

Ranches Academy School Play 2018-2019

# ***DINOSAURS BEFORE DARK***

**Welcome to *Dinosaurs Before Dark!*** We are so excited to bring this musical to the Ranches Academy stage! Auditions will be held throughout the school day in 10-15 minute increments, and will be held **Monday, November 12th**. We will be asking the children to sign up at the front office and return their audition forms to either Mrs. Day or Mrs. Douglas prior to auditions. The sign up will be in the front area of the school near Mrs. Day's desk. The performance dates for this year's play will be Thursday, January 24, Friday, January 25, Saturday, January 26, and Monday, January 28.

**Who are we looking for?** We are looking for children between fourth and sixth grades who would love to act, dance, and sing in a fun musical! **While we would love to have everyone participate in the show that would like to, the audition committee reserves the right to make cuts through the audition process based on the number of children participating exceeding the allotted number of spaces in the show. In the unlikely event that cuts are necessary, upper grades and notable auditions will be given preference.** If we do not have enough boys audition for this show, we will potentially cast girls to play the boy parts. Please have your daughter circle on the audition form whether or not she would be willing to play a boy in this production. In addition to actors, we are also looking for stage crew members. Being a part of the stage crew is not as time restrictive as being on stage, but is just as vital to the production. **If your student is interested in being a part of the stage crew, please have them turn in a stage crew form so that we will have their information to get them started.** The stage crew will not be meeting until January.

**What is the audition process?** For auditions for this production, we are asking the children to do two things. First of all, we will be having the children do a reading from the show. We welcome any and all children to see Mrs. Douglas for a copy of the readings beforehand. Please note, the reading does NOT have to be memorized for auditions, but should be acted out. The second part of the audition will be a vocal music audition. This gives us an idea of the child's vocal range and ability. For auditions, we prefer that the song be from a Broadway musical. Students may choose their music, but if they need assistance Mrs. Douglas or Mrs. Yacktman are available. All music auditions will be done a la Capella and should be limited to 30 seconds.

Performing in a musical is an experience that young people will remember for the rest of their lives, and it is truly our pleasure to work with your child on this exciting project. We want everyone involved to understand both the benefits and responsibilities that go along with being in a musical, so we have detailed some of the basics here.

**As with any group activity, every participant has responsibilities. Please look over the following items to make sure you and your child feel you can honor the commitment to being a part of a show.**

**Attendance:** On the calendar is a basic rehearsal schedule for the show. Please look it over closely to make sure your child has no conflicts with the rehearsals or show dates. If there are known conflicts, please let Mrs. Douglas know as soon as possible. Students are expected to attend **ALL** rehearsals, unless prior approval has been given. Failure to do so can result in dismissal from the show. *After three unexcused absences (not including excused absences from school), the participant*

*will be dismissed from the show.* Scheduled absences need to be emailed to Mrs. Douglas at [edouglas@theranchesacademy.com](mailto:edouglas@theranchesacademy.com). ***The entire cast counts on all the other cast members to attend every rehearsal, we only have 7 weeks of rehearsal!!***

**Rehearsals:** *Regular Rehearsals will be 2:45-4:00 in November and December and 2:45- 4:30 in January everyday for actors, and techies and will begin in January.* Students should bring their scripts, a pencil, and wear appropriate shoes and clothes for movement and dance. Students are allowed to eat a snack during rehearsal, but if they are making a mess...ie: popcorn they will be asked to bring something else. In addition, please make sure you have arranged for your child to be picked up on time from each rehearsal. Younger siblings may not wait for older siblings in the play.

**Homework:** Students will have homework for this show, including memorizing lines and songs, rehearsing their dances, researching their character, etc. Please work with your child to create a schedule so they have time to finish both their school homework and their homework for the musical. In order to continue to be involved with the school play, *all students are expected to keep up with their regular studies.*

**Fees:** There will be participation donation for the school play. The participation donation for cast members will be \$15. This donation will cover most of their costume. If your child would like a theatre spirit shirt, they are \$5. The participation donation for crew members will be \$5. This will cover their participation in the show. If they would like a theatre spirit shirt, they are \$5. **The participation donation must be turned into Mrs. Day by Wednesday, November 28th. If the donation is a hardship on your family, please contact Mrs. Scherer for other options and help. This will be kept confidential.** Teachers cannot accept money from students or parents.

**Attitude:** The rehearsal room and theater are safe spaces where young people can take positive risks and be themselves without the fear of being laughed at or alienated. This principle is essential to artistic growth and exploration. Participants are expected to respect these principles and are encouraged to remember it themselves when trying new things.

**Volunteering:** Musicals are a lot of work, and therefore, need a lot of help to put on. This year, there will be a parent volunteer commitment for your child/children to participate in the musical. We are asking that each family volunteer a minimum of 5 hours, all of which will count towards the 40 hours for the school year. We have many different avenues that need parental help. Many jobs can be completed in the evenings, weekends, after school, and at home. We will be needing help in these main areas: daily practice, sets, costumes, and concession sales. Please circle on the audition form which area you would like to know more information about and would like to participate in on the audition form.

If you have questions or concerns at any time throughout the process, please feel free to contact Erika Douglas at [edouglas@theranchesacademy.com](mailto:edouglas@theranchesacademy.com) and we will be happy to help you.

