

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

AUDITION INFORMATION



Welcome to Peninsula Youth Theatre and auditions for ***Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat***. We want this to be a great experience for everyone involved, so please take a moment to read the following audition information.

PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR AUDITION:

1. All of the completed audition forms (**printed single sided**). Actors may also bring a theatrical resume if they'd like, but are not required to do so.
2. A wallet sized (3.5" tall by 2.5" wide) photo of the actor taken from the shoulders up that has no other people in it.
3. Recorded accompaniment for the vocal audition on either a CD or an MP3 player. Smartphones are fine, provided they are set to airplane mode for the audition.¹ YouTube karaoke tracks are not recommended as they are not accessible when a phone is set to airplane mode, and public Wi-Fi is not available at PYT Studios.

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Arrive at the PYT Studio 30 minutes prior to scheduled audition time.
2. Take your completed forms to the registration table at the door.
3. Actors will be given an audition number tag to wear on their right shoulder. Actors will be referenced by this number throughout the audition and callbacks.
4. After submitting your forms, you will have your measurements taken.
5. Actors will go into Studio B first for their Choreography audition, and then be taken to Studio A for their Vocal and Acting audition.
6. They will need to remain at the rehearsal studio after their audition until they have received their callback information.
7. Hold on to the callback form because it will include information about the parent meeting as well as how to sign up for the blog to receive all communications about the show.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT AUDITIONS:

Actors should come prepared to perform a memorized monologue and song that is no longer than one-minute each. They should bring with them an instrumental track of recorded accompaniment for their song selection (i.e. music track with no vocals). Audio playback for CDs and mp3 players/smartphone will be provided. Smartphones should be removed from their cases and set to airplane mode if they are used in auditions. There is no public Wi-Fi at PYT and we do not have a USB hookup for audio files. **WE WILL NOT PROVIDE AN ACCOMPANIST, SO PLEASE MAKE SURE TO BRING RECORDED MUSIC.**

Ten performers at a time, in numerical order, will be called to audition. Please listen for your number to be called. Have respect for those who are auditioning and remain as quiet as possible while waiting. The first part of the audition will be for dance. If you own dance shoes, please bring them. If you do not, please wear comfortable closed toe shoes with flexible soles. Uggs, flip flops, and Crocs are not recommended as they are difficult to dance in. The group will learn a short dance combination together and then perform it in smaller groups. After the dance audition, the actors will be taken back out to the lobby and then into Studio A for their vocal and acting auditions. If the Director is also the Choreographer, the actors will perform their dance

¹ PYT has an adapter for those who bring an iPhone without a headphone jack.

combination again. Then, one at a time, actors will be called forward to begin their vocal and acting audition. When called, actors will give their recorded music to the Vocal Director and then introduce themselves to the director. They will tell the directors the name of the monologue and song they are performing. After they perform their monologue and song, they will return to their seat. Throughout, they should try to relax, and remember the directors are rooting for them. Each has auditioned before and understands how nerve racking it can be.

If you have any questions at the auditions, please ask someone wearing a nametag. These people are volunteers who have participated in prior productions, and understand PYT's policies and procedures. Directors will not be able to answer questions during or after auditions.

CALLBACKS:

After the acting and vocal audition all of the actors will receive a callback form and some of them will be asked to come in for a callback. A callback means that the director needs more information about the actor's abilities before casting them. If the actor does not receive a callback, it does not mean that they didn't do well in auditions or that they will not receive a featured role. It just means that the director has all the information she/he needs to cast them. There is not enough time to callback actors for every role in a show so sometimes directors use a callback for one character to evaluate a variety of casting options. It is always possible that an actor could be cast in a role for which they were not called back. Please do not assume anything about casting based on callbacks.

If an actor receives an acting or vocal callback, they will want to download the materials for the callback from the blog and practice them at home. Though it is impressive when an actor comes to callbacks having memorized their material (called sides) it is not required. What's most important is that they are familiar with it, able to make strong acting choices and be willing to try new things if the director asks it of them. For vocal callbacks, actors will have an opportunity to review the music with accompaniment before being asked to perform.

For dance callbacks, some choreographers have the actors perform the combination they learned at auditions again to see what they retained and some choreographers teach them new material. It's never a bad idea to write down the steps after the initial audition and review the combination at home just in case.

Make sure to list on your audition sheet if you have a callback conflict, but understand that PYT is not able to offer alternative callback times. If an actor is unavailable to attend a callback they may send in a video of their callback material (vocals and acting, only) or the director will cast them based on what they could pick up from their audition. It is always best to perform a callback in person because it's hard to get an accurate feeling for an actor's ability from a video, but video callbacks are an option for those who are legitimately unable to attend vocal or acting callbacks.

