



JC Mainstage Parent Guide

Your Child's Journey in Musical Theater

Serving the communities of Junction City, Harrisburg, and Monroe

Welcome!

Participating in a musical is one of the most rewarding experiences a young person can have. It requires a significant investment of time and energy, but the growth, development, and memories that come from the process are truly invaluable—not just for your child, but for our entire community.

This journey through musical theater will have a lasting positive impact on your child. And best of all? Musicals are fun!

Our Commitment to Your Child's Safety

At JC Mainstage, your child's safety—**both emotional and physical**—is our highest priority.

We want every young performer to feel secure, respected, and supported. If your child ever comes home distraught or expresses discomfort of any kind related to their experience, please don't hesitate to take action.

- **Submit a notification** through the contact form at jcmainstage.com. Your message will be reviewed by our board so we can address the situation promptly and appropriately.
- If you prefer a direct approach, you are always welcome to **contact a board member** personally.

We want to be fully aware of any concerns so we can ensure a safe, healthy, and uplifting experience for every child involved.

Why Musical Theater?

Musicals provide an incredible range of developmental opportunities:

- Music and Dance introduce students to the basic elements of the performing arts.
- Set and Costume Design encourage creativity and visual expression.
- Dialogue and Acting help improve language development, memory, and verbal communication skills.
- Sound and Lighting Technology expose young people to tech disciplines in a practical, hands-on way.

Students grow socially and emotionally:

- Every role matters and everyone's contribution counts.
- Timeliness and commitment are essential.
- Teamwork, respect, and community are practiced.
- Listening, patience, encouragement, risk-taking, and confidence all grow.

Musical theater also provides instant feedback. The applause and energy of the audience are powerful rewards for effort and teamwork.

Understanding the Process

Each show generally follows these stages:

1. Audition Announcement
2. Auditions and Callbacks
3. Cast List Posted
4. Rehearsals Begin
5. Technical Rehearsals
6. Dress Rehearsals
7. Performance

Please review all schedules in advance and communicate any conflicts early. Musical theater is a serious commitment.

Key Roles in a Production

- **Stage Manager** – Supports the director and logistics
- **Stage Crew** – Backstage operations
- **Choreographer** – Teaches dance routines
- **Costuming** – Coordinates costumes
- **Actors** – Perform on stage
- **Props Team** – Manages hand-held items
- **Public Relations** – Promotes the show

- **Set Builders** – Construct the physical stage
 - **Sound Technicians** – Handle microphones and cues
 - **Box Office & House Manager** – Ticketing and audience experience
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A Note to Parents: Let the Magic Belong to Your Child

Encourage your child, but avoid over-involvement. Trust the director's vision and prioritize growth, fun, and teamwork over performance perfection.

The Audition Experience

Auditions may include singing, dancing, monologues, or cold readings. Preparation, positive attitude, and respectful behavior are just as important as talent.

What Are Callbacks?

Callbacks allow directors to gather more insight. Not being called back does not mean a poor performance. Stay positive and trust the process.

Cast List Announcements

Casting may cause emotional responses. Help your child embrace their role, develop a character backstory, and focus on being a great team member.

Surviving the First Rehearsal

Scripts are distributed, and new connections begin. Discourage counting lines—every part is important.

A Word About Copyright

Ensure official materials are used. Photocopies are not allowed. Scripts often serve as keepsakes.

Rehearsals and At-Home Practice

- Post the rehearsal schedule prominently
- Arrive on time and dressed appropriately
- **Bring a reusable water bottle**
- Check in regularly
- For tech roles, ask for the tech schedule

Support memorization with regular, aloud practice—morning, night, mirror, or audience rehearsal.

A Final Word of Thanks

Thank you for your commitment—to your child, to the arts, to this cast and crew, and to our community. JC Mainstage exists because of families like yours who believe in the power of storytelling, creativity, and collaboration. We are so grateful that you've chosen to take this journey with us. Together, we are building something beautiful, one show at a time.