



2020 Season Youth Auditions Announced

Youth Musical Theatre Program Auditions on February 2

Thursday, January 9, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Drayton Entertainment is pleased to announce auditions for its 2020 Season Youth Musical Theatre Program in Waterloo Region. Young performers must sign up in advance. Auditions will be held on **Sunday, February 2** at the **Hamilton Family Theatre Cambridge**.

“We are consistently astounded by the talent and passion we’ve seen from aspiring young performers across the province. As a professional company, we feel a responsibility to develop the artists of tomorrow,” says **Alex Mustakas**, Artistic Director of Drayton Entertainment. “Our Youth Musical Theatre Program sessions help to prepare young talent for future success.”

Youth Musical Theatre Program

Now in its fifth year, the Drayton Entertainment Youth Musical Theatre Program (YMTP) is an auditioned training program designed to cultivate community, encourage leadership, ignite imagination, and boost confidence, while providing aspiring young performers with the opportunity to learn from professional theatre artists and develop a deeper appreciation for live performance. Students train with passionate industry professionals in singing, dancing, acting, audition technique, and technical theatre.

There will be concurrent week-long training sessions in Cambridge from July 6 to July 10 for ages 8 to 12, and ages 13 to 18. More information about the *Youth Musical Theatre Program*, including tuition costs and audition requirements, is available at www.youthmusicaltheatreprogram.com.

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Other Youth Musical Theatre Program Auditions in Grand Bend and Penetanguishene

Auditions for Youth Musical Theatre Programs in Penetanguishene and Grand Bend will also take place in early February.

In the Penetanguishene area, young performers ages 8 to 12 may audition for a one-week training program that will take place from July 20 to July 24. Auditions will be held on Saturday, February 8. Advance sign up is required.

In the Grand Bend area, young performers ages 8 to 12 may audition for a one-week training program that will take place from July 13 to July 17. Auditions will be held on Sunday, February 9. Advance sign up is required.

In addition to the one-week sessions, the popular **Pre-Professional Production Program** will take place in Grand Bend this year. The Pre-Professional Production Program gives teen performers hands-on insight into how a musical is cast, rehearsed, and performed. In 2020, aspiring young performers ages 13 to 18 will present a 60-minute junior version of the Disney blockbuster *Frozen* at the Huron Country Playhouse II. This two-week session will take place from July 27 to August 7, with ten performances of *Frozen JR.* from August 11 to August 15 at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. daily.

Adapted from the blockbuster animated film, *Frozen JR.* follows the stormy story of true love and acceptance between princess sisters Elsa and Anna. Burdened with an uncontrollable magical power, Elsa flees her home of Arendelle when she inadvertently causes the kingdom to become frozen, and nearly kills her sister. Fearless Anna joins forces with mountaineer Kristoff and his reindeer sidekick to find Elsa, break her icy spell, and save their kingdom from eternal winter.

Associate Artistic Director **David Connolly** will direct and choreograph the production. Connolly's impressive résumé includes work on major musicals like the pre-Broadway production of *First Wives Club* in Chicago and numerous Drayton Entertainment productions including Disney's *Newsies*, *Mamma Mia!*, and the popular family pantos *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Cinderella*, *Aladdin* and *Snow White*.

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