

Hello Pine-Richland Middle School Musical Parents & Students,

My name is Jamie Miller, and I'm so excited to be your 2023 Middle School musical director! I've been told by my colleagues that this program has many dedicated students, parents, and teachers who work hard to make every show a success! I must say, when I saw Willy Wonka last year, it was just fantastic! I am really looking forward to meeting each of you and making this year's musical just as wonderful.

A little about me. I was a musical theater major at Savannah College of Art and Design. I currently own Perform Pittsburgh Theater School, where I write, produce and direct multiple shows per year. I was also a gymnastics choreographer for the past 10 years at Jewarts gymnastics, leading me to open Mars Gymnastics to continue teaching the sport. I myself am trained in dance (ballet, jazz, tap, pointe) and tumbling. I teach voice, acting and gymnastics classes to ages 3-18 as my full-time job.

Before opening my school, I was part of a theatrical rock band who played many shows throughout northeast America. However, rock was not where I belonged. I belong in the theater, and I belong teaching children. Watching them hone their craft and surprise themselves with all they are capable of is what I truly love. It has allowed me to write over 30 shows in just three years, and to grow our small theater into a 7,000 square foot performing arts center.

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to continue growing and to use my skill set in a public school setting. Pine-Richland has been more than welcoming, and I just know its parents and students will be the same. I look forward to seeing everyone at our welcome meeting on January 7 at 2:00 pm. Here we will talk about the audition process, musical schedule, register for an audition time slot, and hopefully announce the musical! See you all there!

Happy Holidays!
Jamie Miller
msmusical@pinerichland.org

PR MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSICAL SCHEDULE

Audition/learning audition material.

JANUARY 9TH 3-4:30

- A short dance (video will be available via website)
- Choice of 2 vocal pieces - to be rehearsed on Monday
- A short scene involving 5 actors - students should be prepared to read in any role.

Memorization is encouraged but not required

- We want to see how well the students retain the new material, and also how much time they are able to put in before the audition.

Audition Days

FRIDAY , JANUARY 13TH BETWEEN 3-6 AND SATURDAY JANUARY 14TH BETWEEN 2-5

Once we have everyone planning to audition accounted for we will be breaking you into groups of 5 and you will be given a 15 minute time slot. During those 15 minutes you will perform the dance we taught, one of the 2 song selections, and perform the short scene.

For this day you'll want to arrive 15-20 minutes early to stretch and warmup and be ready in the event we are ahead of schedule. Please use the 20 minute prior arrival time as the "on-time time", so we can stay on schedule.

NEW SECTION!!!! VIRTUAL AUDITIONS

If you need to do a virtual audition; we will post the learned material from Monday late Monday night (I'd plan to look Tuesday morning). They must submit our audition material - the dance, one of the 2 songs, and one part (opposite part can be read by a parent). If your child can't make the auditions for out of town reasons you can submit a virtual audition. Please use this google drive link, create a dance video, a singing video, and an acting audition. Please name your videos your child's name then - dance or sing or act. You must submit all 3 areas to be considered for a lead role.

Google drive folder link:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1BnquDPzwAJSCR2n1KTaRpe8T_IXVYAAAs?usp=share_link

WE MUST HAVE ALL VIRTUAL AUDITIONS BY SATURDAY AT NOON. If you do not audition for the musical in person or virtually you can still be a part of the ensemble but late auditions for Lead roles will not be accepted.

Cast list Posting

The cast list will be posted Monday (Monday is a holiday there is no school) by noon on the msmusical website. The cast list is final. However we will be happy to answer questions from students about what they can do for next year to get a bigger role.

Rehearsals

I understand that this is not the normal time frame for the middle school musical. We've caught it late, but luckily not too late to allow the show to go on :) However, we have approximately 28

scheduled rehearsals. With illnesses prevalent this year (and seemingly every year)) We will be casting understudies for lead roles. If you miss 7 rehearsals which is 25% of the rehearsals your understudy will take over and you will still be able to be in the show but will have a role in the ensemble. We hope this would never happen and that 7 is more than reasonable given all the dates are scheduled up front, however missing a quarter of the rehearsals, shows that the musical is not a priority which is unfair to the rest of the team.

