

Welcome!

River Valley Players Community Theatre thanks you for being involved with its youth theater arts programming, we value the interest you have in your child's involvement. Parents should have an important role in their child's experiences, and we are glad to provide you with this opportunity. This handbook contains necessary information allowing for the most positive and productive RVP experience possible. The following should serve as a guideline for all – cast, crew and parents. Please keep this information for future reference and feel free to approach the producer, or directors or with any questions or suggestions.

Thanks again and we look forward to an exciting production

TOP 10 TIPS TO A GREAT RVP PRODUCTION

- **Treat your role as the most important role in the play.** *Each character is extremely important or else they wouldn't have been written in. You're the only one who can play your part, and everybody is counting on you. So, take it seriously, okay?*
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- **Be on time.** *If you waste our time, we will waste your time. Plain and simple.*
- **Wear the right clothes.** *Closed toe shoes are a must. ABSULTLEY NO FLIP FLOPS OR SLIDES (ok to bring dance shoes to change into after you arrive) Otherwise, just be comfortable. But don't wear your dress clothes, because you never know if you must roll around on the stage or must jump up and down like a crazy person. Remember we are animals in this production*
- **Bring a water bottle as we do not have drinking fountains. Preferably one with a lid that you can refill, plastic water bottles ok if you remember to throw them away.**
- **Keep the noise down.** *If you waste our time, we will waste your time. Plain and simple. We share our rehearsal space with others, so be respectful*
- **CURRENT COVID -19 SANITATION PRECAUTIONS , SOCIAL DISTANCING WILL BE ADHERED TO ALL TIMES. You will be asked to purchase a choral music mask to always wear during rehearsals and performances .**
- **Check your props and your costumes before every rehearsal and performance.** *That way you know everything is perfect.*
- **R-E-S-P-E-C-T.** *Yes, it means the world to me. It probably means a lot to you, too. That goes for St Johns and RVP property, director, parent volunteers, staff members, fellow actors, techies and parents.*
- **Be ready to learn a lot & have fun.** *But don't worry – you'll be having so much fun, you'll barely feel it. And that's why you're here, right?*
- **Showing up too early or late pick up.** *We don't want young actors running around the rehearsal area unsupervised or waiting outside the building , **NO MORE THAN 5 MINUTES EARLY***

- **Showing up late.** *You are very important to the success of this show. If you don't waste our time by waiting for you, we won't waste your time by keeping you late. Mom and Dad, we're not babysitters. Make sure you pick your young actor up on time.*
- **Conflicts.** *The rehearsal schedule was developed based upon the conflicts submitted at auditions. Please make certain you attend ALL rehearsals you are schedule for. It is not fair to expect the directors to work around unexpected absences.*
- **Wearing the wrong shoes. Wear only closed toe shoes or dance shoes** *We hate flip-flops or slides! We hate big clumpy shoes that are hard to run and dance in. We hate flip-flop and slides! Did we mention we hate flip-flops and slides?*
- **Swearing, bullying or being disrespectful to anyone.** *We simply won't tolerate it. We will ask you to leave. No discussion.*
- **Valuable and Personal stuff.** *If you don't want to risk losing it, don't bring it. We will post lost items that we find on the closed group but will not be responsible if it is not found.*
- **Rehearsals are not the same as practice-** *Everyone will have a script and a CD. Some families may be asked to share (some younger participants may receive only copies of the songs and scenes they are in) **Please practice at home!** We will be videoing choreography as well for you to practice as well.*
- **Missing your cues.** *Missing your part because of ill-timed bathroom breaks, playing with cell phones, snacks or not paying attention wastes our time. **PLEASE NO CELL PHONE (texting also) during rehearsal or performances, we want your full attention!***
- **Bad handling of props and costumes.** *If it's not yours, don't touch it. Period. When you're done with it, put it away. If it's left out, it could get lost... or we might hide it. Then wouldn't you feel foolish?*
- **Taking care of your costumes,** *please bring a storage container with your name on it to the first dress rehearsal (a tote bag, plastic tote or laundry basket) to keep your personal items organized during the dress rehearsal and show. If you are not wearing it, your costume belongs on a hanger or inside your personal storage container. Never on the floor.*
- **Losing your script.** *These are property of RVP If you lose it, damage it or want to keep it, then give RVP \$20.00*

HOW CAN MOM & DAD HELP?

