

Mainstage Production Auditions

Urinetown: The Musical

Open to 6th-12th Graders

Direction by Matt Shofner

Music Direction by Jaleel Jackson

Choreography by Chandler Pettus

Stage Management by Em Bochette

AUDITION DATES AND TIMES*:

Sunday, October 1 at 1pm, 2pm, and 3pm

**If you are unavailable on this date but would still like to audition, please contact Production Manager, Amy Almond aalmond@sparcrichmond.org; 804-353-3393x234*

LOCATION: SPARC - 2106 North Hamilton Street

AUDITIONING

- Auditionees should prepare and memorize a 32-bar (about 1 minute) 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.
- 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 – Thursday, October 5 from 5:30pm-7:30pm

- 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 Monday, October 16

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: In a Gotham-like city, a terrible water shortage, caused by a 20-year drought, has led to a government-enforced ban on private toilets. The citizens must use public amenities, regulated by a single malevolent company that profits by charging admission for one of humanity's most basic needs. Amid the people, a hero decides that he's had enough and plans a revolution to lead them all to freedom!

Roles

Officer Lockstock: The tongue-in-cheek narrator of our story, he is a corrupt policeman who secretly kills off the guilty offenders. Bold, brash, and larger than life in many ways.

Penelope Pennywise: The tough, jaded warden of the poorest, filthiest town urinal. She is Cladwell's one-time lover and mother to Hope who eventually softens her temper.

Bobby Strong: The dashing, rebellious everyman who works for Miss Pennywise at the poorest, filthiest town urinal. He becomes an unsuspecting protagonist and romantic hero when he starts a revolution and falls in love with Hope Cladwell.

Little Sally: A precocious and irreverent street urchin. She serves as a quasi-narrator who often questions Lockstock and the play's logic.

Dr. Billeaux: Head of Research and Development at UGC.

Mr. Mcqueen: Cladwell's sycophantic lackey. A servile assistant.

Senator Fipp: A greedy politician in Cladwell's pocket. A bumbling coward.

Officer Barrel: Lockstock's patrol partner. A thuggish and aggressive policeman.

Joseph "old Man" Strong: Bobby's rebellious father. His refusal to pay the fee sends him to Urinetown, ultimately launching the revolution.

Tiny Tom: One of the Poor, he is an idiotic man-child.

Soupy Sue: One of the Poor, she is excitable and easily panicked.

Little Becky Two-shoes: One of the Poor. She is foul-mouthed, impulsive, and accusatory.

Caldwell B. Cladwell: The evil president and owner of the Urine Good Company. He is a miserly money-grubber who gleefully exploits the poor.

Josephine "ma" Strong: Bobby's mother and Joseph's wife. A strong-willed woman with a bite, able to withstand the hard hand life has dealt her.

Hot Blades Harry: One of the Poor, he is a psychopathic and can become a violent loose cannon.

+ Ensemble

Tuition and Scholarships

There is no cost to audition. However, should a student be cast in *Urinetown*, the cost of tuition for participation is: **\$780. 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

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.

Urinetown Schedule

Regular Rehearsals:

November 2, 2023 – Feb 8, 2024

Tues & Thurs from 5:30pm-8:30pm

First Rehearsal: Thursday Nov 2nd

No rehearsal Nov. 23rd, Dec 21st - Jan 4th

Tech Rehearsals:

Sun, Feb 11th – 1pm-6pm Cue to Cue

Mon, Feb 12th – 5pm-8:30pm 1st Dress

Tues, Feb 13th – 5pm-8:30pm 2nd Dress

Wed, Feb 14th – 5pm-8:30pm 3rd Dress

Thurs, Feb 15th – 5pm-8:30pm Final Dress

Performances:

Friday, Feb 16th at 7:30pm

Saturday, Feb 17th at 2pm & 7:30pm

Sunday, Feb 18th at 2pm

Friday, Feb 23rd at 7:30pm

Saturday, Feb 24th at 2pm & 7:30pm

Sunday, Feb 25th at 2pm

Strike:

Sunday, Feb 25th at 4:30pm

Production FAQs

What if I am already taking a SPARC class 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.

If I'm not cast, can I be on the crew?

If you are interested in learning more about crew opportunities, contact Amy (aalmond@sparcrichmond.org). Our year long program, StageCraft, covers all crew positions on shows but there may also be volunteer crew days that pop up throughout the year.

What if I can't attend callbacks?

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