

James Wilson Young Middle School
presents



Based on the original Broadway production that ran for over thirteen years and was nominated for nine Tony Awards, and the Academy Award-winning motion picture, Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR. is a fantastic adaptation of the story of transformation and tolerance. Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR. features some of the most popular songs ever written by Alan Menken and the late Howard Ashman, along with new songs by Mr. Menken and Tim Rice.

The classic story tells of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped under the spell of an enchantress. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he will be transformed to his former self. But time is running out. If the Beast does not learn his lesson soon, he and his household will be doomed for all eternity.

PARENT MEETING & STUDENT AUDITION PREP

**Tuesday, January 30th at 6:30pm for students (optional)
7:15pm for Parents in Auditorium**

PERFORMANCES

**Friday, June 1 at 7:00pm &
Saturday, June 2 at 1:00pm & 5:00pm**

AUDITIONS

**Tuesday, February 13th at 5:15pm in the Middle School Auditorium.
Callbacks: Thursday, February 15th at 6:00pm in the Middle School Auditorium.**

Directed by
Kathy Conklin & Teresa Lovito



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Parents, carefully read through all of the audition information with your child!

**Form on p.10 needs to be brought to the audition on February 13th

*Forms 6-8 are due at first rehearsal

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Performing in a musical is an experience that young people will remember for the rest of their lives, and it is truly our pleasure to work with your child on this exciting project. We want everyone involved to understand both the benefits and responsibilities that go along with being in a musical, so we have detailed some of the basics here.

First off, there are a number of great benefits to being in a musical, including:

Active Participation in the Arts: Participating in the arts provides young people with a chance to explore their creativity and imagination in a structured and safe environment. Musical theater is specifically remarkable because it is the only art form that combines all areas of the fine arts: acting, singing, dancing, and visual arts.

Improving Literacy Skills: From reading scripts to memorizing lines to learning to tell a story, young people continually improve their literacy skills while rehearsing and performing in a musical.

Becoming a Confident Public Speaker: It takes a lot of guts to stand up and sing or dance in front of your family, peers, and what may seem like the entire community. Experience with public speaking at a young age gives students confidence that will be important to them for the rest of their lives.

Gaining Critical Thinking & Problem Solving Skills: Putting on a musical is a group effort and every member of the team must work together to make it happen. Throughout the rehearsal process, the students will learn to solve challenges as they arise. Students will learn to trust and depend on themselves and their cast mates

As with any group activity, every participant has responsibilities. Please look over the following items to make sure you and your child feel you can honor the commitment to being a part of a show.

Attendance: Attached to this letter is a basic rehearsal schedule for the show. Please look it over closely to make sure your child has no conflicts with the rehearsals or show dates. If there are conflicts, please let the production team know as soon as possible. Students are expected to attend all rehearsals they are called for unless prior approval has been given. Failure to do so can result in dismissal from the show.

Rehearsals: Rehearsals will typically last from 6:30pm - 8:00pm each day and be held at *JWY Middle School in the Auditorium*. Students should bring their scripts, a pencil, a water, and wear appropriate shoes and clothes for movement. Also, please make sure you have arranged for your child to be picked up on time from each rehearsal.

Homework: Students will have some homework for the show, including memorizing lines and songs, rehearsing their dances, researching their character, etc. Work with your child to create a schedule so they have time to finish both their school homework and their homework from the musical.

Attitude: The rehearsal room and theater are safe spaces where young people can take positive risks and be themselves without the fear of being laughed at or alienated. This principle is essential to artistic growth and exploration. Participants are expected to respect these principles and are encouraged to remember it themselves when trying new things.

Volunteering: The most important thing you can do to help us with the musical is make sure your child commits to everything listed above. If you want to volunteer additional time or resources to the production, simply drop us a note with your name, and we will contact you when assistance is needed. We are still in the process of compiling a list of everything that needs to be done, but don't worry, when we have tasks that need to be done, we will let you know.

Finally, please remember that a musical is a living, breathing entity. Things don't always go exactly as planned, so changes to the plan will most likely be made throughout the rehearsal process. We promise to give you as much advance notice as possible on all changes that arise.

