



## **STUDENTS ON STAGE 2022-23 Information Package**

### **Program Goals:**

The Sudbury Theatre Centre is proud to offer the *Students on Stage Program* which began in 2003.

The program is intended to provide students with an opportunity to grow and to provide a more in-depth theatre education beyond the Saturday Youth Drama / Musical Theatre classes.

This unique program moves toward a product of a final performance, but process is where the emphasis lies. The rehearsal space is a place to take risks, experiment, build self-confidence and develop skills in personal relationships and team-work.

This program includes theatre training in acting, voice, and movement. Students will also have the opportunity to learn about the many interesting elements that contribute to a theatrical production including costuming, set and props, lighting and sound, and backstage work.

The success of the program is the result of the skill and dedication of a collaborative team of teachers, theatre professionals and volunteers. The support of STC personnel has been a huge factor in the development of the program.

The program expects students to behave in a professional manner and show respect for the professional environment.

### **Overview:**

The program is open to students age 10 to 17. Between 20 and 25 students are accepted into the program following an audition process. Auditions will be held in early October. Students wishing to audition for the program would benefit from having previous theatrical experience, in the community, at school or in drama classes, but it's not a requirement for entry. (see pages 2-3 for more about the audition process)

The program runs from the first weekend of February 2023 to the last weekend of May 2023. This includes two rehearsals per week for 15 weeks, followed by a week of technical rehearsals. If rehearsals have to be cancelled due to bad weather or other unforeseen circumstances, make-up rehearsals will be arranged, or other rehearsals will be extended. After a week of technical rehearsals, culminating activities include (depending on the public health conditions next spring) an invited dress rehearsal, six to seven matinees for schools and four public performances. (see more details on page 4). A complete list of all rehearsal and performance dates will be provided to all approved participants at the first rehearsal.

Answers to some *Frequently Asked Questions* about the SOS program can be found on pages 5 & 6.

For more information about *Students on Stage* and other STC educational programs, please visit our website at [www.sudburytheatre.com](http://www.sudburytheatre.com) or contact Education Director Ralph McIntosh at 705 674 8381 x6

We are looking forward to another fun and engaging season of *Students on Stage!*

Ralph McIntosh  
Director of Education  
Phone 705 674 8381 x 6  
Email [education@sudburytheatre.com](mailto:education@sudburytheatre.com)

## AUDITION INFORMATION

### Audition Dates and Times:

Entrance to the Students on Stage program is by audition only.

Auditions will be held at the Sudbury Theatre Centre on **Monday October 3, from 5 to 8:30 pm.**

(If required, additional auditions will be scheduled on Sunday, October 2 from 5 to 8 pm.)

**\*Students cannot simply show up at any time – they must pre-book an assigned time.**

\*If these two dates prove impossible for a student to audition, they may submit their contact information to the box office and ask to be placed on a waiting list for an alternate audition date.

### How to Register:

To book an audition time, students/parents must contact the Education Director

Email: [education@sudburytheatre.com](mailto:education@sudburytheatre.com) Phone: 705.674.8381 x 6

**Information required: Student's full name & age / Parent's name, email & phone number**

The following information will be provided by email to those who sign up for an audition:

- a) Audition date and time
- b) Audition information package, including how to prepare for the audition, rehearsal schedule, performance dates, frequently asked questions, etc.
- c) Two SOS application forms: Student Registration form and Student Information form

Please complete the **Student Registration Form and Student Information Form** and bring them with you to your audition

Both of these forms are also available on our website [www.sudburytheatre.com/students-on-stage/](http://www.sudburytheatre.com/students-on-stage/)

### Audition Process:

Students should arrive 20 minutes ahead of their scheduled audition time.

Auditions are held in groups of 5-6 students of similar ages, and last approximately 40 minutes.

Students must complete the Audition forms beforehand, and bring them to their scheduled audition.

(1-2 volunteers will be in the lobby to greet students and ensure that their forms are complete. We will have extra forms on hand just in case.)

Parents will have the opportunity to learn more about the program in the lobby when the students are in their audition. A member of the SOS production team will be available to answer questions.

### Preparing for your Audition:

- Come prepared to have FUN!
- Wear comfortable clothing that allows you to move around, sit or lie on the floor, etc.
- **Students are to prepare the script excerpt on the following page (memorization is not required). They must also prepare up to ONE MINUTE of any song of their choosing (sung without accompaniment.)**
- The audition will also include a brief group warm-up and some movement and group improvisation exercises.

### Audition Panel:

The audition panel usually consists of 2-4 SOS production team members and/or STC staff (e.g., SOS Director, Stage Manager, Vocal Director, Assistant, etc.).

### Notification of Audition Results:

Students will be notified by email by **Friday October 14** regarding whether they have been accepted into the program or not. **Successful candidates and at least one parent/guardian are required to attend a full cast meeting on Sunday November 13 at 5pm.**

More details about this meeting will be provided a few days before.

