

HEARTWOOD WINTER DRAMA ADVENTURE

Heartwood is currently planning to restart our Winter Drama Adventure. Our last production was *Firebird* in January of 2020, and we are excited to see young drama students back on stage in 2022.

As all parents are well aware, situations, conditions and protocols continue to evolve in our local schools. As with our collaboration with Lincoln Academy on the fall production of OKLAHOMA, we will make a plan and then do our best to execute that plan. If parents have questions, please contact Griff Braley at braley@lincolnacademy.org.

HOWEVER, please read the FAQs below before you reach out!

WHO MAY AUDITION:

The production is available to students grades 5 through 8. Students from any local school, homeschool, private school, etc. are welcome to participate. This program is free of charge, due to our generous sponsors and donors! Students should be willing and able to memorize their lines by January 5. We begin off book to get things moving quickly in a very short time frame.

See HOW TO AUDITION below.

WHAT IS THE SHOW:

Our production will be a 50+ minute version of *Pinocchio*. This adaptation from Collodi's long novel of the same name, was first made for our Heartwood Goes to School program quite a few years back. We'll modify the piece to suit our current needs. The adaptation includes some theatrical masks, shadow and projection, music and a very physical approach to a complicated plot. Some actors will play multiple roles; some will be tasked with larger characters. That said, we will need to limit numbers of bodies in the show, due to distancing, etc.

WHEN:

REHEARSALS:

As in the past, we will rehearse through the month of January with performances on the last weekend. Rehearsals will be from 3:00 – 5:00 or 5:30 on weekdays listed, as well as a couple of Saturday mornings. We tend to lose 1 or 2 rehearsals due to snow each year, something we keep in mind when preparing. We'll provide a final rehearsal schedule, with exact times, at the auditions. ***Not all students will need attend all rehearsals, but that is impossible to determine until the ensemble is cast.*** If your student cannot attend these days, it is probably best to wait for another opportunity with us. If you have one date that is a problem, let us know at auditions.

Rehearsal Days:

| | | | |
|------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| Monday 3 | Wednesday 5 | Friday 7 | |
| Monday 10 | Wednesday 12 | Friday 14 | Saturday 15 |
| Tuesday 18 | Wednesday 19 | Friday 21 | Saturday 22 |
| Monday 24 | Wednesday 26 | PERF. 28 | PERF. 29 |

PERFORMANCES:

This is a little trickier. For now we will schedule performances for Friday, January 28 and Saturday, January 29. We will either be able to have open performances, closed performances for families only, or live-streamed performances. It is our intention to perform without masks, so we will follow guidelines to decide which type of performance will be allowed by unmasked students. We'll shoot to communicate this decision to parents by January 14.

POSSIBLE EXTENSION:

If weather or sickness takes a deep toll on the production, we could run a little later into February, as the Poe Theater stage can be available a little longer this year. We'll gauge this as we get closer, but please let us know if your student has time constraints up through February 12. It will be our intent to stick to the production schedule given here if at all possible.

As with our fall OKLAHOMA, students will remain masked in rehearsals and backstage, unmasking for final dress rehearsal and performances only. All tech, staff and audience members will be fully masked, assuming those are the guidelines when we are in rehearsal. A pretty good bet!

We do not plan to bus in students from schools for morning performances, as has been our past practice. While this is a wonderful aspect of this experience, we'll wait for an all clear on covid before returning to this piece of the Winter Drama Adventure.

WHERE:

All rehearsals, costume fittings, meetings, etc. will be held at the Poe Theater at Lincoln Academy.

HOW TO AUDITION:

MONDAY, December 13
3:00 – 4:30 at the Poe Theater

Students should arrive by 3:00 and report to the lower level of the Poe. Adults there will create student groups of 5 – 6 students. Students will receive a very short reading and be asked to move a bit in their audition, which will take place on the stage of the Poe. Please work with your student to fill out the audition sheet indicating their prior experience on stage, in dance, vocally, instrumentally, etc. Parents are asked to remain outside the audition space during their student's audition.

It is VERY IMPORTANT that we have a PARENT EMAIL on the audition day.

We will post the cast list via this list, so if we don't have an email, we can't cast your student!

If you have time constraints, please arrive a bit early and we will get your student into an early group. Students who need time to study reading lines may hang back for a later group. We will do our best to accommodate everyone. Readings will not be available until the audition day. No memorization is required.

We may not be able to cast everyone, but we encourage all students, regardless of experience to come and meet us and do their best. Heartwood will continue to make opportunities available, so this is a great chance to get introduced.

CO- DIRECTORS:

Griff Braley and Heidi Kopishke
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TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

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LA STUDENT TECH INTERNS

Ben Schwink, Annalise Garnett, Eli Melanson

HEARTWOOD OFFICE:

Joy Braley, Executive Director
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