CASTING:

Casting will take place the Friday after auditions and the cast list will be posted on PYT's website by 6pm the following Sunday. Casting is a complicated and challenging process and does not adhere to linear or structured progression. While an actor will grow as a performer with each production that does not always translate into roles of increasing size. Someone brand new to theatre may be exactly what the director is looking for in a leading role. Likewise, someone who has played a leading role in one production may not be cast in a leading role in a later production, and just because an actor has done multiple productions, it does not mean that they are necessarily ready for a large role. It all comes down to the mix of who shows up to auditions, what sort of availability they have, and what the director is looking for. PYT makes every effort to follow a fair and equitable process which includes directors disclosing conflicts of interest, and refraining from making casting decisions

prior to auditions or promising roles to actors before casting. We do our best to treat conflicts with parity, and provide opportunities for each actor to grow with each production. We will not, however, place an actor in a role we don't believe they are prepared to play successfully within the context of our production. Our top priority is setting actors up for success and giving them the support they need to create a performance they can be proud of.

AUDITION FAQs

A full list of [FAQs](#) as well as [Audition Tips](#) are listed on our website.

WHAT IS THE DIRECTOR LOOKING FOR?

Certainly directors are looking for talent, but that is only part of it. They are hoping to get a sense of who the actor is as a person and as a performer. This is part of the reason that actors introduce themselves and their audition piece. It gives the artistic staff a brief moment to see the person before he/she begins acting as someone else. They are also looking to see how well prepared the actor is. (Do they truly know their monologue/song? Do they know what the character wants/needs?). They make note of those who are engaged, make strong choices, follow directions well and behave respectfully.

WHAT IF WE ONLY WANT TO PARTICIPATE IF MY CHILD/I GET A CERTAIN PART?

We strongly advise that you go into auditions with a positive attitude regarding casting. Every member of the cast has a critical part to play in telling the story. In some ways, being a good ensemble member can be more challenging than being a lead where singing/dancing are concerned -- the harmonies are often harder, and diction and cut-offs need to be clean and it takes great talent and skill to make sure that dance moves are polished -- arms at the same angle, kicks at the same height, etc. The best performers have spent time in the ensemble and take every opportunity to work on their theater skills - and it's a lot of fun!

That said, if you feel that you will only accept particular parts you must say *specifically* on your audition sheet which parts you will accept by name. Do not put "principal role" or "speaking part" unless you are really willing to take any role that we consider a principal role or speaking part. If you say that you will only accept a particular part and do not get cast in that part, your name will not appear on the cast list and you will receive a pro-rated refund (see refund policy). Additionally, if you don't specify by name which roles you'll accept and you drop after casting, you will not be issued a refund.

WHAT IS PYT'S REFUND POLICY?

If you cancel an audition appointment within 24 hours of your scheduled audition, you will receive a pro-rated refund of the registration fee less \$10 to cover the costs charged by the credit card company and the online registration system. To cancel an audition, you must contact the Producing Artistic Director, Loryn Hatten, in writing at lhatten@pytnet.org. Should you not attend your pre-scheduled audition, and make no arrangement to cancel or schedule a make-up audition, you will receive a pro-rated refund less \$20.

Should you decide not to participate for any reason AFTER auditions, you must inform the Producing Artistic Director in writing NO LATER THAN THURSDAY, MARCH 15 BY 9:00 PM in order to receive a pro-rated refund. PYT will retain \$50 of the registration fee toward expenses associated with the audition process. The rest of the registration fee will be refunded. Email the written notice to lhatten@pytnet.org. Participants not cast due to a casting request that cannot be accommodated will be refunded the same amount as those who drop before the deadline (registration fee less \$50 to cover the audition costs). As there is an extensive amount of work that must be done to recast a part once casting decisions have been made, no refunds will be offered for those who drop after the callback deadline.

WHAT IS THE CONFLICT POLICY?

It is critical that you list ALL potential conflicts for rehearsals on your Conflict Calendar. Be sure to consider school, family, work, travel and religious obligations. **Please note: NO CONFLICTS ARE ALLOWED DURING TECH REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES.** PYT looks at the Conflict Schedule you submit as a commitment you make to attend all the rehearsals to which you are called with the exception of the dates you've indicated you have a conflict. We reserve the right to not cast anyone who has more than the maximum number of conflicts for the production (FOUR conflicts for Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat). Any missed rehearsals not indicated on the Conflict Calendar or changes made to the Conflict Calendar after castings are considered unexcused absences. Rehearsals to which an actor arrives more than 30 minutes late or leaves early are also considered unexcused absences. PYT NO LONGER ALLOWS UNEXCUSED ABSENCES. Unexcused absences may result in meeting with the Producing Artistic Director and removal from scenes or numbers, or the loss of a role. Should an emergency arise, please contact the producers to see if the absence can be excused. The information you provide on your Conflict Calendar influences casting decisions, and therefore we take unexcused absences very seriously.

