

Dear Parents/Guardians of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Graders-

It is with *great* pleasure that we can announce this year's musical, *Dear Edwina, Jr.*

Dear Edwina JR. *follows the adventures of plucky advice-giver-extraordinaire, Edwina Spoonapple, as she directs the neighborhood kids in a series of buoyant production numbers for the latest edition of her weekly "Advice-a-Palooza." Edwina and her friends share wisdom on everything from trying new foods to making new friends, through clever, catchy and poignant songs.*

The *tentative* dates of this year's musical will be **Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM** and Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> (in school). **Dates are subject to change.**

- **Play rehearsals will conform to the Afterschool Program schedule and run Mondays through Thursdays until approximately 5:30.**
- **ALL MUSICAL MEMBERS MUST BE IN THE AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM. Please see Ms. Sweeney or Mrs. Lefkus if you need an application.**
- **Attendance at rehearsals is mandatory!** Students who miss more than 2 rehearsals may not be able to keep their part in the play.
- **Regarding Roles:** Roles are assigned after auditions, we will not decide on roles until all auditions are over.
- **Stage Crew is always an option.** Students who attend rehearsals and help out with various jobs, such as lighting, music, props, costumes, etc, are Stage Crew! If your child is interested in somehow participating in this year's musical, but doesn't want to act/sing/dance, stage crew would be a wonderful alternative. However, if there are too many applicants for stage crew *there will be cuts!*
- **All cast members will be required to sing/act/dance!**

Auditions will start the week of January 6<sup>th</sup> and after school rehearsals will begin the week of February 3<sup>rd</sup>, with the Afterschool schedule.

When your child auditions, they will be asked to **rank their top 5 character choices** and **whether or not they'll be happy even if they don't get one of their top 5 choices.**

We'd like to make everyone happy, but with so many students trying out, it does make casting very difficult. **Please take the time to really go over this with your child.** If he/she won't be happy with a part that's not in their top 5, it's important that they say that at the audition. No hard feelings.

## RUBRIC FOR SONG

The following criteria will be used to evaluate the song portion of the audition.

**Enunciation** (The student is speaking clearly, making all letters in a word heard. For example: the “T” in the word heart.)

- 0=student did not enunciate at all
- 1= student had mostly inconsistent enunciation
- 2= student enunciated with minor inconsistencies
- 3= student had exceptional enunciation at all times

**Projection** (The student could easily have their voice be heard in a large room with no use of a microphone.)

- 0= student did not project at all
- 1= student projected some of the time, but majority of words were not heard
- 2= student projected well with minor inconsistencies
- 3= student had exceptional projection at all times

**Intonation** (The student sings in tune/matches pitch)

- 0= student did not match pitch
- 1= student demonstrated mostly inconsistent pitch matching
- 2= students demonstrated minor inconsistencies with pitch matching
- 3= student demonstrated exceptional pitch matching

**Stage Presence** (The student looks and feels comfortable in front of an audience while delivering lines. The student’s actions do not take away from the words being said.)

- 0= student had no stage presence/looked uncomfortable or extremely “fidgety”
- 1=student had little stage presence with distractions
- 2= student had decent stage presence with minor distractions
- 3= student had exceptional stage presence/ did not fidget or present any distractions

**Memorization** (The student is able to recite all words without any help.)

- 0= student did not have song memorized
- 1= student required lots of assistance in order to get through song
- 2= student required little assistance in order to get through song
- 3= student had entire song memorized perfectly.

## RUBRIC FOR POEM

The following criteria will be used to evaluate the poem portion of the audition.

**Enunciation** (The student is speaking clearly, making all letters in a word heard. For example: the “T” in the word heart.)

- 0=student did not enunciate at all
- 1= student had mostly inconsistent enunciation
- 2= student enunciated with minor inconsistencies
- 3= student had exceptional enunciation at all times

**Projection** (The student could easily have their voice be heard in a large room with no use of a microphone.)

- 0= student did not project at all
- 1= student projected some of the time, but majority of words were not heard
- 2= student projected well with minor inconsistencies
- 3= student had exceptional projection at all times

**Inflection** (The student used their voice to express the meaning behind the words in the poem. For example, there is an audible difference for words of more importance)

- 0= student had no inflection in delivery
- 1= student used inflection to a small degree
- 2= student used inflection with minor inconsistencies
- 3= student had exceptional inflection at all times

**Stage Presence** (The student looks and feels comfortable in front of an audience while delivering lines. The student’s actions do not take away from the words being said.)