Sincerely,  
Erika Douglas

# Acting Audition for School Play 2016-2017

***Return this to the Front Office by Monday, November 12th. NO LATE FORMS***

## **Student:**

I promise to be nice, respectful, listen, and keep my hands to myself. I agree to pay attention, do what the adults in charge ask of me, and do my best. I understand that this is a voluntary, after school program, and that I can be removed from the play for inappropriate or disruptive behavior. I understand that I will be dismissed from the show after three unexcused absences. I promise to keep up with my classwork and homework, as well as memorize my lines, music, and dances for the play. I understand that during down time during rehearsal, I may only do my homework, work on memorizing my lines, or read a book.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Teacher's Name / Grade

## **Please answer:**

What part are you hoping to receive? \_\_\_\_\_

If you are given another part, will you still participate in the school play? \_\_\_\_\_

Girls: Would you be willing to play the part of a boy? \_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_ no

\_\_\_\_ I have prior dance experience. If so, how much experience and what type of dance?

\_\_\_\_\_  
What is your shirt size? \_\_\_\_\_ pant size? \_\_\_\_\_ Do you need a theatre spirit shirt? \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any known schedule conflicts? If so, what are the dates?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **Parent:**

I agree to support the Ranches Academy School Play. I understand my child can be dismissed for inappropriate or disruptive behavior. I understand that my child will be dismissed from the show after three unexcused absences. I agree that my student will be at all rehearsals, unless prior arrangements are made beforehand. I understand that **only** the children that are a part of the school play may attend rehearsals (no younger siblings or carpool students). I understand that a minimum of 5 volunteer hours are expected per family. I understand that my child needs to be picked up promptly after rehearsal ends.

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

Email address for play information to be sent: \_\_\_\_\_

I would LOVE to volunteer: Practice Parent Concession Sales Sets Costumes Advertising

## **EMERGENCY CONTACT:**

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

Home / Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

The school play staff has my permission to take my child's photograph for use on the school's website. \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

# Tech Crew for School Play 2018-2019

**Return this to the Front Office by Monday, November 12th. NO LATE FORMS**

**Student:**

I promise to be nice, respectful, listen, and keep my hands to myself. I agree to pay attention, do what the adults in charge ask of me, and do my best. I understand that this is a voluntary, after school program, and that I can be removed from the play for inappropriate or disruptive behavior. I understand that I will be dismissed from the show after three unexcused absences. I promise to keep up with my classwork and homework, as well as memorize my lines, music, and dances for the play. I understand that during down time during rehearsal, I may only do my homework, work on memorizing my lines, or read a book.

\_\_\_\_\_ Student

\_\_\_\_\_ Student's Teacher's Name / Grade

**Please answer:**

Please circle what you would like to help with in the crew?

Lighting      Sound      Set/Props      Costumes

If you are given another part in the crew, will you still participate in the school play? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you need a theatre spirit shirt? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, what size do you need? \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any known schedule conflicts? If so, what are the dates?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent:**

I agree to support the Ranches Academy School Play. I understand my child can be dismissed for inappropriate or disruptive behavior. I understand that my child will be dismissed from the show after three unexcused absences. I agree that my student will be at all rehearsals, unless prior arrangements are made beforehand. I understand that **only** the children that are a part of the school play may attend rehearsals (no younger siblings or carpool students). I understand that a minimum of 5 volunteer hours are expected per family. I understand that my child needs to be picked up promptly after rehearsal ends.

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

Email address for play information to be sent: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to volunteer: Practice Parent    Concession Sales    Sets    Costumes    Advertising

**EMERGENCY CONTACT:**

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

Home / Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

The school play staff has my permission to take my child's photograph for use on the school's website.    \_\_\_ Yes    \_\_\_ No

## **DINOSAURS CAST LIST:**

### PEOPLE:

**JACK:** A young boy, he is bookish, careful, and thoughtful. He is cautious and protective of his younger sister Annie. This requires a strong singer and actor

**ANNIE:** Jack's younger sister, she is a risk-taker who follows her heart. She loves animals of any kind. This requires a strong singer and actor

### TREES:

**OTTO:** The oldest oak tree in the forest, a storyteller. Requires a strong speaking voice and willingness to take center stage

**STUMP:** A grumpy tree stump, opposite of Otto. Should have comedic instincts and a strong speaking voice.

**SAPLINGS:** Ensemble

**RED PINES AND HEMLOCKS:** Ensemble

### DINOSAURS:

#### **PTERANODON:**

**HENRY:** Not a speaking part, but he is in many scenes and must squeak, giggle and communicate through his body language.

#### **TRICERATOPS:**

**GARY, TERRI, LARRY:** Comedic parts. They should be strong singers and actors

#### **ANATOSAURUS:**

**NATTY, SUSAN, JOAN: MAMAS**—Motherly. Strong singers and actors

**BABY DINOS: TOTO AND OTHERS** Ensemble

**ANKYLOSAURUS:** Needs to be a strong speaker and able to pronounce difficult words. Will speak in a group.

**PROTOCERATOPS:** Will speak in a group but need to be strong speakers and willing to face the audience

**IGUANODONS:** Will speak in a group but need to be strong speakers and willing to face the audience

**PANOPLOSAURUS:** Needs to be a strong speaker and able to pronounce difficult words. Will speak in a group.

**TROODON:** Will speak in a group but need to be strong speakers and willing to face the audience

**T-REX:** Fierce, need to have a strong stage presence and be willing to learn more complicated and agile moves