

103 – 9 Eleanor Lane, Stillwater Lake, NS B3Z 1H3 Phone: 902-826-1687

Theatre location: The Bay Community Centre, 11 Station Road, Head of St. Margaret's Bay.

E-mail: unicorn.theatre@outlook.com Website: www.unicorntheatre.ca Check out our Facebook page!

January 6, 2026

**VERY
IMPORTANT.
PLEASE
READ!**

Please share this letter with your parents. They should know before you audition that since Unicorn Theatre is a co-operative youth theatre run entirely by volunteers, parental involvement is required from each family where a young person is cast in the show. There will be a Parents' Meeting the first night of rehearsals, and an adult from each family will be asked to sign up to help with costumes, sets, props, publicity or technical. We will also require parental assistance during the run of the show. We literally cannot put on the show without our parent volunteers!

Dear Auditioner,

Thank you for your interest in auditioning for our new production, "The Wizard of Oz." **All auditions are by appointment, so please call 902-826-1687 or e-mail unicorn.theatre@outlook.com to book your time.** Please note that you must be in **Grades 3-12** to audition.

We are holding auditions only on **Saturday, January 24 and Sunday, January 25** during the day at the Bay Community Centre, 11 Station Road, Head of St. Margaret's Bay. Only the Director/Musical Director and the Artistic Director (and you!) will be present at the audition.

Your audition will be about 10 minutes in length. You will be asked to perform the audition pieces (acting and singing) you have prepared (see next page) and perhaps read from the script.

If you are cast in the play, you will be rehearsing Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6-8 pm, starting **Thursday, January 29**. Please note that there will be three extra Saturday afternoon rehearsals during the rehearsal period (dates to be advised). Also please note that the mandatory Dress Rehearsals (in the two weeks before the show) will run long. **The two performance weekends are April 24-26 and May 1-3.**

When you come for the audition, you will be asked to complete a "Conflict Calendar". This means we will ask you to mark up the calendar with any conflicts you would have for specific evenings during the rehearsal period if you were cast in the play (e.g. band concert, tickets for Neptune). While everyone would be expected to attend all mandatory rehearsals (for example, rehearsals the week before the show and the two Dress Rehearsals), there could be some flexibility in scheduling rehearsals early in the rehearsal period if people have legitimate conflicts for, say, one or two rehearsals. However, to ensure the success of the production, we need everyone to make rehearsals a high priority and do their utmost to attend all the rehearsals for which they are scheduled. **PLEASE BE SURE TO BRING INFORMATION ABOUT ANY CONFLICTS TO THE AUDITION.** The dates of all the long rehearsals will be available at that time.

Being in a Unicorn Theatre production is a lot of fun, but it is also a serious commitment. Before you decide to audition, please ensure that you have time in your schedule for the twice-weekly rehearsals (Tuesday and Thursday, 6–8 pm). We also ask that you assess your priorities if you

have classes or other commitments that overlap rehearsal time. We do require all cast members to be at rehearsal for 6 pm sharp, as our rehearsal time is limited.

One final point: we do need all actors to be available for every performance of the show (unless they are sick). This includes all members of the Ensemble.

Thank you again for your interest in auditioning for "The Wizard of Oz." It should be a really fun show! If you have any questions about the auditions or the show, please call me at 902-826-1687 or e-mail me at unicorn.theatre@outlook.com.

Yours sincerely,



Iris Elliott
Artistic Director

ABOUT THE SHOW

"The Wizard of Oz" is the story of what happens to Dorothy Gale, a Kansas farm girl, and her little dog, Toto, when they are swept up by a cyclone and find themselves "Over the Rainbow" in the Magical Land of Oz.

Join Dorothy and her loyal companion Toto as they "Follow the Yellow Brick Road" through the Land of Oz. Dorothy is determined to reach the Emerald City, where she plans to ask the great and powerful Wizard of Oz to help them get home to Kansas. Along the way, Dorothy encounters witches (both good and bad), Munchkins, talking trees and winged monkeys. But most importantly, she befriends three unique characters: a Scarecrow with no brain, a Tin Man with no heart, and a Cowardly Lion.

