

March 11, 2019

Dear Windmore Theatre Camp Families,

Thank-you for signing up for camp! As Director of *Seussical, JR*, I'd like to introduce myself. My name is Mary Kidd Flemming. I'm so looking forward to seeing many of you returning from Peter Pan, JR (2017) or Mary Poppins, JR. (2018) I'm also excited about getting to know all the new faces joining us this year. We are going to have another magical, enchanted and SERIOUSLY SEUSSICAL fun-filled few weeks at Verdun this summer. It will be hard to top the adventure we had last year, but we will definitely try.

Dr. Seuss was a favorite author of mine as a child. I truly love the silly, sing-songy poetry and I found it especially fun to listen to as a young child. As I got older, I had great fun reading the same Dr. Seuss books to my younger siblings, often using expressive voices and acting out what we were reading with them. I've had the pleasure of seeing both *Seussical, JR* and *Seussical* performed. They are both fun shows, I especially enjoyed watching my oldest son, John, play Horton the Elephant in the East Carolina University musical production several years ago. When choosing this show, I loved the fact that there is so much creativity, bright colors and imagination that lends itself well to performing outdoors in a beautiful amphitheater. Theatre Camp at Verdun is an experience like no other, and will provide you with many cherished "camp" memories.

During the school year, I am the Choral Director at Floyd T. Binns Middle School here in Culpeper. I direct the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade choirs and a Select Ensemble, Blackhawk Edition. Previously, I have directed Children's Choir at churches and have been a Coordinator of Youth Ministry, Vacation Bible School Director, 4-H Camp Counselor, and Preschool teacher. My experience with directing/producing plays and musicals spans over 20 plus years. In addition, I have produced previously for Pied Piper Children's Theatre in Manassas and have produced and directed for Windmore Children's Theatre. My husband, John and I will celebrate our 29th Wedding Anniversary in August. We have six children, ranging in age from 14 to 27, all in love with musical theatre. Musicals always become a family affair for us.

Our cast will be comprised of both seasoned actors and those new to the theatre. With that in mind, I'm asking those with experience to model the very best musical theatre rehearsal etiquette to those new to the theatre. There will be many opportunities to socialize, talk and even "goof around" throughout our day, but rehearsal time must be focused on learning lines, staging our show and rehearsing music, scenes and dance. The better FOCUS we all have each day, the better show we will be able to produce. This production is an opportunity to grow as an actor, singer and dancer as well as a chance to make lasting friendships and memories.

Parents and Guardians, we can always use volunteers to assist with the production. Assistance with sets, props, costumes and other production needs helps us to make the show the best it can be. It is not required but optional. If you have any questions or concerns during our time together, please do not hesitate to email me at [summercamp@windmorefoundation.org](mailto:summercamp@windmorefoundation.org). Once camp begins, if you would please bring any questions/concerns to me that you feel you need to address in person at the end of the day, I would greatly appreciate it. Thank-you in advance for your support of *Seussical, JR*.

Thank-you,

Mary Kidd Flemming, Director

Windmore's production of *Seussical, JR*

# Seussical, JR Audition Packet

Thank-you for signing up for Windmore Theatre Camp's production of *Seussical, JR*. Auditions will be handled differently than in previous years. Auditions will be held at Verdun. There are two dates to choose from for your audition:

**Thursday, April 11, 2019:** AUDITION A: 6:00pm to 7:30 pm AUDITION B: 7:30 to 9:00 pm

**Saturday, April 13, 2019** AUDITION C: 9:00 am to 10:30 am AUDITION D: 10:30 to 12:00 pm

There are 7 slots for actors per audition time. You will be auditioning with other campers. You will have to do some activities individually and some activities interactively with others in your audition group. You only have to sign up for ONE audition. CALL BACKS, if necessary, will be determined.

The cast list will go out via email, by Saturday, April 20, 2019. When the cast list goes out, please start working on memorizing lines and learning music right away in preparation for our first full week of camp.

Please dress comfortably so that you can learn a **short dance routine** and bring the following items with you to audition:

\* **Audition Form** with a current attached photo (it can be a copy of a photo from your printer, and **Conflict Calendar** completed by parent/guardian. NOT having these items may affect my casting decisions, so please have BOTH. \*\*\*PHOTOS are very important for me remembering who you are after your audition.

\* The **BEST** Version of yourself, we want to see what you can do! You've got this!!

## Song & Monologue Preparation:

Please prepare a **one minute** (no longer) cut from a song that showcases your voice, to be sung a cappella (without music) from memory. If you are new to the audition process, "Happy Birthday" or "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" is perfect!

