

Thank you for your interest in the  
upcoming production of

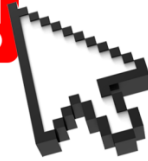


# THE SHOW MUST GO

# ONLINE!

A Virtual Children's Musical

Book by JESSICA PENZIAS    Lyrics by DAVID HUDSON    Music by DENVER CASADO



A frazzled DRAMA TEACHER sends a video message to her students from her home office, announcing that their production of *Brushes with Greatness: The Dental Hygiene Musical* has been canceled! She tries to hang up, but accidentally leaves the camera running, as she receives a phone call from the principal who tells her: without the musical, the drama program will be shut down. This musical, especially written for online performances, gives every performer a chance to shine. Thus, *The Show Must Go Online!*

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

**Online Auditions: September 8-9**

**Casting Announcement: September 14**

**Online Parent Meeting: September 16**

**Rehearsals: Start September 21**

**Performance/Video: TBD – Between November 19 - 22**

We are excited to produce this hilarious musical. This is a "Flat Theatre" offering meaning all auditions, rehearsals and performances will be conducted online. This is a great opportunity for performers in grades K-8.

## **YOU'VE GOT QUESTIONS? WE HAVE ANSWERS!**

### **How will auditions be conducted online?**

Great question!! Auditions will be done via ZOOM. When you pre-register to audition using our wufu platform, you will be provided a link to SignUp Genius. There you will select a 15 minute time block from the options available. You will then receive a ZOOM invite with instructions on how to access your audition. When you log into the audition, you will wait in the "Audition Waiting Room." The admin will then move you from the waiting room into the audition room when it is your time.

### **What will my audition consist of?**

Performers will perform a brief monologue and sing a short song. Specific pieces to use for auditions will be provided in the forthcoming audition materials. These will be available online at [www.fhgov.com/youththeatre](http://www.fhgov.com/youththeatre).

We know this audition may "feel" funny since it's all online and you don't get to interact with us in person. Try practicing your audition in front of the camera. Practice using ZOOM with family or friend to present your audition before the real thing.

### **May I audition for a specific role?**

You will be considered for all parts regardless of the character that you read at auditions. Please pick a reading that you feel most comfortable with and add whatever characteristics you like.

### **Any tips for my audition?**

When practicing, work on the character's personality, projection, and above all – confidence. If your performer is interested in an ensemble part they can pick any part to read!

**Character** – Let your performer decide who they believe this character is. Help them to use their imagination exploring the character. Does the character have a certain type of personality? Are they boisterous, timid, excited, sad, etc? Every character has a story – the challenge is to tell that story to the directors (and ultimately the audience).

**Projection** – When someone is nervous, they tend to "close" their voices. In other words, nervousness can often make a performer sound sheepish and quiet. Encourage your performer to speak louder than they think they should. Louder is always better than quiet.

**Confidence** – The more a performer practices for an audition, usually the more comfortable they will be when the time comes. Don't be scared – we want you to have fun! We will help all performers do their best and shine during the audition. (If this is their first audition, have them do a mock audition for family and friends. This will help them prepare.)

**Singing** – Practice!!! The better the performer knows the song, the more confident and enthusiastic they will be. Do not lose the personality of the character while singing.

**MOST IMPORTANT THING - HAVE FUN!!!! We are here to help!**

### **What do you look for in an audition?**

It is not necessary or even expected that everyone auditioning has previous experience in theatre - we love those kids that are trying this for the first time. Most important is enthusiasm, projection, vocal quality and an interest in being involved in the production. And please bring a smile!

### **What if we can't make audition dates?**

Please contact the Cultural Arts Division at 248.473.1856 or [iguzman@fhgov.com](mailto:iguzman@fhgov.com) ASAP. While we cannot guarantee that an alternative date/time will be made available, we will work with the directorial team to see if another date may work.

### **How do you cast a show?**

During the audition, we rate each performer based on Script Read and Song as well as noting overall performance (projection, smile, confidence). The crew will discuss all auditions and determine role assignments for all roles. **There are no small roles in a production - every single role is important to the integrity of the show.**

### **When are we notified of cast assignments?**

Notification is done via email, so it is important we have your correct email, without typos, during the audition pre-registration process. Emails will indicate if your performer has been cast in a role, what the role is, which cast, and directions for accepting the role along with other key information. You will also be given a deadline to accept/decline the role. We are aiming to have all casting notifications emailed out by end of day on September 14.

### **May I discuss my child's audition with you?**

We take notes on every individual that auditions. You are more than welcome to reach out to us to speak about your child's audition results after the first week of rehearsals. Please contact the Cultural Arts Division at 248.473.1856 or [iguzman@fhgov.com](mailto:iguzman@fhgov.com) should you have any questions. Your request will be forwarded to the directorial team.

### **When are rehearsals?**

We double cast every single role that we assign. What this means is that we have a "Cast A" and a "Cast B", and each is responsible for one of the two performances. Rehearsal schedules are dependent upon which cast and which role if you are accepted. Typically expect that rehearsals will be online between 6-8 PM on Mondays and Wednesdays. Performers will only need to be online during the dates/times they are schedule. Our team will email out the schedule after the parent meeting. We will work with your performer on any conflicts whenever possible. We provide schedules and communication about these dates with families in advance. All rehearsals will be conducted online via ZOOM.

### **How are we doing/watching the performance online?**

We've selected a fantastic production that is meant to be edited into a completed online performance. Once rehearsals have been completed, and cast members have submitted their final scenes to the crew, we will work to compile and edit the production into a final piece. We are still finalizing the details of ticketing and which video platform we will use for the online performance, so stay tuned for more information to come!

### **What if we really want to participate but are hesitant about the online experience?**

We understand that! Part of our motivation is to help our performers improve theatre skills and try new things they might not be able to try in a typical musical. This is still an opportunity to meet new friends, join or reunite with our Farmington Hills Youth Theatre family, perform, and have fun!! Your child will get to be part of a movement that has never been done before. It may feel different, but this is such a new and innovative form of theatre that will be exciting to take part in.