(See Page 9 for Audition Hints from the Director)

AUDITION PIECES

The audition is not scary at all! The Director/Musical Director and Artistic Director will be the only people at the audition, apart from you! The whole thing takes about 10 minutes.

- Acting:**
- 1) Please choose one of the audition pieces provided. In each case, memorize the lines and be prepared to perform the scene at the audition. Think hard about the character you are portraying and pay close attention to any stage directions!**

- 2) You may also be asked to read from the script.

- Singing:** 1) *Song of Own Choice (everyone)*
Perform (in character, with choreography, as though you were actually in the show) a song you know well from a musical or any Disney movie (or similar). This will be sung without accompaniment and can be quite short.
AND
- 2) *The following song from the show:*
“Over the Rainbow”

You should perform the songs as though you were actually in the show. Try to come up with some simple choreography to accompany the songs. Musical accompaniment for the song “Over the Rainbow” will be provided at the audition. You will be given the lyrics and a link to both a vocal version and accompaniment for the song. The vocal version is helpful for learning the song, but it is very important that you practise it with the accompaniment provided, because this is what you will be singing with at the audition.

ACTING

Please choose ONE of the following pieces to memorize and perform at your audition.

AUDITION PIECE #1: DOROTHY

Dorothy Gale is a young girl growing up on a farm in Kansas. When we first meet her, she is in trouble because her dog, Toto, has just bitten the neighbour and she has been told to give him up so that he can be destroyed. She refuses. Her aunt and uncle beg her not to cause trouble, but she decides to take Toto and run away. Just as she is leaving the farm, she sees a cyclone coming and takes refuge in the farmhouse, which is then swept up into the sky, taking her and Toto along with it.

Sometime later, the house lands on solid ground in the Magical Land of Oz, where Dorothy is greeted by a beautiful witch, Glinda, who tells her that the house fell on the Wicked Witch of the East, killing her. Unfortunately, her sister, the Wicked Witch of the West, appears and threatens vengeance on Dorothy.

Glinda warns Dorothy that she has made a dangerous enemy of the Wicked Witch of the West and advises her to get out of Oz as soon as possible. The only way to do this, she says, is to go to the Emerald City and ask the Wizard of Oz for his help. To get there, Dorothy and Toto just need to “Follow the Yellow Brick Road”. Dorothy is a dreamer, but she is also very practical and bravely sets off for Oz to see the Wizard and try to find a way home to Kansas.

Pay close attention to the stage directions. These are the bits that look like this. You need to memorize only the lines spoken by Dorothy. All other lines will be read by one of the directors.

A Scarecrow stands in a cornfield at a fork in the road (R). Dorothy and Toto enter (L). They do not notice the Scarecrow.

DOROTHY: Follow the Yellow Brick Road?

TOTO: Ruff?

DOROTHY: *(Looking around)* Now which way do we go?

SCARECROW: That way is a very nice way. *(He points to the right.)*

TOTO: Ruff. Ruff. Grrrr!

DOROTHY: *(Startled)* Who said that?

TOTO: Grrr...

DOROTHY: Don't be silly, Toto. Scarecrows don't talk.

SCARECROW: It's pleasant down that way too. *(He points to the left.)*

DOROTHY: That's funny. Wasn't he pointing the other way?

SCARECROW: Of course, people do go both ways.

DOROTHY: Why, you did say something, didn't you?

The Scarecrow nods yes, and then no.

DOROTHY: Are you doing that on purpose, or can't you make up your mind?

SCARECROW: That's the trouble. I can't make up my mind. I haven't got a brain. Only straw.

DOROTHY: How can you talk if you haven't got a brain?

SCARECROW: I don't know. Some people without brains do an awful lot of talking, don't they?

