected deals” on trips. Please don't put directors in this position. A good rule of thumb is to just not look for those deals during musical season!

There will likely be a 10-to-12-hour day for high school cast and crew on November 2. Crew will also have a long day on November 1. This is because we have limited time in the theatre performance space prior to the performances. Students who cannot handle this time requirement should not sign up. Similarly, parents who are not comfortable with this time requirement should not have their children participate. Again, we do our best to inform parents and students about expectations ahead of time to prevent questions and challenges in the midst of our busiest and most pressure-filled weeks.

The adult production team works hard to make the process of staging a show educational and fun for the students involved. We strive to run efficient, productive, and organized rehearsals. Sometimes things go awry, and we have to adjust on the spot—this usually happens only when students miss a rehearsal unexpectedly. There will be times when not every minute in a rehearsal is “fun” or entertaining to the students involved. There will be moments when lots of repetition is needed, or correction is given, or we have to spend a lot of time on one scene while others who are not in that scene have to wait. These are rehearsal “realities”, and these times are not always fun. We do have high (but not unreasonable) expectations for students. They can trust that our feedback is honest—both when they can do better and when they have wowed us!

General Scheduling Information:

Below is an example of when rehearsals typically are held. Note that rehearsals may extend to 9:00 or 9:30 pm in the evenings and to 3:30 pm on Saturdays once we are in the final two weeks before production. Typically, not all cast/crew members are required at every rehearsal. Specific characters or groups will be listed on the schedule and only those listed will need to attend. However, students with lead roles will attend multiple rehearsals over the course of a week.

Rehearsal Schedule Sample:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
*2 Sundays will require students	3:30-5:00 6:30-8:30/ 9:00/9:30	3:30-5:00 6:30-8:30/ 9:00/9:30	3:30-5:00	3:30-5:00 6:30-8:30/ 9:00/9:30	12:45-3:00	10:00-12:00 12:30-2:30/ 3:00 /3:30

*Usually, no rehearsals are scheduled on Sundays. The exceptions happen towards the end of the rehearsal process when we need to work with the orchestra which is made up of members of the larger Moose Jaw community. There are usually 2 Sunday afternoons dedicated to this (*typically the final two Sundays in October*).

The schedule is updated and posted as the rehearsal process unfolds. Generally, the schedule is updated on the weekend in preparation for the upcoming week, based on the progress made. Schedules are communicated in the following ways: posted on the musical bulletin board outside of the chapel, in the weekly email from Mrs. Benallick, in the private Facebook group (**CCSMJ Musicals & Drama Productions**) <https://www.facebook.com/groups/175611489513748/> , and on Instagram @ccsmjproductions . Parents/students are strongly advised to join these social media platforms to stay up to date on scheduling and other important information.

Costume calls will be happening outside of rehearsal time. Some will happen before rehearsal, after rehearsal or at a time when a student is not in a rehearsal. Weekly schedules will be posted on the CCS Musical Facebook page, @ccsmjproductions on Instagram, and on the school musical bulletin board.

Crew building/painting schedules may coincide with general rehearsal times, but sometimes may happen during different blocks of time (for example, after school instead of in the evening or visa versa). Crew schedules will also be posted in the same places.

High School Audition Information
Students who are in Grades 6-11 in June 2024
Students who will be in Grades 7-12 in September 2024

All students who audition **will** be in the cast of **The Little Mermaid**; however, not all students will have featured roles or solos. *It is expected that all students who audition will remain in the production no matter what role they receive.*

1. Please sign up for a single slot on one of the days. Students may audition with a partner by signing up for 2 adjacent (side-by-side) slots.
2. Become familiar with the script & song selections included in the audition package. You will be required to perform during your audition. Remember that you need to ACT (move, emote, tell a story) through the songs. If you are not familiar with the music, you should be able to find the songs on YouTube, iTunes, etc.
 - a. Memorization is not required for students who have had speaking or solo parts in **previous** CCS musicals.
 - b. If this is your first CCS musical or if you've never had a speaking or solo part, **try** to memorize.
3. Be prepared that you may be asked to sing additional songs and/or do scales during your audition.
4. Come to your audition early! Try not to be nervous. If you are, no worries! Just remember that this is the hardest part of being in the musical. **Do not let your fear of the audition stop you** from being in the show. Your directors 100% understand and are there to support you!
5. Be sure to complete the audition information sheet and the cast/crew contract. Have your parent/guardian sign the permission form & parent participation agreement. Bring these papers to your audition.
6. Join our private Facebook Group (CCSMJ Musicals & Drama Productions) to stay up to date!

