

Muni Audition Workshops

Feb. 20, 2010

Muni's 2010 season is just around the corner. This year's shows are *Seussical*, *Into the Woods*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and *Annie*. We have scheduled Muni Auditions Workshops so you can learn about auditions, how to prepare, and hear from the show directors all about their shows. The Workshops will be held Saturday, Feb. 20 in LRS Theater at the Hoogland Center for the Arts, 420 S. 6th St., Springfield, Il. The Children's Workshop will begin at 10:30 a.m. Children must be at least 8 years old and less than 14 years old by March 20, 2009 in order to participate in Children's Auditions. The Adult Auditions Workshop will begin at 1:00 p.m.

If you haven't attended the Audition Workshop in the past, you will not want to miss it this year. You will learn the ins and outs of the audition process including our newest improvement where you can fill out your audition form on line, pick up tips for preparing for vocal and dance auditions, and a recent rule change that gives 13 year olds who are mature physically and vocally the option of auditioning as adults. You will hear from the directors all about their shows, have a chance to talk with them afterwards in the dining room, as well as pick up audition music. Sign up for audition time slots will begin right after the workshops. This is your opportunity to choose the date and time that works best for your schedule.

Our revised audition format used last year was well received and will be used again this year. It features closed vocal auditions with groups of 17 at a time in a relaxed atmosphere. All parts are identified as requiring either a brief, basic movement session that would be part of the vocal audition session or a separate, full dance audition. It's going to be a great kickoff to an exciting season and we hope to see you there!

Adult Auditions

Auditions will be conducted in hour-long sessions with a maximum of 17 individuals in each session. A vocal warm-up session will be available 15 minutes prior to each session. Each auditionee will individually perform a song of their choosing and may be asked to do a cold reading from a script. At the conclusion of each session auditionees will either participate in a basic movement audition or a dance audition session, depending on what parts they may be interested in. Each session will be open to only the show staffs (director, producer, assistant director, vocal director, choreographer), members of the Muni Boards of Managers and Trustees, and Auditions Committee Volunteers.

Dance auditions will be required only for those individuals who are auditioning for a part that requires more than basic movement. Additionally, show staffs may invite an auditionee to participate in a dance audition. We ask that you check in at the registration table 45 minutes before your audition session.

Saturday Schedule (March 6 & 13)

8:00 a.m. Registration Opens
8:15 a.m. Vocal warm-ups for 1st session (Warm-ups will precede every auditions session.)
8:30 a.m. 1st Vocal/Movement Session
9:30 a.m. 2nd Vocal/Movement Session
10:30 a.m. 3rd Vocal/Movement Session
11:30 a.m. Dance Audition Session
Lunch Break
1:00 p.m. 4th Vocal/Movement Session
2:00 p.m. 5th Vocal Movement Session
3:00 p.m. Dance Audition Session
4:00 p.m. 6th Vocal/Movement Session

Sunday Schedule (March 7)

10:00 a.m. Registration Opens
11:00 a.m. Dance Audition Session
12:15 p.m. Vocal Warmups for 1st session (Warm-ups will precede every audition session.)
12:30 p.m. 1st Vocal/ Movement Session
1:30 p.m. 2nd Vocal/Movement Session
2:30 p.m. 3rd Vocal/Movement Session
3:30 p.m. Dance Audition Session
4:30 p.m. 4th Vocal/Movement Session
5:30 p.m. 5th Vocal/Movement Session

New Features for 2010

17 Auditionees per time slot. Last year some of our audition time slots were filled immediately after the Audition Workshop. By adding more time slots, you have a better chance to getting the time you need. This also allows us to better accommodate walk up auditionees. It is still a good idea if you need a specific time slot to attend the Audition Workshop and sign up immediately afterwards in the dining room.

Dedicated Dance Only Sessions. Last year in order to accommodate the large numbers of auditionees, we had to have vocal/movement auditions and dance auditions run simultaneously. This meant that the whole show staff was not able to see dance auditions. By adding more time slots per

session, we were able to run the two dance audition sessions per day so all staff can be present.

Audition form that can be completed and submitted on line. This change was made to speed up your registration process and allows the audition staff to have materials ready for the show staffs in advance of auditions.

Please note: You will still need to sign up for an audition time (see instructions below).

We will still review your audition form when you check in to make sure it is filled out as you intended. It is always a good idea to attend the Auditions Workshop session to learn what each option means on the audition form.

New option for physically and vocally mature 13 year olds to audition as adults. We have some 13 year olds that are physically and vocally mature, and due to this maturity, not very likely to be cast as a child. They now have the option of choosing to audition as an adult. If they choose to audition as an adult, participating in the children's audition is no longer an option. There is a possibility that a show staff may be interested in them for a children's part, and they could be asked to attend children's callbacks.

How to Sign Up for Audition Time Slots. The best and easiest way to sign up is to attend the Auditions Workshop on Feb. 20 (Children's at 10:30, Adults 1:00 at the Hoogland Center for the Arts) and sign up immediately afterwards in the Dining Room. This is your best chance to get the exact time slot that you need if you are on a very tight schedule. As an adult, if you are auditioning for a part that requires a dance audition, you will need to sign up for a dance session. Otherwise, you can just participate in the movement audition which will be the last 5 minutes of your vocal audition session.

If you cannot attend the Audition Workshops, you can select your audition time slot by emailing Gil Opferman, auditions co-chair (gil.ann1@mchsi.com) with your desired date and time. He will confirm that with you if your time is available and you will be good to go.

If email is not an option, or you have questions, you can contact Gil by phone (487-7342). This is the least desirable option and can lead to prolonged phone tag and a much slower response than using email, especially when you consider we may have up to a total of 700 auditionees.