If you have questions or concerns at any time throughout the process, please feel free to contact us at jwymusical@gmail.com and we will be happy to help you. We are adding additional contact information this year through REMIND. You may either text @drkcon to the number 81010 or use this link <https://remind.com/join/fkabd22>

Sincerely,

Kathy Conklin & Teresa Lovito

Beauty and the Beast, Jr. Proposed Calendar of Rehearsals

<u>3/1</u> Cast Welcome & Theatre Warm-ups	<u>3/8</u> Scene 1	<u>3/13</u> Scene 7	<u>3/15</u> Scenes 2 & 3
<u>3/20</u> Scene 4 & 10	<u>3/22</u> Scene 6	<u>3/27</u> Scene 11	<u>3/29</u> No Rehearsal Easter/Passover Vacation
<u>4/3</u> No Rehearsal Easter/Passover Vacation	<u>4/5</u> No Rehearsal Easter/Passover Vacation	<u>4/10</u> Scene 8 6 - 6:45 SEA-BBS 7PM HS Library	<u>4/12</u> Scene 12
<u>4/17</u> Scene 5	<u>4/19</u> Scene 9	<u>4/24</u> Scene 13	<u>4/26</u> Run Dance Numbers
<u>5/1</u> Sing Through 5:45 - 6:45 SEA-BBS 7PM HS Library	<u>5/3</u> Speed Through Act 1	<u>5/8</u> Speed Through Act 2	<u>5/10</u> Clean Major Numbers
<u>5/15</u> Run Through Act 1	<u>5/17</u> Run Through Act 2	<u>5/19</u> SATURDAY 10 - 1 TECH!!!	<u>5/22</u> Complete Run Through
<u>5/29</u> Dress Rehearsal	<u>5/30</u> Dress Rehearsal	<u>5/31</u> Dress Rehearsal	6/1 and 6/2 Performance of 4 and 1 & 5

jwymusical@gmail.com

These are the projected rehearsal dates. The scenes that we work on may change once we begin rehearsals and have everyone's schedules.



COMMITMENT AGREEMENT

PARENTS: Please read and sign below:

I give permission for my child, _____
to audition for **JAMES WILSON YOUNG MIDDLE SCHOOL'S** Production
of *Beauty and the Beast, Jr.*

I understand to be a part of the cast; my child will be required to attend rehearsals, dress/tech rehearsals and ALL performances. I also acknowledge that my child must remain at rehearsals/performances until dismissed by a member of the JWY Production Team.

PARENT SIGNATURE

(PLEASE PRINT NAME)

STUDENTS: Please read and sign below:

**By auditioning for *Beauty and the Beast, Jr.*, I, _____
am committing to be at rehearsals and performances UNTIL I AM
DISMISSED by a member of the JWY Production Team. If I leave without
permission for any reason, I acknowledge that I forfeit my right to participate
in the production and may be removed from the show.**

STUDENT SIGNATURE

(PLEASE PRINT NAME)



We couldn't do this without the help of our talented parents. Please take a moment to check off what you might be interested in participating in. Someone will contact you once we get going. There is no obligation.

Parent Volunteer Sign-up (Please Print)

Name: _____

Student Name: _____

Email: _____

Cell phone: _____

The following area(s) interest me:

I would also be interested in volunteering in the following areas:

Chinese Auction Assistants (work with committee to put together baskets and run)

Costumes Assistants (minor sewing, cutting, hot gluing, measuring cast members, organizing costumes and fitting cast)

Hair and makeup (working backstage during 2 or more shows)

Set construction and painting

Tech crew (moving set pieces during the show, running lights, etc.— this involves working backstage during 2 or more shows and attending some rehearsals prior to the performances)

Lobby - Working in the Lobby during the intermission(s).

Security/Usher (you will be in the auditorium during the performances)

Strike Crew (stay in auditorium on Sat., after last show to take apart, clean up)

Coordinate lunch for the cast in-between the 2 Saturday shows



Cast Tee-Shirt Form

Name: _____

A cast tee-shirt is available for **\$15.00**. Shirts will be distributed on the week before the opening show and all cast members will be asked to wear them to school on the day of the show. Please have your sizes in by *May 1st*.