- 0= student had no stage presence/looked uncomfortable or extremely “fidgety”
- 1=student had little stage presence with distractions
- 2= student had decent stage presence with minor distractions
- 3= student had exceptional stage presence/ did not fidget or present any distractions

**Memorization** (The student is able to recite all words without any help.)

- 0= student did not have poem memorized
- 1= student required lots of assistance in order to get through poem
- 2= student required little assistance in order to get through poem
- 3= student had entire poem memorized perfectly.

**AUDITION MATERIALS and ADVICE**

Students should prepare to audition with the song and reading *regardless* of their desire to sing a solo in the play. Please indicate on the next page whether you prefer a part without a singing solo, but you may still be a part of a large chorus!

Stage Crew does NOT need to audition, only sign up and indicate their job preference on the paperwork that goes to Mrs. Lefkus or Mrs. Oliver. *Remember, there may be cuts to the stage crew!*

Key things to keep in mind when preparing for the audition:

- **Whether singing or speaking, do it in a loud and clear voice.** Make sure all letters are heard...especially the ending consonants. For example, when saying the word “around” it’s easy to lose the sound of the “d”. Don’t lose it. Make sure all parts of the word are easily heard. **Your voice will need to fill the auditorium.** We use microphones but **do not** depend on them.
- **Read with emotion.** Use your body and your facial expressions to show emotion. **Make it interesting...make your audition stand out!!!**
- **SLOWLY!!** It is not a race to the end....feel free to put in pauses or rests in between words if you feel it is appropriate. When you speak fast, we lose both the meaning and the words.
- **Practice auditioning at home.** Your stuffed animals or pets make great pretend audience members...your family members are even better because they can give you feedback or advice.
- **Always take a deep breath before starting. THINK BEFORE SPEAKING!!!**
- **Make sure it’s memorized...perfectly**

**Reading:**

Welcome to the Dear Edwina advice-giving show, written by me, Edwina Spoonapple. Musical direction is, of course, provided by my sister, Myra Spoonapple! And you all will recognize my brother, Joe Spoonapple, who is sitting with us today on percussion!

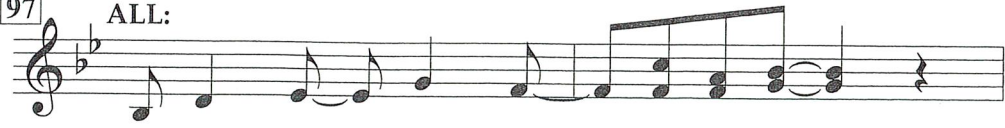
And for refreshment, don’t forget to visit Kelli’s lemonade stand at intermission. And I have just been informed that as a special offer, anyone from Kalamazoo, our great sister city to the West, gets a free refill on his or her Kool-Aid of choice!

Just look at this wheelbarrow! It sure looks like you people of Paw Paw need a lot of advice. While the selection process was very difficult, we have found many amazing, wild and earth-shatteringly important subjects to discuss in today’s performance.

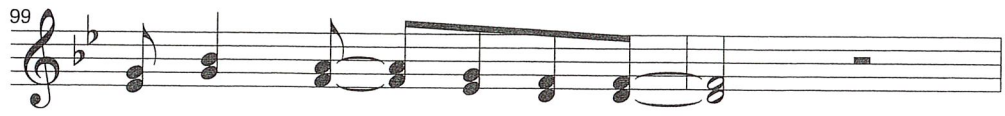
**Song (on next page):**

97

ALL:



