

# METROPOLIS

*School* OF THE PERFORMING ARTS

## Audition and Casting Policies

Metropolis School of the Performing Arts offers numerous production opportunities through performance camp programs and semester productions. For each production experience, SOPA students must participate in the audition process. The audition process adheres to the following guidelines:

- No prior experience is needed to participate in any SOPA performance camp or semester production. However, students wishing to audition for a semester production (Fall Musical or Spring Play) must be a currently enrolled SOPA student.
- Auditions are conducted in a non-biased, non-discriminatory environment.
- Each student is provided the same audition opportunity.
- Casting decisions are primarily based upon the student's performance at the time of the audition.
  - Student audition performances are evaluated on the following factors:
    - Volume & projection (speaking and/or singing)
    - Characterization (clear understanding and demonstration of character and context)
    - Stage presence
    - Dance/movement
    - Risk-taking (bold and expressive choices to make an impression)
    - Preparedness for the audition/callback experience
    - Professionalism (respectful, kind, able to follow directions, good role model)
    - Availability/commitment for entire process including minimal or no conflicts

*Special Note from Metropolis Directing Staff:* Casting is all about finding which role is right for each student and that may not be the lead role. Sometimes a student may be right for a lead in one production but not right for the lead in another. It is good for students to learn to play smaller roles due to the different challenges these roles present. Additionally this prepares students for "real world" experiences.

The educational value of our productions is of the utmost importance; therefore we set a cast size limit in order to best fit the needs of our students and adhere to copyright laws. Additionally, Metropolis does not double-cast productions as a matter of policy. In performance camp programs students are guaranteed to be a member of the cast; however, not every student will have a line or solo. In semester productions, not every student who auditions will be cast.

### **All casting decisions are final.**

**Behavior Policy:** Metropolis Staff and Faculty are dedicated to maintaining a fun, safe environment where creativity can thrive. Each child is expected to treat their fellow students and staff members with respect and cooperation. Parents will be notified immediately if a student causes either physical or verbal harm to another, if a student damages equipment or property, or if a student exhibits any dangerous behavior during the learning or rehearsal process. If the behavior persists after being discussed with parents, the student may be asked to leave the program. If a student is asked to leave the program, refunds will not be given.

**Note about Parent Observation:** Metropolis staff wants each child to feel comfortable to explore their creativity, take artistic risks, and have fun! In order to maintain such an atmosphere, parents are not permitted to observe auditions or rehearsals unless special arrangements have been made with the SOPA Production Manager/Camp Director.

Questions or comments can be directed to SOPA Production Manager/Camp Director Maggie Neumayer via email to [mneumayer@metropolisarts.com](mailto:mneumayer@metropolisarts.com).