## AUDITION SCENE

MISS FIGARO: (from off-stage) What's going on out there? Is that you awful children in front of my house again? What are you doing on my property?

DENNIS: (As they all freeze) Oh, oh, it's Old Lady Figaro!

BECKY: Yikes! Watch out! Here she comes, and is she mad!

HATTIE: Hide! Hide!  
(they all scramble madly about for a hiding place)

JONESY: Oh no, we're in for it again!  
(Miss Figaro storms on-stage, wielding a broom)

FIGARO: Can't I have any peace? (She swings wildly, and the children run in all directions) Hold still, you cowards! Brats! Brats! All of you! A gang of hoodlums! Ruffians! Hold Still!

BECKY: We're sorry, Miss Figaro. We didn't mean to bother you.

DENNIS: We'll leave ... just let us alone, and we'll go home!

HATTIE: (defiantly) This is a public sidewalk. And we're the public.

JONESY: Yeah! You don't own this sidewalk!

FIGARO: This is the sidewalk by my house, so IT IS MY SIDEWALK! I PAY TAXES on this sidewalk, so GET OFF! All the noise you make is awful ... awful!  
(she swings her broom)

DENNIS: (covering his head with his arms to ward off the broom's attack) Oh, boy, I sure wish you'd turn to stone!  
(at these words, Miss Figaro stops dead in her tracks, broom suspended in air)

BECKY: (Gingerly) Miss Figaro? What happened?  
DENNIS: I don't know. Look at her!  
HATTIE: What's wrong with her?  
JONESY: She's not moving at all ...

DENNIS: (Quietly) Miss Figaro? Miss Figaro?  
JONESY: (Touching her arm) Miss Figaro?  
BECKY: Is she breathing?  
HATTIE: Yeah, I can see her breathing ...

DENNIS: Wow! All I said was I wish she'd turn to stone.  
JONESY: I think she did!  
(nervous giggles all around)

BECKY: Wait, I've never seen Old Lady Figaro so quiet. Let's enjoy it for a minute.

JONESY: You'd better not call her that. What if she can hear us?

HATTIE: We've gotta do something. We can't just let her stand there.

DENNIS: She sure is stiff. Maybe she did turn to stone. **END**

## REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

- There are six hours of instructional time per week, beginning on Sunday, February 5, 2023.
  - Rehearsals are on Sunday and Monday evenings from 5pm to 8pm.
  - A complete rehearsal schedule will be provided at the first rehearsal.
  - Rehearsals will not be held on the following dates:
    - Sunday February 19 (Family Day weekend), Sunday March 12 and Monday March 13 (the first weekend of March Break), Sunday April 9 and Monday April 10 (Easter weekend) and Sunday May 21 & Monday May 22 (Victoria Day weekend).
  - If we lose any rehearsals due to inclement weather, we will make up the lost time by extending the time of other rehearsals.
- Extra rehearsals will be required during the week leading up to the first performance.
  - Daily rehearsals will be held Monday, May 15 to Friday, May 19, from 5pm – 9pm
  - There will also be a full day dress rehearsal on Saturday, May 20, starting at 10 am
- PLEASE NOTE: If public health conditions force the cancellation of in-person learning activities, rehearsals will move to an online format for a period of up to four weeks. After four weeks, STC staff will assess the likelihood of being able to complete the program in person. *If a resumption of in-person rehearsals appears unlikely, the program will be cancelled as of the last weekend in that particular month.*
- With this eventuality in mind, we are collecting the Registration Fees in monthly installments. (see more details at the bottom of this page).

## PERFORMANCES

There will be six to seven matinees for school audiences, and three to four public performances.  
*\*subject to change depending on the public health conditions in the spring*

- School Matinees: Tuesday, May 23 to Friday, May 26  
Two shows per day - 9:45 am & 12:15 pm  
*\*afternoon only on Friday, followed by...*
- Public Performances:
  - 1) Friday, May 26 @ 7 pm
  - 2) Saturday, May 27 @ 2:30 pm
  - 3) Saturday, May 27 @ 7 pm
  - 4) Sunday, May 28 @ 2:30 pm

\*The number of matinees will depend on the number of booking requests from the schools.  
Students will be required to be absent from school on all scheduled matinee dates.

## REGISTRATION FEE

- **The course fee is \$325 (includes HST) or \$300 for children of STC subscribers.**
  - \*Students who are registered in other STC programs (e.g., Saturday drama or musical theatre classes) also receive the \$25 discount on their SOS registration fee (\$300).
- *A non-refundable deposit of 20% of the fee (\$65 or \$60) is due within two weeks of acceptance into the program (by Friday, October 28, 2022).*
- The balance of the course fee will be collected in four equal monthly installments, due on the last Friday of the month in January, February, March and April.
- Students requiring some financial assistance may apply for a Student Bursary. Application forms are available from the STC Box Office or Director of Education.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **Will every child who auditions get a part?**

Only 20 - 25 students are accepted into the program.

