

Hello BATB Cast Members & Families!

I can't tell you how excited I am to report that our online ticketing sale site is set up and running, so you can and *should* buy your tickets as soon as possible. We will be advertising on radio and in print/online very soon, and the general public can purchase tickets by the 20<sup>th</sup> of October. It is important that you go to the website and order your tickets now so that our WAS families get the best seats available. We intend to sell out all four shows, with your help!!

I hope WE DO SELL OUT because we will have a fantastic show with high production values and outstanding talent to WOW our audiences. We still have a lot of work to do on stage, backstage and on all the committees, so please if you have not yet volunteered to help, please do so. I don't like to make this a REQUIREMENT in order to allow participation, but truly, without parent volunteers, we cannot produce the show we can and will produce to the highest standards. I hate to BEG, but we still have needs, so don't be shy. We can find a place for you to use your skills. Just ask Mary Lynn Dugan (at this email address) where you might volunteer for the good of the show.

Everyone should know what their specific cast list is if you are double - cast. If you are not double-cast you will *for sure* be in all four shows. So prepare well for upcoming rehearsals, get rest and stay healthy because things will ramp up considerably over the next several weeks. These are exciting times and our program at WAS helps prepare even our youngest students with amazing real-life theatrical experiences.

This show has the potential to be an outstanding community production, so be sure to spread the word and invite as many folks as possible to see our show at Masonic. I honestly wish I had had this kind

of semi-professional opportunity when I was growing up before I was launched into the professional world of theater. Your kids are working side-by-side with pros, and the take-away is immeasurable! I hope you are pleased by that and that your children are having a wonderful experience.

You will begin to get “Notes” from the director included in regular emails from Mary Lynn Dugan. Please be sure your children always check their emails for my notes as they pertain to what happened in prior rehearsals and what they need to change or work on. I cannot give all my notes in rehearsal so I codify them and send them out for the cast members to read and take note and change what they need to change onstage. It is ‘taking direction by note’ that needs to take place. I so appreciate performers who take their notes seriously and change what they need to change for the next rehearsal. That is how they grow.

By now, I expect EVERYONE to be memorized who has lines. No books. We are now well into October and you should be learned. Period. Some musical numbers need work VOCALLY AND WITH CHOREOGRAPHY but for the most part, scenes & songs need to be memorized...even if you have missed rehearsals. YOU ARE REQUIRED TO BE MEMORIZED EVEN AND ESPECIALLY IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN IN REHEARSAL. COME PREPARED, *leads especially*. We were not able to stage a couple of scenes because so many rehearsals were missed. We can do no meaningful rehearsal if we don't know what we are saying or singing at this point. Timing is everything!! It is time to refine our characters...not wondering what our lines or musical lyrics are.

I am very proud of the ensembles in terms of memorization. We just need to refine our part singing and choreography. Thank you for your amazing work!

Remember to always come to long rehearsals with a good work ethic and keep your energy high. We need to remember to be quiet & our talking/noise to a minimum in our very live space at ECA. Bring water and patience!!

I am so proud of all of you and October is going to be an exciting month. This is what we actors live for!!! Rehearsing a great show, with great people and the exciting challenges we are meeting with one of the most beloved musicals ever written!

Please check your emails, as that is our main point of communication. You can also check the website every day for general info and if you ever have a doubt about something CALL ME. 412-491-2416 if you really need me to answer a critical question.

I feel very blessed to have the cast, crew, and directors we have on board!

Thank You~~ Miss Sarah