**Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**

November 2, 2019

Dear Parents,

For our 18th musical at Sacred Heart, we are excited to announce we will be presenting **JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT.** Performances will run the weekend of April 5, 2019 (Friday evening, Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon). Justin Taylor Nixon and Jill Renn will lead our creative team along with Margo Oelerich and Tom Steele. All 6th through 8th grade students are invited and encouraged to participate either by auditioning for a role or serving on our crew team.

**Auditions**

Auditions are an opportunity for students to show us everything they have to offer the production in a very short period of time. More than talent or precise skill, we look for heart- students who are animated, full of energy, are willing to take risks, give it their all, and commit to the production.

Auditions for cast members will take place on Monday, 11/26, Tuesday, 11/27 and Wednesday, 11/28 in Mr. Nixon’s classroom:

·  Monday, 11/26 3:45-6:00

·  Tuesday, 11/27 3:45-6:00

·  Wednesday, 11/28 3:45-4:30

Call backs will take place on Thursday, 11/29 from 3:45-6:00.

The audition process will be similar to that of the last few years. The first step will be to complete the attached interest form and return it, signed, to Mr. Nixon. (Students may do this through their advisor.) No student may sign up for an audition (or be cast in the production) without a signed permission form from his/her parent. Then, students will sign up for an audition slot in Mr. Nixon’s classroom. Due to time constraints, slots are on a first-come, first-served basis and are capped for each audition slot.

Students will receive an audition packet in Mr. Nixon’s room when they turn in their completed interest/ permission form and sign up for a time-slot.

In preparation for auditions, students are strongly encouraged to participate in four offered dance combination rehearsals on Monday, 11/19, 11/26: 7:45-8:15, Tuesday, 11/20, 11/27: 7:45-8:15, in the foyer. Mr. Nixon will also offer rehearsals on the music numbers during Middle School lunch in the Rosemont room on Monday and Tuesday, November 19, 20, and 26, 27. Please know that there will be sign-ins at both rehearsals.

**All students who audition will be considered equally for all roles.** No special preference will be given for eighth graders or those who have been cast in previous productions. We expect to cast all roles by Monday, December 3. **Students who audition should be prepared to accept any role they are given.**

**Accepting a Role**

We use the word "ensemble" often in the course of the work of production. It is only "together" that the ensemble (or company) can create this work. Therefore, it is critical for the entire process- including focused, productive rehearsals, that every member of the ensemble is committed to the production. (For example, when individual cast members miss multiple rehearsals, the entire cast winds up with added rehearsal time to make up for it.) To ensure that everyone is committed, we are going to ask for each student to complete a contract when they receive his/her role stating that he/she is committed to the part and understands the commitment involved. These contracts must be submitted to Mr. Nixon by **Wednesday, December 5**. The musical will be working with Science Olympiads, Debate, Athletics, and other school related activities to accommodate as best we are able our students’ multiple commitments.

**Crew**

The running crew of any theatre production is crucial to a good performance. Those who “run the show” should (and do) take as much pride in the performance as the actors. As a matter of fact, the actors are dependent on the knowledge and professionalism of the crew. Crew tasks include: building the set, costume design and fabrication, collecting and creating props, publicity, running crew (moving scenery and furniture during the production, support during the production (ushers/greeters/ concessions), and lighting. Student leadership opportunities include Stage Manager and Assistants, Running Crew Captain, Costume Captain, Prop Master/ Mistress, and Lighting Captain. Students should begin to consider their interest in being a part of the crew now. (In some instances, cast and crew participation can and does overlap.)

**Rehearsals**

Participation in the musical is a significant commitment of both your time and your child’s time. Please consider this as you consider your child’s potential participation in this production. All students who are cast in the production are expected to be at a meeting/read-through on **Tuesday, December 11** from 3:30-5:30 in the foyer. This first rehearsal will allow the cast to become acquainted with one another and read-through the script.

Rehearsals will be held two to three afternoons per week beginning the week of January 8th (probably 3:45-5:15) until the last few weeks before the performance. For those weeks (3/19, 3/25, and 4/1), rehearsals will be mandatory for all cast and crew members. There will also be a few weekend rehearsals. Most of these will be closer to the production. Please consider these times with your child’s other commitments PRIOR TO AUDITIONS (see audition form). Please make the conflict list as complete as possible and indicate if there is flexibility in his/her other commitments.

We realize that the rehearsal process and the basketball season, Science Olympiads, and other after school classes may conflict. With that in mind, we will try to schedule rehearsals around these other activities as well as we are able. We do hope that students involved in the play will still be able to participate in the basketball season and other school activities. The rehearsal schedule will be sent home before Christmas break.

**Other Details**

The Student Activity fee will cover many of the costs associated with this production (rights to the script, costumes, set, props, etc.). We are still committed to selling tickets and concessions to help defray the overall expenses of the production. We will also seek parent help with various aspects of the production. (Please see audition form.)

Thank you for your support of this production.

Mrs. Jill Renn Ms. Margo Oelerich Mr. Tom Steele Mr. Justin Taylor Nixon

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class section: \_\_\_\_\_ A / B Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Height: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Primary Interest: cast crew

Previous performance experience:

Dance/Gymnastics experience, if any:

Hobbies/Sports:

Do you play any instruments?

Hobbies/Sports, etc.

 V: 1 2 3 4 5 D: 1 2 3 4 5 A: 1 2 3 4 5 C:

Please list the day and time of potential conflicts with weekday/weekend rehearsals (school-related or not: athletics, music lessons, dance, tutor, etc). If you need additional space, please attach another sheet of paper to this form. **The more complete the list, the easier it will be to put together a workable rehearsal schedule for all members of the cast- and minimize conflicts for your child.**

If I am not cast in the production, I would be interested in working on the crew YES NO

 Please list below any particular crew role you might be interested in.

**Parents:**

Would you be willing to help with/Do you have experience with … (costumes, props, set, lighting, makeup, concessions, recording, sound, feeding hungry actors during longer rehearsals, etc.)???

Would you be willing to be the parent coordinator for… (costumes, concessions, publicity, props, make up, tickets, managing the “house”)

As I audition, I understand:

* That all students will be considered equally for all roles
* That all students who audition should be prepared to accept any role
* That I am to be present for all scheduled rehearsals and will notify Mr. Justin Nixon at justin.nixon@shschicago.org of any conflicts as soon as I am aware of them
* That I am to be on-time for all rehearsals and stay for the entire rehearsal

**We understand that these expectations are necessary in order for the limited rehearsal time to be used to its fullest potential.**

**Student signature**

**Parent signature**