



SummerStarz Production Auditions

Seussical Jr.

Open to Rising 4th- Rising 8th Graders

Direction by Chelsea Burke
Music Direction by Mara Smith
Choreography by Breezy Potter
Stage Management by Juliet Grochowski

AUDITION DATES AND TIMES*:

April 11 from 6:30-8:30pm and April 14 from 2:00-4:00pm

**If you are unavailable on this date but would still like to audition, please contact Programs Coordinator, Courtney Thompson cthompson@sparcrichmond.org; 804-353-3393 x223*

LOCATION: SPARC - 2106 North Hamilton Street

AUDITIONING

- Auditionees should prepare and memorize a 32-bar (about 1 minute) up tempo song selection in the style of the show (contemporary musical theatre).
 - Please bring sheet music or an accompaniment track. If bringing sheet music, make sure to mark where to start and stop for our accompanist.
 - Auditionees may also choose to sing "Oh, The Things You Can Think" from the show. The sheet music is attached at the bottom of this packet.
- To sign up to audition, auditionees must register for one of the one-hour time slots via our YouCanBookMe sign-up page. The e-mail address submitted at registration will be used to contact the student and their guardian with callback and casting information.
- At the top of the hour, auditionees will meet the directing team and get to know each other and the show. There will also be a short group warm-up. Come prepared to do some movement! Then, we will call auditionees into the room one at a time to share their song. Once the individual audition is over, the auditionee is welcome to head home or wait for pick-up at the end of the hour.
- Auditionees will check in with an audition monitor in the lobby, check the information on their audition forms, turn in resumes (optional), and have a basic photo taken for directors to reference. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to your audition appointment so we can keep auditions on time.
- Please wear clothes that you can move easily in- no heels or dresses.

CALLBACKS – Sunday, April 21 from 2:00-4:00pm

- Please hold this date on your calendar. Students and guardians will be notified via email of any callback auditions.
- The purpose of callback auditions is to see how students engage with material from the show.
- Directors will not need to see every student at callbacks to proceed with casting. **A student may still be in consideration for a role, even if they are not asked to attend callbacks.**

CASTING NOTIFICATIONS – by Tuesday, April 30

Students and guardians will receive a notification via email, whether a student has been cast or not. While we work hard to notify all students as quickly as possible, it takes time for our staff to complete all individual communications. ***Please be considerate of all auditioning students, and refrain from discussing casting notifications until a cast list has been shared publicly. This will help in reducing stress and anxiety while we work through notifications.***

About the Show

Synopsis: Transporting audiences from the Jungle of Nool to the Circus McGurkus, the Cat in the Hat narrates the story of Horton the Elephant, who discovers a speck of dust containing tiny people called the Whos. Horton must protect the Whos from a world of naysayers and dangers, and he must also guard an abandoned egg that's been left in his care by the irresponsible Mayzie La Bird. Although Horton faces ridicule, danger and a trial, the intrepid Gertrude McFuzz never loses faith in him. Ultimately, the powers of friendship, loyalty, family and community are challenged and emerge triumphant!

Roles

Jojo/Boy: A “Thinker.” He’s a smart child with a wild imagination. His thinking gets him into constant trouble.

The Cat in the Hat: The essence of mischief, fun, and imagination. The Cat stirs things up and causes trouble but always sets things right again. He helps Jojo discover the power of his imagination as they create the story of *Seussical Jr.* together.

Horton the Elephant: A gentle giant. Steadfast, responsible, and always tries to do the right thing. Sympathetic and receptive to the world around him. Believes in the inherent goodness of the world and others.

Mr. Mayor: Mr. Mayor and Mrs. Mayor are parents trying hard to raise a child with a big imagination. They may get aggravated with Jojo, but they love him dearly. Upstanding members of their community. Mr and Mrs. Mayor are a team.