- ____ Child Small (8-10) ____ Child Medium (10-12) ____ Child Large (14-16)
- ____ Adult Small ____ Adult Medium ____ Adult Large ____ Adult X-Large
- ____ Adult XX-Large
- ____ No Shirt

Production Fees

All cast members are asked to pay a production fee of **\$35.00**. This fee will contribute to the rental of costumes and various production costs. We ask that the fee be placed in an envelope with your name on it and brought to the first rehearsal on *Thursday, March 1st*.

Please return this form with any monies in an envelope with your cast members name on it. Cash or check made out to SEA-BBS.

Name _____ Phone # _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please DO NOT separate this paper.
If you do NOT wish to purchase a shirt, indicate above.

Production Fee + T-Shirt = \$50

AUDITION INFORMATION

PART 1- MUSIC

Important Audition Reminders: Auditions are meant to be a learning and skill-building opportunity. For some people, the audition process can be intimidating, but this experience is meant to be enjoyable, not stressful. Please have fun and step out of your comfort zone!

Please prepare 16 bars of a song of your choice. You will be singing unaccompanied (without piano or cd).

Please Note: if you are interested in a lead, please sing a song from the show or a song similar in style of that lead.

PART 2- ACTING

Recite the following in 2 contrasting character voices:

(Voice #1) *Jack and Jill Went up the hill to fetch a pail of water*

(Voice #2) *Out came the sun, and dried up all the rain, And the Itsy Bitsy Spider went up the spout again.*

CHARACTER VOICES: Pick 2 voices to practice and perform in auditions.
Be prepared to do any of the voices upon request:

- *Beast*
- *Lumiere (French Accent)*
- *Cogsworth*
- *Silly Girl*
- *Lefou*
- *Maurice*
- *Parents*
- *A Playful Child*

PART 3 - MOVEMENT

There is nothing to do to prepare for this. You will be taught a short combination of dance moves. Do your best to learn it and have fun when you are asked to perform it.

CALL BACK INFORMATION

Not everyone will get a callback. It doesn't mean you did not receive a part, it just means that we have seen enough to make our decision. If you are called back you will be emailed a scene that you need to be very familiar with and you will need to become familiar with the music for that character.

More information (including lines/songs) for each character can be found at
<http://www.mtishows.com/disneys-beauty-and-the-beast-jr> (Audition Central)

Belle- Home

Lumiere - Be Our Guest

Mrs. Potts - Beauty and the Beast

Lefou - Gaston

Cogsworth - Something There

All Girls-

All Boys-

**JWY MIDDLE SCHOOL - Beauty and the Beast, Jr.
2018 AUDITION FORM**

Student Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parent's Name(s): _____ Parents E-mail Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Your E-mail Address: _____

DO NOT use your @bbpschools.org email address

Grade: _____ Age: _____ Birthday: _____ Height: _____

Parts you are interested in:

Previous Acting/Singing Experience:

Are you in Chorus? Yes _____ No _____ \ Do you Read Music? Yes _____ No _____

Dance Training:

Jazz _____ years

Ballet _____ years

Tap _____ years

Hip Hop _____ years

Dance Studio(s) where trained: _____

Other Special Talents: _____

Please list any conflicts (no conflicts on show days or during tech week): _____

*JUDGE'S NOTES:

Singing:

Acting:

Dancing:

Recommended Part: _____

Please bring this form to your audition

Beauty and the Beast, Jr. **Character Breakdown**

NARRATORS

The Narrators open the show and help tell the tale through the show. Actors for these roles need to enunciate and project, as they guide the focus and pace of this beautiful tale. These roles are non-singing, but the actors will also be a part of your ensemble.

Gender: Both

BELLE

Belle is a smart, confident young woman from a small village. A strong singer and actress who is able to stand up to Gaston while showing compassion for Maurice, the Servants and eventually the Beast.

Gender: Female

MAURICE

Maurice is an aging and eccentric inventor, but more importantly, the adoring and protective father of Belle. Non-solo singing role. Can have fun interpreting this crazy old man while conveying some very strong emotions: fear and fatherly love.

Gender: Male

BEAST

The Beast is a young prince who was hideously transformed by the Enchantress's spell. This is a complex character: a dictator, a hurt child, a hero, a defender and a smitten prince. Actor must deliver a range of conflicting emotional states. Although the Beast does sing a small bit during "Something There" and the Finale, this is truly an acting role.