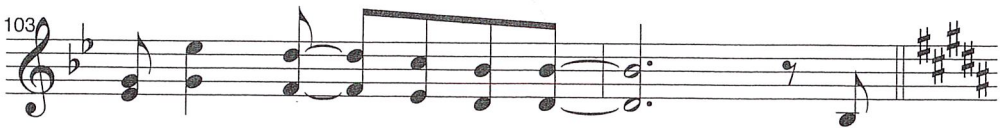
Ho - la, Lo - la! Lo - la, hel - lo! —



Ho - la, Lo - la, hel - lo. —

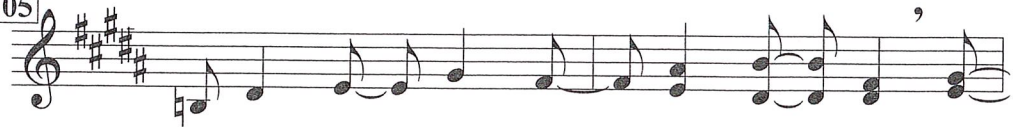


Ho - la, Lo - la! Lo - la, hel - lo! —

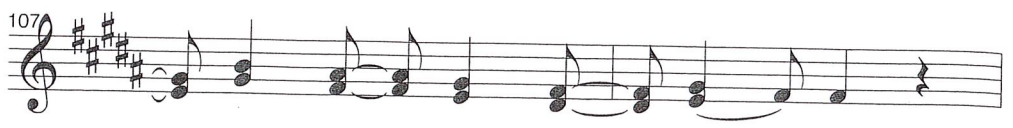


Ho - la, Lo - la, hel - lo. — Al -

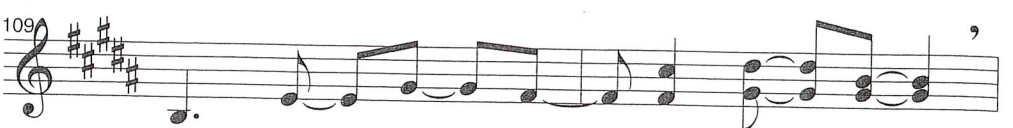
105



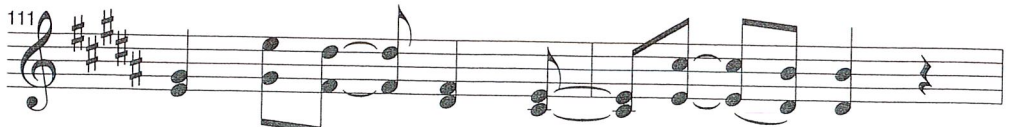
o - ha, Lo - la! Shal - om, Lo - la. Sa -



laam, Lo - la, cheer - i - o.



Ciao, Lo - la, — ni - hau, Lo - la. —



Jam - bo, anh - yeh ha - seh - yo!

MUSICAL PERMISSION SLIP to be returned by Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>

Student Name

Student Homeroom

Please mark the top 5 character roles you are interested in playing and number them in order of preferences (**1** being the one you want the **most**, and **5** being the one you want the **least**)

<i>SPEAKING:</i>	<i>SOLO SINGING ONLY:</i>
Edwina (183, S*)	Boy 1
Becky (34, S)	Boy 2
Scott (31, S*)	Boy 3
Bobby (27, S)	Susie
Katie (22)	Johnny
Talent Scout (19)	Abigail*
Billy (15, S)	Frank
Kelli (15, S)	Frank's Ma
Annie (14, S)	Carrie*
Cordell (10, S)	Sonoma
Lars (7)	William
Fairy Forkmother (7, S)	Periwinkle*
Cheerleaders (6)	Harry
Kid 4 (4, S)	Lola
Kid 7 (4)	Band
Chef Ludmilla (4, S)	Farmer Jerry
Kids 1, 2, and 3 (3, S)	Pigs
Kids 5 and 6 (3)	
Aphrodite (3, S*)	<i>SILENT CHARACTERS:</i>
Vladimir (3, S*)	Myra
Mary Sue Betty Bob (3, S*)	Joe
Queen (1, S)	
Ziggy (1, S*)	

**Please choose whichever statement applies:**

I understand that I may not get any of the roles I want.

- If that happens, I will be okay with any part.  
 If that happens, I do not want to be a part of the musical.

- I would accept a role with solo singing**  
 **I would accept a role of a different gender than mine**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please Sign Here

**\*\*Stage Crew ONLY**

Rank 1-5

Script supervisor <i>Following along with the script during rehearsal</i>	
Lights and Sound <i>Coordinating the music and lights with the performance</i>	
Stage Manager <i>Working the lights and sound</i>	
Costume Coordinator <i>Creating and organizing the costumes</i>	
Prop Master <i>Finding and organizing the props</i>	
Crew Member <i>Assisting with any of the above jobs</i>	

**You can find a link to the audition song, more information on the characters, this packet, and the Afterschool sign-up packet on the music web page:**

**[salemhydremusic.wordpress.com](http://salemhydremusic.wordpress.com)**