You will also be asked to sing music from the musical that you will be taught at the audition.

Please select a **ONE MINUTE monologue to perform from memory, you may choose your own age-appropriate monologue or choose from a nursery rhyme below.** Focus demonstrating your acting abilities. Good diction, timing, expressiveness, mannerisms, creativity, memorization and ownership of your character should be your focus. You may present your monologue from whatever perspective you choose.

You will be asked to do a "cold reading" from the script at the audition. This is not something you can prepare to do, but an opportunity to show us what you can do on the spot, without preparation.

These nursery rhyme monologues may be used if you do not have another monologue to use. It should be memorized for the audition. (MS & HS campers are strongly encouraged to do a chosen monologue from memory (perhaps something from a play/musical you were in previously, instead of a nursery rhyme)

### Mary Had A Little Lamb

Mary Had A Little Lamb, its fleece was white as snow,  
And everywhere that Mary went, the lamb was sure to go.  
It followed her to school one day, which was against the rule,  
It made the children laugh and play to see a lamb at school.

### Hey Diddle Diddle

Hey Diddle, Diddle, the cat and the fiddle,  
The cow jumped over the moon.  
The little dog laughed to see such a sport,  
And the fork ran away with the spoon.

### Little Miss Muffet

Little Miss Muffet, sat on her tuffet,  
Eating her curds and whey,  
Along came a spider who sat down beside her  
And frightened Miss Muffet away.

### Three Blind Mice

Three Blind Mice, Three Blind Mice,  
See how they run! See how they run!  
They all ran after the farmer's wife,  
Who cut off their tails with a carving knife.  
You never will see such a sight in your life  
As three blind mice.

### The Itsy-Bitsy Spider

The Itsy-Bitsy Spider went up the water spout.  
Down came the rain and washed the spider out.

Out came the sun and dried up all the rain

And the Itsy-Bitsy Spider went up the spout again.

## **Character List**

**Please choose from this list of characters when completing your audition form. You may list more than one character.**

**Jojo/Boy:** A "Thinker." He's a smart child with a wild imagination. JoJo can be played as being a little bit awkward, a little bit of a loner, or simply a rambunctious kid whose "Thinks" get him into constant trouble. By the end of the show, he learns what it means to be a responsible member of his community, using the power and possibilities of his own "Thinks." Strong singer, and can easily be played by a young girl or boy.

**The Cat in the Hat:** The essence of mischief, fun, and imagination. The Cat stirs things up and causes trouble but always sets things right again. He helps JoJo discover the power of his own imagination as they create the story of *Seussical JR.* together. Look for a physically adept actor (male or female) to play the Cat who is confident onstage, comfortable with comedy, and able to improvise with the audience if needed. The Cat does not need to be your strongest singer but should still have good rhythm and timing.

**Horton the Elephant:** A gentle giant. Think of Horton as a big-hearted, blue-collar guy who is steadfast, responsible, and always tries to do the right thing. He is sympathetic and receptive to the world around him. He believes in the inherent goodness of the world, so it's no surprise that he always looks for the good in others. Horton goes on quite a journey throughout the show but stays true to himself, even when the going gets tough. A great singer and actor is needed in this important role.

**Mr. Mayor & Mrs. Mayor:** are parents trying hard to raise a child with a big imagination. These Whos may get aggravated with JoJo, but they love him dearly. They try their best to make the right choices as parents, even if JoJo doesn't always understand them. They are also upstanding members of their community. Two performers who are good singers and pair well together. Remember, Mr. and Mrs. Mayor are a team.

**Gertrude McFuzz:** Very self-conscious about her one-feather tail. Gertrude gains confidence throughout the show, changing from an anxious, nervous, shy bird into someone whose self-worth doesn't rest on her appearance. In other words, Gertrude realizes what's truly important in her life. We need a wonderful actor and a great singer in this role, and make sure works well with Horton.

**Mayzie La Bird:** Self-centered, vain, and manipulative. She ultimately means no harm, but she's immature and makes selfish decisions. In giving up her egg to Horton once and for all, she has a moment of self-awareness - she realizes she isn't the kind of bird who would be a good parent, and she does the best thing she can for the egg. Looking for a performer who is a good singer and great actor and can sell Mayzie's larger-than-life personality.

**Wickersham Brothers:** The Wickersham Brothers, including Wickersham 1, Wickersham 2, and Wickersham 3, are not bad guys! They tease, play pranks, and get a kick out of making mischief, although often at another's expense. Cast great movers who work well as a group, and encourage each of your actors to find an individual Wickersham persona.