Rehearsal Schedule

The first rehearsal (after auditions) will be :

Friday 1/20 from 3-5:30

After that we will have the following rehearsals:

JANUARY

Monday 1/23 3-4:30 / Friday 1/27 3-5

FEBRUARY

Friday 2/3 3-5 / Monday 2/6 3-4:30 / Friday 2/10 3-5 / Monday 2/13 3-4:30 / Friday 2/17 3-5 /
Friday 2/24 3-5 / Monday 2/27 3-4:30

MARCH

Friday 3/3 3-5 / Monday 3/6 3-4:30 / Friday 3/10 3-5 / Monday 3/13 3-4:30 / Friday 3/17 3-5 /
Monday 3/20 3-4:30 / Friday 3/24 3-5 / Monday 3/27 3-4:30 / Friday 3/31 3-5

APRIL

Tech days - Monday 4/3 3-4:30 / Friday 4/7 3-5

4/10-4/14 NO REHEARSALS

Tech days - Saturday 4/15 1:30-5:30 / Monday 4/17 1:00-4:30

SHOWS

Thursday 4/20 3:30 - teachers

Friday 4/21 7:00 (5:00 call time)

Saturday 4/22 3:00 & 7:00 (1:00 call time will keep students for pizza between shows)

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Communication

The following website is the best place to go for any new communications :

<https://www.pinerichland.org/msmusical>

Here you will find an audition form, a parent volunteer form, students can enroll in the **google classroom** using this code:

tmxpcql

Parents can enroll in :

The Remind app which will be for last minute notifications, or notifications that information has been added on the website. Here is the link, you must first get the app on your device

<http://www.remind.com/join/c882d2>

Google Drive

I will add a google drive folder with the music and choreography videos. Having the app on your device is the best way to make sure the files work for you. The google drive folder will be able to be accessed by students AND parents for rehearsal purposes, in the car, at home, etc.

Emails - I will be checking this once a day around 10 am. If there is a pressing matter affecting our day please send your email earlier in the morning. If you have to reach someone during the day please use the remind app.

Email address: msmusical@pinerichland.org

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Below is a list of rehearsal policies & procedures to follow to give your child the best experience.

1. No excessive jewelry may be worn to practice. Studs are fine, but because we're dancing that is the only jewelry allowed.
2. Hair should be pulled back
3. Phones, water bottles, and tennis shoes or jazz shoes should be worn to each practice. If you plan to buy jazz shoes (highly recommended, we recommend the slip on version from amazon in black)
4. Please arrive 5 minutes early to the auditorium for practice. Parents please arrive at least 5 minutes early to pickup from practice.
5. Please be positive supporters :). Kindness is key. Regardless of role, experience, wig, costume etc. never should you be talking negatively about another cast member. Drama that is hurtful will not be tolerated and is grounds for dismissal from the production.
6. Unless you are ill to have a leading role you **MUST** be able to attend **ALL** shows.
7. Students are not permitted to leave the backstage area at intermission or until they are dismissed from the show. I know you want to see your child but it's their job to keep the characters as celebrities of sorts and will be out afterwards for pictures
8. **HAVE FUN!** Above everything else I want this to be an exciting fun opportunity for you and your student. You are all here to learn, and together we will make this the best most fun positive learning environment possible!

ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

I, the undersigned, have received and read a copy of the within document, which outlines the Schedule, Policies & Procedures, and expectations for the 2023 Pine Richland Middle school Musical. By my signature below, I acknowledge, understand, accept, and agree to comply with the information contained herein.

_____ Students Name (Printed)

_____ Students Name (Signature)

_____ Parent/Guardian Name
(Printed)

_____ Parent/Guardian Name
(Signature)

PARENT VOLUNTEER HELP

CHECK IN/OUT - This parent would take role as the kids come in the door, and as they exit the door. This parent will be in charge of staying with children whose parents are running late for pickup, they would also assist in anything the kids need during rehearsals such as minor first aid, illnesses, early dismissal check outs, behavior issues (hopefully a non issue in middle school), setting up anyone needing virtual rehearsals, calling parents, etc.

We need one of these for each rehearsal, it does not need to be the same parent every time. Also this parent will need to agree to wait in an approved "attendance parent spot" that is not the auditorium as practices are closed to spectators.

SET DESIGN / CONSTRUCTION - INCLUDING TEAR DOWN

A separate schedule will be sent out concerning set design, it will be based off of our set design leaders schedule and will most likely be one evening a week. Tear down will be the same weekday evening following the show to get the auditorium back in working order.

ADS

CONCESSIONS

PHOTOGRAPHY

PROGRAMS

PROPS

LOBBY DECORATIONS

If you are interested in any of the following positions please write your name, phone, and email and we will be in touch.

AND MORE!!!!!!

Please fill out the google form on the website ASAP! The more the merrier, if we don't have enough volunteers cuts in certain areas may need to be made and we want to create the biggest and best show possible!!