- We require everyone to help somehow, somehow especially when we strike the show. Don't have a lot of time? That's okay, every little bit helps. Don't have a lot of experience? Don't sweat it – no experience necessary – we'll teach you everything you need to know. Contact cbalensiefen@mchsi.com to volunteer.

___ Costumes ___ Props ___ Set ___ Concessions ___ dressing room monitor/ helper ___ Backstage
___ Strike ___ Cast Party ___ Fundraising and raffle items

- **COST TO PARTICIPATE-** RVP does not charge to participate in our youth theatre, we do ask parents to contribute by helping toward purchasing costume items, tights, make up and dance shoes etc. We be asking parents to help with raffle baskets and other fundraisers .This year during the pandemic you must wear your choral mask at all times during rehearsal and performances. Cost will be \$10. It is Ok to wear the choral masks they used for school last year.
- **Photographing.** We take photographs onstage during the final dress rehearsal. They will be available at the cast party. Please do not take photos during the show. This is a violation of our contract with MTI. and Don't do it. We'll have more, and they will be better quality.
- **Publicity.** We take pictures during rehearsals for publicity (sometimes with costumes). Articles with the photos will be posted on social media and in local papers to encourage public awareness of our production.
- **Videotaping.** If you videotape, somebody's getting in trouble for copyright infringement. **We paid a royalty to have one "official" video recording, and we can make them available to you for \$25.00. Besides, wouldn't you rather see the show live than through a lens? It's what makes live theater live!**
- **Flowers.** Some kids like to exchange flowers, balloons, gifts, etc. with fellow cast/crew members. That's by no means required – it's up to you.
- **T-Shirts.** Show t-shirts will also be given out before the Henry 4th of July Parade. Shirts must be paid for when ordered. **We will only order once, so please insure you turn your order in on time.**
- **Call Time.** Means what time your child must be here. It's always an hour before the performance begins, just to be on the safe side. **PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK THE REHEARSAL SCHEDULE TO FIND OUT CALL TIMES!**
- **Performances.** **PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK THE REHEARSAL SCHEDULE TO FIND OUT PERFORMANCE TIMES!**
- **Tickets.** Family members can get advance ticket orders prior to July 19. Complete the order form and return with payment , Ticket orders for seating will be numbered and processed accordingly,
- **CDs & DVDs.** Photos will be available at the cast party. We will notify you on the closed group face book page when the DVDs are read
- **Cast Party.** All participating kids, along with family, friends and guests are invited to our cast party after the final performance and strike. A donation to the good of the cause is appreciated, but by no means required.

_____ Date _____

Parent /Guardian signature

River Valley Players Youth THEATRE SURVEY

Please complete this survey and return it on performance day. Help us make this program even better.

NAME OF SHOW/ACTIVITY:

PARENT SECTION

1. Rate the educational experience for your child. 1 2 3 4 5
1 being poor and 5 being excellent
Comments:
2. Rate the overall experience for your child. 1 2 3 4 5
1 being poor and 5 being excellent
Comments:
3. The cost of this program is 1 2 3 4 5
1 being too little and 5 too much
Comments:
4. Have you been involved with RVP programming before? Yes No
Comments:
5. Schedules permitting, would you be involved with this programming again? Yes No
Comments:
6. Any other comments or suggestions. Feel free to use the back.

STUDENT SECTION USE THE BACK IF NEEDED.

7. The thing I enjoyed most was _____

8. In this show, I learned _____

9. If I were in another show, I would want to change _____

10. If I were in another show, I would like to do more _____
