



## **Audition and Casting Policy**

*UPDATED AUGUST 23, 2021*

Please see note at end of document regarding Casting Decisions for shows which were originally cast prior to the shutdown due to COVID-19

To ensure all productions meet the standards of DMR Adventures and to provide a healthy environment for all participants to learn and grow as actors, the following will be considered for actors auditioning for productions/production classes and troupes:

- Performance abilities
- Enthusiasm and morale
- Availability to attend rehearsals
- Past behavior in classes and productions with DMR Adventures
- Failure to follow through on a commitment to a troupe or production at DMR Adventures
- Ability to follow direction

To preserve the health of DMR Adventures and to ensure fair and open auditions, casting decisions will **never** be based upon the following criteria:

- Relation to staff members at DMR Adventures
- Relation to donors at Belmont Arts Collaborative or DMR Adventures
- Prior donations made to Belmont Arts Collaborative or DMR Adventures
- Relation to volunteers at Belmont Arts Collaborative or DMR Adventures
- Enrollment in current classes at DMR Adventures

### ***Who May Audition***

DMR Adventures holds auditions open to all who meet the age/grade requirements of each individual production, as determined by the show license or production team.

## ***Audition Process***

The audition process will differ from production to production as deemed necessary by the production team at that time. Audition requirements will be made known to members auditioning with ample prior notice to the audition. The following will be observed at all auditions, irrespective of show:

- An equal and fair amount of time to audition
- The same audition process for each individual in a show

If further auditions, or callbacks are required, the production team will re-audition a subsection of the cast as necessary, at the discretion of the team.

## ***Pre-Casting***

For productions that are not included in our educational series, there may be roles that are pre-cast. When this occurs, DMR Adventures will make sure that all auditionees are aware prior to their audition date. This may also apply to adult roles in our educational series. **DMR Adventures will never pre-cast a role intended for a child in our educational series.**

## ***Casting Decisions***

Casting decisions are made collectively by the production team of a particular show, including but not limited to the Director, Music Director, and Choreographer. Casting discussions are confidential, and will not be discussed with individuals not on the production team. The production team will select the most qualified individual for each role, consistent with:

- The vocal, acting, and physical requirements of the role
- The concept of the role and/or production as envisioned by the production team
- The morale and collective well-being of the group, and individual auditioning
- Availability
- On-stage chemistry with cast-mates

**Non-traditional Casting:** DMR Adventures will not consider race or gender when casting, with the following exceptions:

- The show license has explicit instructions on this matter
- The production team feels that a character's race or gender is germane to the vision of the production

## ***Casting***

After casting decisions have been made, the production team will inform the company and the successful individuals within a time frame as stated during the audition process. Individuals who are not cast will be considered for future productions.

## ***Filling Vacancies***

Should a vacancy in the cast occur, the production team may fill that vacancy in the manner they determine is best for the production.

## ***Casting shows that were originally scheduled before the COVID-19 shutdown***

Three shows were completely cast prior to the shutdown on March 13, 2020 -- *Aladdin KIDS*, *Bugsy Malone JR* and *Matilda*. When these shows are produced again, DMR will have a new set of auditions. Students who were enrolled in programs and cast in the 2020 productions will have first opportunity to register and will be asked if they are interested in playing the role in which they were originally cast. As long as the student is physically and vocally still right for the role they played, they will be given first priority for that role. They may also choose to not play the same role.