Gender: Male

GASTON

Gaston is pompous and dim-witted and will do whatever it takes to win Belle's hand. Gaston has all the confidence in the world but lacks the humility to balance it. A strong singer and actor is more important than physical size and stature for this role. He has to be able to sell his big eponymous number with gusto and arrogance as well as lead the Villagers in "The Mob Song".

Gender: Male

LEFOU

Lefou is Gaston's equally dim-witted lackey. This character needs to be Gaston's foil and should double the laughs for them both. Lefou should be able to sing, act and dance. A student who has some gymnastics or tumbling training into Lefou's movement.

Gender: Male

SILLY GIRLS

The Silly Girls are in love with Gaston and will do almost anything just to be near him. The Silly Girls sing together in three numbers and their sound should mix well.

Gender: Female

LUMIERE

Lumiere is a confident, charming French maître d who (under the enchantress's spell) is becoming a candelabra. He has an incessant bickering rapport with Cogsworth. Lumiere should be a strong singer who can light up the stage in "Be Our Guest". French accent required! This role covers a range of emotions (from charming entertainer to brave soldier) and requires prominent song and dance.

Gender: Male

COGSWORTH

Cogsworth is the British major-domo of the castle who is becoming a clock. Like all of the castle's Servants, he shows a fatherly compassion for Belle yet is perfectly submissive to the master, the Beast. Cogsworth enjoys feeling like the boss and has no problem getting into it with Lumiere. A strong actor and singer who can act in charge.

Gender: Male

MRS. POTTS

Mrs. Potts is the castle's endearing cook who is becoming a teapot. The actor needs a strong, sweet voice and should be able to convey comforting, maternal qualities amidst the chaos that is breaking out in the castle. A loving mother figure to all the characters.

Gender: Female

BABETTE

Babette is the maid of the castle who is turning into a feather duster. She misses the finer things in life. Babette is happy to be at Belle's service at a moment's notice, but her true heart comes through in "Human Again". Strong actor with solid vocal skills to handle Babette's harmonies.

Gender: Female

MADAME DE LA GRANDE BOUCHE

Madame De La Grande Bouche is an opera singer who is becoming a wardrobe. Madame is larger-than-life in everything she does, including her singing and dancing. An actor who can portray the ultimate diva with a heart with an outsized personality and voice. Madame has some harmony lines with Mrs. Potts and Babette, so a singer who can hold her own but knows when to pull back in order to sound good with the others.

Gender: Female

CHIP

Chip is Mrs. Potts's son who is becoming a teacup. Chip has a wonderful naïveté that endears him to all of the Servants. An actor who can portray the honesty and spirit of a child and is comfortable trying to sing Chip's few solo lines.

Gender: Both

OLD BEGGAR WOMAN/ENCHANTRESS

The Old Beggar Woman/Enchantress should be portrayed by an actor with a flair for the visually dramatic as this is a non-speaking role. Her transformation in the Prologue needs to entice the audience into the story.

Gender: Female

MONSIEUR D'ARQUE

Monsieur D'Arque is the proprietor of the lunatic asylum. An actor who can believably exude his sinister personality. Although Monsieur D'Arque has few lines of solo singing in "The Mob" Song, this is primarily a non-singing role, so a solid actor is first.

Gender: Male

SERVANTS

The Servants of the castle can include Statues, a Dust Pan, Flatware, Plates, an Egg Timer, Napkins, a Carpet, Salt & Pepper Shakers and any other household (or castle) items. These enchanted characters are the Rockettes of the castle. They should be able to handle a potentially awkward costume while singing and dancing in two big production numbers.

Gender: Both

VILLAGERS

The Villagers are the inhabitants of Belle's town. There are some featured solos and lines that will come from this ensemble (Bookseller, Baker, etc.). The group must provide vocal power throughout the show and dance in the production numbers, so performers with a wide base of ability.

Gender: Both

More information (including lines/songs) for each character can be found at
<http://www.mtishows.com/broadway-junior/audition-central>

<http://www.mtishows.com/disneys-beauty-and-the-beast-jr>
(Audition Central)