Mrs. Mayor: Mr. Mayor and Mrs. Mayor are parents trying hard to raise a child with a big imagination. They may get aggravated with Jojo, but they love him dearly. Upstanding members of their community. Mr and Mrs. Mayor are a team.

Gertrude McFuzz: Very self-conscious about her one-feather tail. Changes from an anxious, nervous, shy bird into someone whose self-worth doesn’t rest on her appearance.

Mayzie La Bird: Self-centered, vain, and manipulative. She ultimately means no harm, but she's immature and makes selfish decisions.

Wickersham Brothers: They tease, play pranks, and get a kick out of making mischief, although often at another's expense.

Bird Girls: A fabulous group of birds who know everything there is to know about the goings on in the jungle and support Mayzie throughout the show.

Sour Kangaroo: Loud, brassy, and a lot of fun. She's got a lot of attitude but isn't mean – she's just very confident and unafraid to tell it like it is.

Young Kangaroo: Sour Kangaroo's feisty daughter. She's got a big personality and is following in her mother's footsteps.

Judge Yertle the Turtle: The authoritative judge who presides over Horton's trial at the end of the show.

Vlad Vladikoff: The eagle who flies off with the Whos.

The Grinch: Arguably the most famous Seuss character of all! He has a brief, fun cameo in this show.

The Whos: The citizens of Whoville. They are a tight-knit, supportive community.

+ Ensemble

Tuition and Scholarships

There is no cost to audition. However, should a student be cast in *Seussical Jr.*, the cost of tuition for participation is: **\$700. Students are never turned away from any SPARC program because of the inability to afford tuition.** Each year, over 100 students are awarded scholarships on the basis of need, totaling over \$40,000 in tuition support. **Families will be asked if they intend to apply for a scholarship when casting emails are sent.** To find out more about scholarships, see sparcrichmond.org/scholarships. You may disregard any language on the website about an application deadline.

Are you a teenager who needs to cover tuition costs on your own? If so, please call or email us to discuss how we can help you to address tuition payments. We look forward to talking with you!
sparc@sparcrichmond.org; 804-353-3393 x222

Attendance Policy and Conflicts

Being cast in a production is a big commitment. SPARC asks that guardians and students look at family and school schedules closely before auditioning to ensure that the student can attend all rehearsals and performances. Please list any rehearsal conflicts thoroughly before submitting an audition form. **Casting decisions are made with each student's availability in mind.** SPARC may not be able to offer a role to a student with excessive conflicts or conflicts that occur in the final weeks leading up to performances.

Attendance at rehearsals is crucial to the success of the entire production. We understand that students lead busy lives and that unforeseen circumstances can arise. In an effort to be flexible and accommodate those situations, **SPARC's attendance policy allows students to miss two rehearsals during the rehearsal period.**

No conflicts are permitted during the final week of regular rehearsals, tech rehearsals or performances. Conflicts not stated during the audition process or excessive absences/tardiness may result in casting changes or the student not being able to participate in all scenes/musical numbers.

Seussical Jr. Schedule

Regular Rehearsals:

June 24-July 12

Monday-Friday from 9am-4pm

First Rehearsal: Monday, June 24th

No rehearsal: July 4th

Performances:

July 15 – Covenant Woods at 7pm

July 16 – Children's Museum of Richmond at 2pm

July 17 – Henrico Theatre at 10am & 7pm

July 18 – Children's Hospital at 10am

July 19 – Robinson Theatre at 1pm

Production FAQs

What if I am already taking a SPARC camp that conflicts with the production schedule?

We love seeing SPARC youth participate in all kinds of programming! If you are currently participating in another SPARC program that overlaps with the rehearsal schedule (for example, Touring Ensemble), we will work with those teaching teams to split time. It is also likely that not every cast member will be called to every rehearsal.

Can I apply my current SPARC scholarship to my participation in this show?

Yes! If you have a scholarship for this season, you may also apply it to the show.

Do I need to bring a headshot or resume?