Important Information:

- Through participation in our fall musical program, students are taught that each performance is an opportunity to bring characters to life, share a story with the audience, inspire and entertain the audience, and ultimately do their very best and give glory to God.
- Students involved must be able to follow instructions, not be a distraction to others, and consistently demonstrate responsible and obedient behavior. Inability to meet these criteria may result in the directors determining that a student is not ready to participate in the musical.
- Commitment expectations are to the same level of expectation as senior sports involvement (100+ hours of rehearsals/performances) for students with lead roles. Remember that participation is completely voluntary. If a student cannot commit at this level, then he/she should not participate.
- Not every student is required at every rehearsal; however, commitment intensifies in October, and we expect that no other commitments will conflict with students' availability during the final two weeks of rehearsal and performance week.
- Parents/students may be required to provide some costume pieces, shoes, stockings, etc.
- All cast members (male & female) will wear stage make-up and the costume they are provided. This is non-negotiable.
- All casting/crew position decisions will be made at the directors' sole discretion.

CCS Casting Philosophy

***Applies to the assigning of crew positions in addition to casting**

The casting of roles is part of the reality of putting on a theatre production. Please trust our production team to make the best decisions for the students involved and the show as a whole. From time-to-time students or parents may be unhappy with the assignment of roles. We understand how much this experience means to our students and parents; however, not everyone can or will receive a feature or lead role.

Theatre is about community and in the spirit of community we take an ensemble approach. Every cast member is important to the finished piece. This does not mean that every cast member will have the same number of lines or features in a show. For us, theatre is about the process of working together as a team to put on an amazing show and the individual journey students will go on to be a part of something they (and their parents) can be so proud of. If a student's or parent's goal is for stardom, then this is definitely not the program for you.

Casting is done by our team and takes many things into account including (but not limited to): age, experience, maturity, vocal range, acting ability, physical size, schedules, past commitment to CCS productions, and behavior during previous productions. Each decision is difficult for our team. We must do what is best for the production as a whole. We always work to cast the student with the best combination of skills that fit the role, in a role he/she can handle. Therefore, directors' casting decisions are final and will not be discussed with students or parents

Through participation in our fall musical program, students are taught that each performance is an opportunity to bring characters to life, share a story with the audience, inspire and entertain the audience, and ultimately do their very best and give glory to God.

We hope this helps you understand our casting process and hope you will support us in the difficult task of casting. Most importantly we want everyone to have fun and we applaud your efforts for coming out and auditioning!

FORMS.... FABULOUS FORMS!

The following forms need to be completed, detached from this package, and handed in during auditions:

1. Parent-partnership agreement
2. Permission and awareness form
3. High school contract
4. High school audition information sheet

Individual casting decisions will not be made until all forms are returned.

Parent Partnership Agreement

To be completed by Parents/Guardians of cast & crew

Parent involvement is crucial to the success of Cornerstone Productions!

I understand that my commitment and service will:

- ✓ Reduce production costs
- ✓ Increase community amongst CCS families, students, and staff
- ✓ Assist & support the directors and other production staff volunteers
- ✓ Be an expression of my family's commitment to CCS productions

As a parent/guardian of a student involved in the cast &/or crew of *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, I will:

1. Buy tickets, attend the production, and promote it among my family & friends!
2. Ensure that my child attends rehearsals.
3. Do my best to assist with move-in and set up at the theatre and/or take down & return of production elements to CCS after the final performance. If involvement in set up or strike is not possible, donations are accepted to offset costs associated with the production.
4. **Sign up to assist with** (check all that interest you):
 - Costuming (one or more of: cutting, sewing, mending, fitting, ironing, washing, etc.)
 - Set construction &/or prop making
 - Set painting
 - Set up at the Mae Wilson Theatre
 - Strike (take down) after the final performance (including return of production materials to CCS)
 - Hair & Make-up
 - Backstage supervision
 - Security
 - Refreshments for cast, crew, and/or orchestra
 - Donation or sponsorship to assist with production costs (royalties, costuming, theatre rental, video production, construction materials, etc.)

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____
(Print)

Parent/Guardian: _____
(Signature)

*Parental involvement is deeply appreciated as a gift to our school as well as to the community!
Thank you!*

CCS Musical Theatre Permission & Awareness Form:
To be completed by Parents/Guardians

- ✓ I have read the production information and understand the commitment, behavioral and parental expectations required to participate in the school musical.
- ✓ I understand that it is expected that all students who audition or sign up to be on crew will remain in the production through its completion no matter what role they receive.
- ✓ I give my son/daughter permission to participate in and be transported, if necessary, to all activities involved in this production.