DOROTHY: Yes, I guess you're right. We haven't really met properly, have we?

SCARECROW: Why, no.

DOROTHY: I'm Dorothy Gale, and this is my dog Toto!

AUDITION PIECE #2: The Cowardly Lion

Dorothy and Toto have set off on their journey to the Emerald City to ask the Wizard of Oz to help them get back to Kansas. Along the way, they befriend a Scarecrow who has no brain and a Tin Man who has no heart. Dorothy invites them both to join the quest to seek help from the Wizard.

Pay close attention to the stage directions. *These are the bits that look like this.* You need to memorize only the lines spoken by the Cowardly Lion. All other lines will be read by one of the directors.

Dorothy, Toto, the Scarecrow, and the Tin Man enter a dark and creepy forest (R).

The Lion rushes on (L), growling ferociously.

LION: Put 'em up! Put 'em up! I'll fight you with one paw tied behind my back. I'll fight you standing on one foot. I'll fight you with my eyes closed.

TIN MAN: Go away and let us alone!

The Lion spots Toto.

Lion: All right Pee-Wee! I guess it's you and me!

The Lion chases Toto, who hides behind Dorothy.

DOROTHY: Shame on you! *(She raps him on the muzzle.)*

LION: Whadcha do that for? I didn't bite him!

DOROTHY: No, but you tried to. Pick on someone your own size!

LION: You didn't have to go and hit me, did you? Is my nose bleeding?

DOROTHY: Of course not. My goodness, what a fuss you're making. Why, you're nothing but a great big coward!

LION: You're right! I am a coward. I haven't any courage at all. I even scare myself. Look at the circles under my eyes. I haven't slept in weeks.

TIN MAN: Why don't you try counting sheep?

LION: That doesn't do any good...I'm afraid of 'em.

SCARECROW: Don't you think the Wizard could help him too?

DOROTHY: I don't see why not. We're on our way to Oz to see the Wizard. I'm sure he could give you some courage.

LION: Well, wouldn't you feel degraded to be seen in the company of a cowardly lion? I would.

DOROTHY: Of course not.

AUDITION PIECE #3: THE WICKED WITCH OF THE WEST

When Dorothy and Toto arrive in Munchkinland after being caught up in a cyclone and carried up into the sky along with the Kansas farmhouse, the first person to greet them is Glinda, a good witch. She tells them that they are heroes to the Munchkins because the house has fallen on very bad witch, killing her. Her legs can be seen protruding from under the farmhouse, and on her feet are a beautiful pair of ruby slippers.

Pay close attention to the stage directions. These are the bits that look like this. You need to memorize only the lines spoken by the Wicked Witch of the West. All other lines will be read by one of the directors.

Suddenly, the Wicked Witch of the West appears, clutching her broomstick. The Munchkins react with fear.

DOROTHY: I thought you said she was dead.

GLINDA: That was her sister, the Wicked Witch of the East. This is the Wicked Witch of the West and she's worse than the other one was.

WITCH: Who killed my sister? Who killed the Witch of the East? Was it you? Answer me!

GLINDA: Leave her alone!

WITCH: You stay out of this! I'm here for vengeance! You killed her, didn't you?

DOROTHY: No, it was an accident! I didn't mean to kill anybody, really I didn't!

WITCH: Didn't mean it, eh? Accident, eh? Well, my little pretty, I can cause accidents too – and this is how I do it!

GLINDA: Aren't you forgetting the ruby slippers?

WITCH: The slippers! (*The ruby slippers disappear and the legs are drawn back under the house.*)

WITCH: They're gone! (*The slippers appear on Dorothy's feet.*)

WITCH: The ruby slippers! What have you done with them? Give them back to me or I'll –

GLINDA: Too late! There they are and there they'll stay!

WITCH: Give me back my slippers! Give them back!

GLINDA: Keep tight inside of them, their magic must be very powerful, or she wouldn't want them so badly!

WITCH: You stay out of this, Glinda, or I'll fix you as well!

