



First Act Theatre Arts Presents

Fall 2026

Finding Nemo Jr.

Performance Dates: November 12-15, 2026
at The Bell Center at MidAmerica Nazarene University



Show Information & Conflict Sheet (found on pg. 3)

Artistic Team:

Director: Hillary Talken
AD/SM Director: Alyssa Cooper
Music Director: Lindsay James
Choreographer: Amy Carson

Production Information:

Show Coordinator: Catie Taussig
catie@firstactkc.org

Auditions:

Friday, August 21 from 4:00-9:00 PM
Leawood United Methodist Church
2915 W 95th St, Leawood, KS 66206

Callbacks:

Saturday, August 22 from 2:00-6:00 PM
First Act Theatre Arts
6800 W 153rd St, Overland Park, KS 66223

Rehearsals:

Tuesdays from 5:30-8:30, Fridays from 5:30-9:00 at Leawood United Methodist Church 2915 W 95th St, Leawood, KS 66206
Saturday Rehearsals (10/3, 10/24, 11/7) at First Act Theatre Arts - 6800 W 153rd St, Overland Park, KS 66223

How to Audition:

1. [Register](#)! All students must be registered for a Fall 2026 Semester class, the Fall 2026 Production Opt-Out, or HEART Production Package.
2. Fill out the [Fall 2026 Audition Form](#).
3. **Sign up for an Audition Time.** (Link on the confirmation page of the Audition Form)
4. Make sure you've submitted a [2026-2027 Medical Release Form](#).

About *Finding Nemo Jr.*:

Disney's *Finding Nemo JR.* is a musical adaptation of the beloved 2003 Pixar movie *Finding Nemo*, with new music by award-winning songwriting team Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez. Marlin, an anxious and over-protective clownfish, lives in the Great Barrier Reef with his kid Nemo, who longs to explore the world beyond their anemone home. But when Nemo is captured and taken to Sydney, Marlin faces his fears and sets off on an epic adventure across the ocean. With the help of lovable characters such as optimistic Dory, laid-back sea turtle Crush, and the supportive Tank Gang, Marlin and Nemo both overcome challenges on their journey to find each other and themselves. Featuring memorable songs such as "Just Keep Swimming," "Fish Are Friends Not Food," and "Go With the Flow," *Finding Nemo JR.* brings a vibrant underwater world to life on stage in a story full of family, friendship, and adventure.

Character Descriptions

**Note: All genders will be considered for multiple roles.*

Character	Description
Nemo	A curious, energetic young clownfish who brims with excitement to explore the wonders that lie beyond the Great Barrier Reef. Born with a “lucky fin” – or what humans would call a limb difference. Nemo quickly learns that the world possesses incredible dangers in addition to the promise of big adventures. By making new friends, finding strength within, and practicing teamwork, Nemo transforms into a capable and brave leader, able to self-advocate and take on challenges big and small.
Marlin	An anxious clownfish and Nemo’s overprotective father, who, after the tragic death of his wife Coral, prefers the safety of his anemone to the frightening unknowns of the open ocean. Forced to travel across the sea in search of Nemo, Marlin develops the courage to face the unpredictable ocean and the wisdom to trust others – including his own kid. A helicopter parent who eventually learns to lighten up and embrace the clown in “clownfish.”
Dory	An optimistic and bubbly blue tang, experiences frequent short-term memory loss and finds herself wandering through the ocean with no place to call home. Sparking friendships with whomever she meets, Dory immediately offers to help Marlin find his lost child, and the two set out on an adventurous journey through the ocean. Along the way, Dory’s kindness and bright spirit ease Marlin’s fears, and the unlikely duo finds comfort and family in each other.
Coral	A loving mother-to-be clownfish, married to Marlin, who will stop at nothing to protect her eggs.
Professor Ray	A stingray and Nemo’s enthusiastic teacher, takes pride in sharing the curiosities and marvels of the world with the class and encourages every student to be a brave explorer. Cast a performer with excellent diction to handle the large scientific words in this professor’s advanced vocabulary.
Crush	Crush, a 150-year-old sea turtle who knows how to hang loose, teaches Marlin a thing or two about being a good parent.
Bruce	An intimidating great white shark, is the sharks’ ringleader. Despite Bruce’s best efforts to adopt a vegetarian diet, Bruce loses control and is sent into a frenzy, threatening to devour every fish in sight. Part of the Sharks.
Chum & Anchor	Two of Bruce’s shark friends, try to live vegetarian lifestyles but are eventually forced to restrain an out-of- control Bruce from eating innocent fish. Part of The Sharks.

Bubbles	Part of the “Tank Gang” that helps Nemo escape the Sydney Harbor Aquarium and return to the ocean. A yellow tang who is captivated by bubbles, is the first to welcome Nemo to the tank. This friendly fish exclusively uses the word “bubbles” to communicate.
Bloat	Part of the “Tank Gang” that helps Nemo escape the Sydney Harbor Aquarium and return to the ocean. An open-minded and supportive blowfish, is proud to be part of the Tank Gang family and helps keep everyone’s spirits up, even when things seem bleak.
Gurgle	Part of the “Tank Gang” that helps Nemo escape the Sydney Harbor Aquarium and return to the ocean. Frightened of strangers and the germs they carry with them, is a royal gramma who enjoys the safety and regulated cleanliness of the tank.
Peach	Part of the “Tank Gang” that helps Nemo escape the Sydney Harbor Aquarium and return to the ocean. A mature and down-to-earth starfish, offers guidance and reassurance to all those who need it.
Gill	Part of the “Tank Gang” that helps Nemo escape the Sydney Harbor Aquarium and return to the ocean. A relentless and inspiring leader who will stop at nothing to return to the freedom of the ocean. This Moorish idol fish believes in the Tank Gang and concocts countless plans to bust them out of the aquarium. Gill is the first fish Nemo has ever met with a similar “fin difference,” quickly becoming a mentor and inspiration for the young clownfish.
Nigel	A sharp-eyed pelican, Nigel is the Tank Gang’s feathered friend and only connection to the outside world. This bird is someone you can count on to know all the latest news on the happenings of Sydney Harbour.