- ✓ I understand that pictures will be taken during the rehearsal and production process that may be used to promote the production or highlight student activities through school social media, production posters, or the local newspaper.
- ✓ I understand that it is unreasonable to expect that no photos of my child will be used given the large number of students involved in such productions. It is my responsibility to ensure my child knows of my media/social media preferences and I will instruct them to remove themselves from shots when they notice pictures being taken. *(NOTE: It will not be possible to cast students with zero media/ social media picture release in lead or feature roles. **If your child's photo cannot be used in media/social media due to legal or child protection issues, please indicate that he/she CANNOT be cast as a major lead or feature performer.)***

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____
(Print)

Parent/Guardian: _____
(Signature)

Cast & Crew CONTRACT

To be completed by Students & their Parents/Guardians

- ✓ I understand that all students who audition will be in the cast *and* that not all students will have featured roles or solos. **I agree to remain in the production no matter what role I receive.**
- ✓ I have read and fully understand the Casting Philosophy as well as the behavior and commitment expectations as outlined in the information package.
- ✓ I understand the Directors will make all decisions pertaining to role(s). I will be respectful, encouraging and supportive of all cast & crew members by not grumbling or criticizing the casting decisions.
- ✓ I agree to attend rehearsals for which I am scheduled and will remain at rehearsals until the rehearsal is completed or I am excused. If I must miss a rehearsal for any reason, I will personally contact the Stage Manager & Directors before the beginning of the rehearsal.
- ✓ If I miss multiple rehearsals for any reason, I understand that may lose my role or be dismissed from the show entirely.
- ✓ I agree to assist with the production of the show in any capacity needed.
- ✓ I agree to meet “off book” deadlines by having lines, songs, blocking, & choreography memorized.
- ✓ I understand that I may be personally responsible for parts of my costume. I also understand that hours of work goes into costuming and I will respect this by looking after my costume at all times.
- ✓ I understand that I am part of a team effort, so I must have a positive attitude, even on days when I have a million reasons to not be open-minded and willing to work.
- ✓ I understand that participation in the musical is not an acceptable excuse to fall behind in classwork or for absences.
- ✓ I understand that cast and crew members cannot watch the performance with family & friends (cast & crew are required to remain backstage during all performances).
- ✓ I understand that participation in the production is a privilege (not a right) and a way to serve the community.

My parents/guardians and I have read and agree to these terms:

STUDENT

DATE

PARENT

DATE

Audition Information Sheet

So you want to be in the cast of **Disney's The Little Mermaid!** Here is what you need to know and do:

1. Sign up for a single slot on one of these days. You may audition with a partner by signing up for 2 adjacent (side-by-side) slots. If possible, *please do not leave huge gaps between auditions.*
2. Become familiar with the script & song selections included in the audition package. Remember that you need to ACT (move, emote, tell a story) through the songs. If you are not familiar with the music, you should be able to find the songs on YouTube, iTunes, etc. ****Memorization is not required for students who have shown us their memorization skills in previous CCS shows. If this is your first CCS musical or if you've never had lines or a solo, *try* to memorize.**
3. You may be asked to sing additional songs and/or do scales to show your ability.
4. Come to your audition early! Try not to be nervous. If you are, no worries! Just remember that this is the hardest part of being in the musical. **Do not let your fear of the audition stop you** from being in the show. Your directors 100% understand and are there to support you!
5. Be sure to complete the audition information sheet and the cast/crew contract. Have your parent/guardian sign the permission form & parent participation agreement. Bring these papers to your audition.

Name:	Grade (in fall, 2024):
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Which type of role would you prefer: (Circle one)

Major/Feature

Minor/Ensemble

Do you have any formal dance training? YES NO

If yes—describe the style & number of years of involvement and any special skills:

Do you have any formal gymnastic or tumbling training? YES NO

If yes—describe your skills and number of years of involvement:

NO Gymnastics Training, but I can do these tricks:

List all past performance experiences starting with the most recent (musicals, drama, music training, church performances, etc.):

List **all other commitments** you (may) have during the months of Sept., Oct., Nov. Include things like jobs, sports, lessons, clubs, family events, youth group, and *anything else* that may prevent you from attending rehearsal(s). **Please include days/times if you can.** Rehearsals will be a combination of afterschool, evenings, Friday afternoons, and Saturdays. There will be 2 Sunday rehearsals towards the end of Oct.