GLINDA: (*Laughs*): Oh rubbish! You have no power here. Be gone before somebody drops a house on you, too.

WITCH: Very well, I'd bide my time. I'll get you, my pretty, and your little dog, too! (*Laughs a horrible laugh.*)

SINGING

Advice from the Musical Director:

Remember that “putting over a song” is the ticket for successful musical theatre auditions!

Study the character you are portraying.

Add lots of emotion (through facial expression and body language) when you perform the song

If a song is in a difficult range, you can adapt it to your voice.

Make sure every word you sing is clearly heard! Have fun!

Note: #1 and 2 are mandatory (that means you have to do BOTH)

1. ***Perform a song of your own choice from a musical or a movie.*** This will be sung unaccompanied. Hint: choose something you know well and perform it in character, **with choreography**, as though you were in the show. Your performance can be quite short (one or two verses).

AND

2. ***Perform the song “Over the Rainbow” from the show.*** Lyrics are given, as well as vocal and accompaniment tracks. The vocal tracks are useful for learning the song, but since you will be singing the song with the accompaniment at your audition, it’s essential that you also practise with that track at home. *Remember to perform the song as if you were playing the character in the show (with simple choreography).* **Pay close attention to the stage directions. These are the bits that look like this.**

WHEN PRACTISING, PLEASE USE THE TRACKS FROM THE SHOW THAT WE PROVIDE. THE ACCOMPANIMENT TRACK IS WHAT YOU WILL BE SINGING WITH AT YOUR AUDITION.

The song “OVER THE RAINBOW” is from the 1939 film *The Wizard of Oz*. It was performed by Judy Garland and is one of the most iconic songs in film history, winning the 1939 Academy Award for Best Original song.

Sung by Dorothy near the beginning of the show, “Over the Rainbow” describes a magical place that she longs to visit – a place where there isn’t any trouble and dreams really do come true.

OVER THE RAINBOW

Somewhere over the rainbow
Way up high,
There's a land that I heard of
Once in a lullaby

Somewhere over the rainbow
Skies are blue,
And the dreams that you dare to dream
Really do come true.

Someday I'll wish upon a star
And wake up where the clouds
Are far behind me.
Where troubles melt like lemon drops
Away above the chimney tops,
That's where you'll find me.

Somewhere over the rainbow
Bluebirds fly,
Birds fly over the rainbow,
Why, then, oh, why can't I?...

If happy little bluebirds fly
Beyond the rainbow
Why, oh, why can't I?

AUDITION HINTS - From the Director

GO BIG! There is no time for nervousness in an audition. (Easier said than done, I know.) It is time to show us what you can do! Don't be afraid to be different; that is what we're looking for. Performing is a risk, - **TAKE IT!**

Make sure we know what you are saying! This is very important in acting. Make sure you are loud! Practise your audition pieces using the following techniques:

- Open your mouth **EXTRA** wide when speaking and singing.
- Breathe from your belly! Imagine there is a balloon in your belly that fills with air as you breathe in and pushes out the sound as you speak.
- Speak **S-L-O-W-L-Y!**
- Face front.

Act with your body as well as your voice! This one is very, very important. So many young actors think about acting with their voice and their face, but they forget all about their hands, feet, head, belly, back, arms, knees and even toes! Think of ways you can use all parts of your body to express what your character feels.

Decide before you begin exactly what you think the character is like. What kind of voice does he/she have? How does he/she walk? Is he/she young...old? Is the scene supposed to be funny, or is it a little more serious? Whether acting or singing, remember to perform as though you were actually playing that part or singing that song in the show. If there are other people in the scene, you will have to work out in your own mind where they are on the stage so that you can talk to them. Make eye contact just like in real life. Oh, and don't forget those stage directions! Most of all... HAVE FUN! Take the time to enjoy showing us what you can do!

Remember, a well-prepared audition will impress the directors more than a poorly prepared one! Good luck!