*Other roles include Reef Kids (Pearl, Sheldon, Tad), Reef Parents, Scuba Mask Dancer, Fish Friends, Seagulls, & Sea Turtles (Squirt, Kai, and Breeze), Sea Chorus

Production Schedule/Conflict Sheet

All cast may not be called to every rehearsal; this form allows us to be aware of all possible conflicts. Cast members must attend all show week dress rehearsals and performances. Please note this is NOT a final rehearsal schedule. Putting together a show takes lots of work from EVERYONE in the cast. First Act KC has a strict and clearly defined Absence Policy in order to protect our shows and guarantee that they will be successful. Please understand that being cast in a show is a commitment and privilege!

First Act's Attendance Policy is as follows:

1. All cast members AND parents must review the show conflict form and sign off on it prior to auditioning.
2. An unexcused absence is defined as the following: any absence from a rehearsal not indicated on the conflict sheet *at the time of auditions* for any reason other than sickness or family emergency. *Please note that absences communicated AFTER the cast list has been posted will be considered unexcused unless they are for sickness or family emergency.*
3. All attendance issues, including when a student will miss rehearsal, is sick, or is running late, MUST be communicated to the Production Coordinator.
4. Students who arrive more than 30 minutes past their call time may receive an unexcused absence.
5. When a student has 2 unexcused absences, the directing team reserves the right to remove that student from a scene or song in the show.
6. When a student has 3 unexcused absences, they may be dropped from the show. Any appeals must be made to the Director of Artistic Productions.
7. Any student with 5 or more absences (~25% of the rehearsal process) listed on their conflict sheet will not be considered for a lead role in the show.
8. Tech Week Absences (starting on Move-in Sunday and continuing until the close of the show) are only allowed with prior approval from the Director of Artistic Productions at the time of auditions. Without prior approval, First Act reserves the right to remove said student from the show.
9. If a student misses a performance, they will be immediately removed from the show and will not perform in the remainder of the production. *Sickness and Family Emergency are exceptions to this rule.*
10. Please note: multiple unexcused absences may affect future casting opportunities.

Student Initials

Parent Initials

Day	Date	Schedule	Conflicts - list all which cannot be rescheduled or canceled
Friday	8/21	Auditions 4:00-9:00 PM	
Saturday	8/22	Callbacks 2:00PM-6:00PM	
Tuesday	8/25	Rehearsal	
Friday	8/28	Rehearsal	
Tuesday	9/1	Rehearsal 1st Parent Meeting	
Friday	9/4	Rehearsal	

Tuesday	9/8	Rehearsal	
Friday	9/11	Rehearsal	
Tuesday	9/15	Rehearsal	
Friday	9/18	Rehearsal	
Tuesday	9/22	Rehearsal	
Friday	9/25	Rehearsal	
Tuesday	9/29	Rehearsal	
Friday	10/2	Rehearsal	
Saturday	10/3	Rehearsal & Costume Fittings 9:00AM-2:00PM	
Tuesday	10/6	Rehearsal	
Friday	10/9	Rehearsal	
Tuesday	10/13	Rehearsal	
Friday	10/16	Rehearsal	
Tuesday	10/20	Rehearsal 2nd Parent Meeting	
Friday	10/23	Rehearsal	
Saturday	10/24	Rehearsal & Costume Parade 9:00AM-2:00PM	
Tuesday	10/27	Rehearsal	
Friday	10/30	Rehearsal	
Tuesday	11/3	Rehearsal	
Friday	11/6	Rehearsal (Designer Run)	Designer Run
Saturday	11/7	Rehearsal Final Room Run 9:00AM-2:00PM	
Sunday	11/8	Move-In (All Day)	Artistic Team, Parent Committees, and Students 14+
Monday	11/9	Tech Rehearsal 5:00-9:00PM	Conflicts only allowed with prior approval from First Act Leadership

Tuesday	11/10	Dress Rehearsal 5:00-9:00PM	Conflicts only allowed with prior approval from First Act Leadership
Wednesday	11/11	Dress Rehearsal 5:00-9:00PM	Conflicts only allowed with prior approval from First Act Leadership
Thursday	11/12	7PM Show (5:30PM Call)	Conflicts Not Allowed
Friday	11/13	10AM & 7PM Show (8:30 AM & 5:30PM Call)	Conflicts Not Allowed
Saturday	11/14	2PM & 7PM Show (12:30PM Call)	Conflicts Not Allowed
Sunday	11/15	2PM Show & Strike (12:30PM Call)	Conflicts Not Allowed

Comments: Please list any anticipated future conflicts (i.e. choir/band concerts, athletic tournaments etc.), including any dates you may be late to rehearsal (if applicable). Please note that the total number of conflicts and anticipated conflicts will be considered during casting.