Note: Actors will not be called to every rehearsal. PYT makes a concerted effort to only call performers when they will be needed.

HOW DO CARPOOL REQUESTS & CAST REQUESTS WORK?

PYT does not arrange carpools. The carpool request line on the audition form is for families who already know each other before auditions and wish to carpool together. We try to place participants who make carpool requests in the same cast, and if possible, in the same group. There are a number of factors that go into casting a production that will take precedence over a carpool request and sometimes requests from various families run contrary to each other thereby making it impossible to honor every request, but we will do our best to accommodate these requests whenever we can.

Cast requests work similarly. If you request a specific cast for conflict reasons or to be placed in the same cast as another participant, we will do our best to accommodate those requests but we cannot guarantee your request will be honored.

As the two casts rehearse together for almost the entire rehearsal process, the only time when being in the opposite cast as a carpool makes a difference is for performances. Because both carpool and cast request affect casting decisions, it's important to indicate on the audition sheet if you prefer the artistic team prioritize the request over casting the actor is the best role possible, or vice versa.

HOW CAN I GET FEEDBACK ON MY AUDITION?

An actor may request written feedback from the Producing Artistic Director within one week of the posting of the cast list. Writing out specific feedback for a large group of actors takes a great deal of time. Typically you can expect to receive your audition feedback approximately 1 month from the feedback deadline. Feedback includes things you did well, things to work on for next time and specific suggestions on how to work on them. Feedback will not include information on why actors were cast a certain way.

WHAT IS THE VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT AND CAN I BUY OUT MY HOURS?

Peninsula Youth Theatre is a family organization, and we rely on our cast members families to pitch in and support the production. Each family is expected to provide a minimum of 25 production support hours (15 additional hours for the second child and 5 per child for the third and fourth child) during the course of the show. PYT will provide training as necessary for each committee. If you know you will be unable to perform your family's required production support hours, you can choose to buy out your hourly commitment at \$20/hour. If you would like to be locked into that rate, you must buy out before the 2nd Saturday of rehearsals. Should you

decide to buy out after the deadline or you do not complete your committed hours, you will be charged a rate of \$30/hr.

TO PYT PARENTS:

We understand that auditioning can be stressful, but we would like to emphasize that PYT is a supportive, respectful environment. It can be disappointing if your child does not get the role they want. We strongly encourage families to trust the directors to cast all participants in roles that will support the artistic vision of the play, be appropriate to the participants’ current abilities, and challenge them to grow as performers. Our directors are trained professionals, with significant theatrical experience. Should your child desire specific feedback on his/her audition, directors will provide written feedback upon request. Any feedback requests should be made in writing to the Producing Artistic Director before the specified deadline. If you have further questions about PYT or our casting policies, please feel free to email the Producing Artistic Director.

A mandatory meeting for all parents and cast members age 18 and over will be held on Tuesday, March 20, from 7:00pm-8:30pm at PYT Studio A. Cast members under the age of 18 should not attend. At this time, parents will have an opportunity to meet some of the staff, the producers, and others involved in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. You will also receive important information that you will need throughout the production. Please note that for any cast member under the age of 18, ONE parent needs to be the contact responsible for all paperwork and payments. Cast members age 18 and over may be responsible for all paperwork, payments and volunteer time commitments if the family requests it.

IMPORTANT DATES

Auditions:	Saturday, March 10 and Sunday, March 11
Callbacks:	Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday March 13-15, 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM
Last Day to Drop with Refund:	Thursday, March 15 at 9:00 PM
Cast List Posted:	Sunday, March 18 by 6:00 PM
Mandatory Parent Meeting:	Tuesday, March 20, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM at PYT Studio A
First Rehearsal:	Wednesday, March 21
Rehearsals:	Tuesday through Friday, 6:30 to 9:00 PM & Saturday, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM.
Tech Week:	May 7 – 11, 5:00 PM to 10:30 PM (No Absences Allowed)
Performances:	Sat, May 12 @ 2 PM & 7:30 PM Sun, May 13 @ 1 PM & 6:30 PM Thurs, May 17 @ 9:30 AM* Fri, May 18 @ 9:30 AM* & 7:30 PM Sat, May 19 @ 2 PM & 7:30 PM Sun, May 20 @ 1 PM

*PLEASE NOTE: As part of PYT's community outreach, we present special weekday morning performances school groups in the area. JOSEPH & THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT will be performed on Thursday, May 17 and Friday, May 18 at 9:30 AM. Cast members should be prepared to miss school to perform with their cast for the morning matinee. The length of the show is approximately two hours. Actors should be able to return to school by 12 pm.

**Thanks for coming out to audition for
Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat here at PYT!
Break a leg in your audition!**