**Bird Girls:** The Bird Girls, including Bird Girl 1, Bird Girl 2, and Bird Girl 3, are a fabulous group of birds who know everything there is to know about the goings on in the jungle and support Mayzie throughout the show. Need girls who are great movers, singers, and work well together as a group.

**Sour Kangaroo:** Loud, brassy, and a lot of fun. She's got a lot of attitude but isn't mean - she's just very confident and unafraid to tell it like it is. Looking for a great actor with a bring-down-the-house singing voice who is unafraid of making bold choices onstage.

**Young Kangaroo:** Sour Kangaroo's feisty daughter. She may be pint- sized, but she's got a big personality and is following in her mother's footsteps. Young Kangaroo doesn't have to be the best singer, but she should be a great actor with lots of attitude and pair well with Sour Kangaroo.

**Judge Yertle the Turtle:** The authoritative judge who presides over Horton's trial at the end of the show. Yertle is a great role for a newer performer who may not be quite ready for the responsibility of a larger part. Cast a good singer and actor who can command the stage.

**Vlad Vladikoff:** The black-bottomed eagle who flies off with the Whos. Vlad is onstage very briefly and doesn't sing, so this is a good role for a member of your ensemble who can make a big impression in a short amount of time.

**The Grinch:** Arguably the most famous Seuss character of all! He has a brief, fun cameo in *Seussical JR*. Cast a good actor and singer who can have fun with the Grinch's short solo.

**The Whos:** The Whos (including First Who Family, Second Who Family, Third Who Family, Fourth Who Family, and Fifth Who Family) are the citizens of Whoville and they look a lot like you and me, only so small they are invisible to the naked eye. They are a tight-knit, supportive community.

**Ensemble:** The Jungle Citizens, Hunters, Circus Animals, Fish, Nurses, Courtroom Attendants, additional Wickersham Brothers and Bird Girls all help fill out the world *Seussical JR*. These ensemble roles are great places for anyone who would like to be involved in your production.

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**PLEASE NOTE:** Due to the agreement we have with MTI, characters and character names MAY NOT BE CHANGED or ADAPTED.

**Please be sure to indicate on your audition form if you are UNWILLING to play an opposite gender role.**

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Windmore Summer Theatre Camp

# Seussical, JR. Audition Form

Please attach a picture of yourself here.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Part(s) you are auditioning for:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Will you accept **ANY** role? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you take music lessons (piano, voice, instrument)? YES NO If yes, please answer below:

Type	Teacher /Coach/Organization	Years of experience
Voice		
Piano		
Instrument:		
Dance:		

Please list any musicals or plays that you have been in before AND note the part you played and where it was performed:

Musical/Play	Part Played	Where?

Please list your hobbies, sports, clubs, choirs & extra-curricular activities:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What would you like the judges to know about YOU?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**A VERY IMPORTANT NOTE from the DIRECTOR.....**Talent is a huge part of casting in this musical, but it is not the only consideration. Work ethic, respectful & responsible behavior and being ready to rehearse, are each components that play a very important role in casting. In addition, the amount of conflicts that you have with the rehearsal schedule is also taken into consideration when casting for this show. Please understand that the choices I make will be what I feel is in the best interest of the cast as a whole, taking into consideration the chemistry during interactions between actors at auditions. You are expected to have an incredible amount of fun during your camp experience, but also to listen and be quiet when asked during rehearsals. In the rare instance, that behavior becomes an issue during rehearsals, the Director will have to speak with your parent/guardian.

**PLEASE mark with an "X"** on the calendars below, indicating the dates that you have conflicts and **CAN NOT attend full rehearsals**. If you are going to be absent, please write ABSENT. If you are leaving early or coming late, please note times on the corresponding date. This will greatly help me with casting/ rehearsal schedule.

**CONFLICT CALENDAR:**

JUNE 2019						
	MON.	TUES.	WEDS.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
						1 Team Building Day
2 WEEK ONE CAMP:	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 WEEK TWO CAMP:	10	11	12	13	14	15 SHOW TIME
<b>SAT. 16 Two performances: 11:00 am Call Time: 9:00 am (Seussical Character Breakfast)            6:00 pm Call Time: 4:30 am            Attendance at both performances is required. Please see Mrs. Flemming with questions.</b>						

I have read this audition form and have listed all known conflicts, late arrivals and early pick-ups on this form:

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**YOU MUST HAVE A COMPLETED & SIGNED AUDITION FORM in order to audition.**

**Please DO NOT FORGET TO BRING IT. QUESTIONS? Please contact:**

Mary Kidd Flemming, Director

summercamp@windmorefoundation.org Please identify the name of your child in the email.