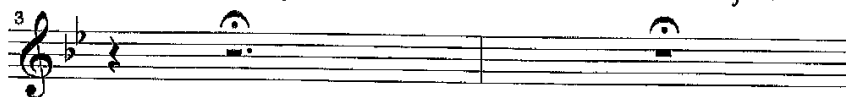
You are welcome to bring them, but they are not required.

What if I can't attend callbacks?

We'll find another way for you to submit callback materials- likely virtually.

Now, I'm here, there is no
telling what may ensue...

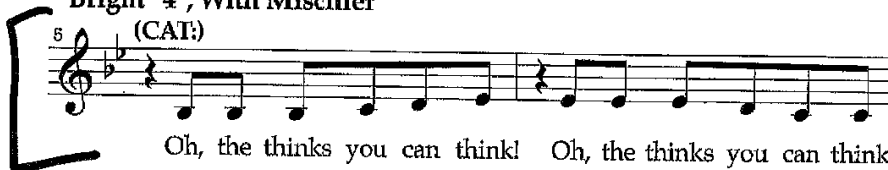
...with a Cat such as me
and a Thinker like you!



Start (The CAT begins to "create" the Seussian world of imagination for the BOY, who will enter this world and become JOJO.)

Bright "4", With Mischief

(CAT:)



Oh, the thinks you can think! Oh, the thinks you can think



if you're wil - ling to try...—



Think in - vi - si - ble ink! Or a Gink with a stink!



Or a stair to the sky...—



— If you o - pen your mind, oh, the thinks you will find



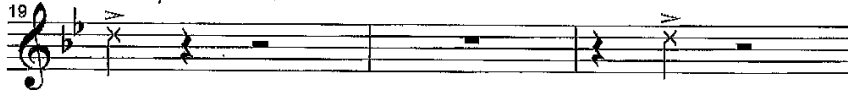
li - ning up to get loose...—



Oh, the thinks you can think when you think a-bout

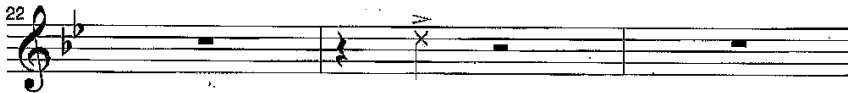
(FULL COMPANY now enters.)

ALL: (except the BOY)

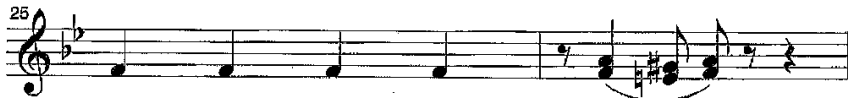


Seuss!

Seuss!



Seuss!



Seuss! Seuss! Seuss! Seuss! Seuss! —



Oh, the thinks you can think! An-y think-er who thinks

(ALL:) (except the BOY)



can come up with a few! —

CAT:



Oh, the thinks you can think!

ALL: (except the BOY)



Think a trip on a ship to the Vip - per of Vipp

(WOMEN:)



or to Sol - la Sol - lew!

(MEN:)



or to Sol - la Sol - lew!

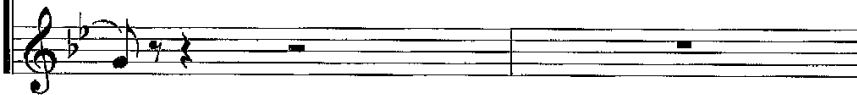
Stop

CAT:

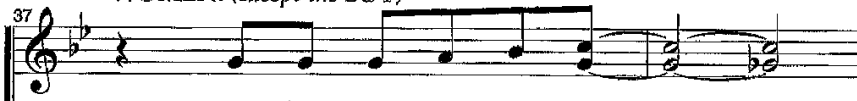
BOY:



— Think of beau-ti-ful schlopp with a cher-ry on top...



WOMEN: (except the BOY)



You don't need an ex - cuse!

MEN:



You don't need an ex - cuse!