### **When will students find out if they are in the program?**

You will be notified by email or by phone approx. two weeks after the audition dates.

### **Will all the students get lots of stage time, even if they have just a few lines?**

YES. This is an ensemble program and every student is an important part of our performance. Each child will have a speaking role as well as other performing opportunities such as movement and music. Please help us in reinforcing that the number of lines a performer has does not indicate how important and rewarding their role will be.

### **How many adults will be working with my child?**

3-4 adults (director, stage manager, and one or more other volunteers as required) will work with the students throughout the rehearsal process. A team of 4-6 additional adults provide support with the technical aspects of the production over the final two months.

### **Can the students bring food to their rehearsals?**

Students are encouraged to bring a snack or bag lunch. Please, nothing messy or with **nuts**. (Dinner breaks are not long enough for students to leave the building to buy their food.)

### **What clothing is required for rehearsal?**

Comfortable clothing so that the student can move easily and work on the floor if necessary. Hair is to be off the face for rehearsals (this applies to boys as well as girls)

**BLACK** indoor shoes with **NON-MARKING SOLES** are required at each rehearsal.

Running shoes are acceptable. \*Please put the student's name in their shoes.

### **Can the student leave their indoor shoes at the theatre?**

Sorry, no. We have no storage facilities for the shoes.

### **Do I have to buy a costume for my child?**

The students, the costume team and parent-volunteers all contribute to the costumes.

*More information about parent volunteer opportunities will be provided at the mandatory November meeting of cast members and parents.*

Students and parents will be asked to provide basic clothing items to wear underneath costumes such as: T-shirts, long sleeved T-shirts, leotards/body suits, leggings/sweat pants, tights, and/or socks.

Confirmation of any required costume pieces will be given prior to the beginning of May to allow students and parents sufficient time to organize and find any needed items.

The black jazz or ballet shoes are needed for all rehearsals.

### **My child is in high school. How will their participation affect their end-of-term exams?**

The production should not interfere with high school exams or end-of-term projects – their final performance is scheduled two full weeks before the June exams begin.

**What do I do if my child has a class trip or is on a school sports team?**

The commitment to this course is HUGE. Just as members of a sports team understand that they cannot let their teammates down, so the student actors must realize that they are an integral part of the production and **should not miss, arrive late or leave a rehearsal early.**

**What do I do if my child is sick and cannot attend rehearsal?**

Send an email to [studentsonstage@sudburytheatre.com](mailto:studentsonstage@sudburytheatre.com) as soon as possible that day. If the student's condition improves by the end of the day and they are well enough to attend rehearsal, please send another email to let us know that they are coming.

**What do I do in the case of snow / icy conditions, or if schools are closed on a Monday?**

If the weather is bad or if school is cancelled because of snow/ice, SOS rehearsal is usually cancelled that day as well. Sometimes, the weather/driving conditions improve sufficiently as the day progresses to make it feasible to go ahead with the regularly scheduled rehearsal.

*An official confirmation about that day's rehearsal will be sent out via group email by 12 noon.*

**Are there rehearsals on holiday weekends and the March Break?**

A schedule listing all rehearsal and performance dates will be provided. Sunday rehearsals are cancelled on holiday weekends, but some of the Monday evening rehearsals will proceed as usual – please check the schedule carefully.

**Am I able to watch rehearsals and classes?**

Sorry, parents are not permitted to attend rehearsals or to come backstage at show time.

**If I can't watch classes, how do I know what is going on?**

Each student is asked to bring a 3-ring binder for their script. They will also be given notes throughout the course which will keep you informed about the course and other details. This binder must be brought to every rehearsal. Group emails will be sent periodically to give updates on any necessary rehearsal changes or other important information.

**Are parents involved in the show in any way?**

Parents may be invited to help with costumes and props, and other areas of the production. More details will be provided at the Parents' Meeting at the end of the November meeting.

**What are the Student Bursaries?**

*The Koivu Student Bursary program provides financial assistance to help reduce registration fees. A limited number of bursaries are available for eligible students, based on need. Bursaries are generally awarded for 50% of a program's tuition, but in cases of exceptional need full bursaries may be available.*

- If the parent/guardian wishes to apply for a Student Bursary for this program, contact Ralph McIntosh, Director of Education, for a copy of the Application Form.
- Please fill out the form and return it to the STC no later than Friday, October 28 (the date that the non-refundable deposit is due).

**Any other questions?**

Please contact Ralph McIntosh, Director of Education, at [education@sudburytheatre.com](mailto:education@sudburytheatre.com) or by phone at 705 674 8381 x 6.