

# OPE AUDITIONS AgB8 6-18 

Auditions: Monday, April 1st 5:30-7:30pm and
Tuesday, April 2nd 5:30-7:30pm
Callbacks: Wednesday, April 3rd 6:00-8:00pm
At the Forever After Rehearsal Studio at the PARC
650 Church Street, Suite 107
Plymouth, MI 48170
You MUST BE between the age of $6-18$ on April 3rd to be cast in this production.

## The Audition Process

1. Read through this packet COMPLETELY.
2. Prepare to sing a selection from the website
3. Pick ONE audition day. It does not benefit auditionees to attend both nights of auditions.
4. Enter the Forever After Rehearsal Studio through the activities door located at the back of the building and register in our studio office room \#107
5. Arrive between the set auditions times and expect to stay for at least an hour.
6. There is a $\$ 5$ audition fee and can be paid in cash or a check payable to Forever After Productions.
7. Hand in your completed Audition Form and headshot.
8. Auditionees only are allowed in the audition room.
9. Auditionees needed to sing for specific character roles, to be seen again will be asked to return Wednesday, April 3rd at 6pm for callbacks at our Rehearsal Studio. DO NOT CONTACT Forever After Productions regarding callbacks. DO check your email and iheartforeverafter.com on April 2nd after 10pm to view the callback list. Receiving a callback does not guarantee a part in the show, nor does not being called back mean a casting rejection or that a lead or feature role has not been assigned.
10. The Cast List will be sent out via email on Thursday, April 4th by 10am and will also posted at www.iheartforeverafter.com
11. Orientation paperwork will be emailed and can be turned in at the first rehearsal.

## Participation Requirements

## PARENTS \& PARTICIPANTS: BY AUDITIONING, YOU AGREE TO THESE CONDITIONS

- Those given a role in this production agree to take the part (or notify us immediately if they decline). As well as attend EVERY DRESS REHEARSAL and PERFORMANCE. Exceptions are granted in rare circumstances.
- Performers may not be permitted to perform in sections of the show if they miss rehearsal for those sections. If you may miss multiple rehearsals, you are strongly encouraged not to audition.
- A Costume Fee of $\$ 65$ will be charged to each participant.
- Young Performers: This production is done to enhance a regular education. Therefore, performers under the age of 18 are expected to keep up their grades.
- Young Performers: You understand that supervision will not be provided for your child any earlier than the beginning of the rehearsal and no later than ten minutes after rehearsal.
- A script is included with tuition
- All cast members will be expected to pay Forever After Productions your actor participation fee of $\$ 225$ at cast orientation via check or cash. You must notify Forever After Productions on or before April 7th if you choose to withdraw without obligation.
- Every cast member or family is REQUIRED to contribute at least 14 hours of volunteer time including at least 2 hours of volunteer during load-in (our first day moving into the theater). We will need help during the Pre-Production Weeks (the weeks leading up to the show and Production Week (The week of the show) with things such as set building, costuming, publicity and much more. No experience is necessary when coming to help. This is a learning experience for everyone! Deposits will be required.
- Every cast member or family is REQUIRED to contribute at least 2 hours during strike after the last show as part of their 14 hours.


## Schedule Overview

Rehearsals will begin in April. Please indicate on the Audition Form any conflicts you are aware of. Plan on approximately $1-3$ rehearsals per week. We will not be rehearsing on Easter or Memorial Day Weekend.

NOTE: all performers will not be called to every rehearsal.

## Dress Rehearsals and Performances

## PERFORMERS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND EVERY DRESS REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE.

DO NOT AUDITION if you are unable to attend every dress rehearsal and performance.

Dress Rehearsals are Sunday, June 16th - Wednesday, June 19th in the evening. We anticipate rehearsals running until about 9:30pm.
Cast members will be required to arrive at least 1.5 hours pre-show for every performance.
Performances for Beauty And The Beast Jr Jr will be:
Thursday, June 20th at 7:00pm
Friday, June 21st
Saturday, June 22nd
at 7:00pm
at 2:00pm and 7:00pm
Sunday, June 23rd
at 2:00pm and 6:00pm

## About The Production

Based on the original Broadway production that ran for over thirteen years and was nominated for nine Tony Awards, and the Academy Award-winning motion picture, Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR. is a fantastic adaptation of the story of transformation and tolerance. Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR. features some of the most popular songs ever written by Alan Menken and the late Howard Ashman, along with new songs by Mr. Menken and Tim Rice.

The classic story tells of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped under the spell of an enchantress. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he will be transformed to his former self. But time is running out. If the Beast does not learn his lesson soon, he and his household will be doomed for all eternity.

## CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

## Character Breakdown

Belle
Belle is a smart, confident young woman from a small village. You will want a strong singer and actress who is able to stand up to Gaston while showing compassion for Maurice, the Servants and eventually the Beast. If there are several female students in your school who could perform the role, consider casting two girls to play Belle on alternating nights.

Gender: Female
Vocal range top: F5
Vocal range bottom: G3

## Beast

The Beast is a young prince who was hideously transformed by the Enchantress' s spell. Casting for size is not as important as choosing a student who can handle this complex character: a dictator, a hurt child, a hero, a defender and a smitten prince. Cast an actor who can deliver a range of conflicting emotional states. Although the Beast does sing a small bit during "Something There" and the "Finale," this is truly an acting role (and his lyrics can be spoken if you cast a non-singer). If you choose to cast the Prince separately from the Beast, the Prince would end up singing the Beast' s lines in the "Finale."

Gender: Male
Narrators
The Narrators provide great opportunities to involve students who are more comfortable speaking than singing. The script is written to feature four Narrators, but you can incorporate more students (or fewer) depending on the size of your cast. Be sure the students you choose for these roles can enunciate and project, as they guide the focus and pace of this beautiful tale. These roles are non-singing, but the actors can also be a part of your ensemble.

## Gender: Any

Old Beggar Woman/Enchantress
The Old Beggar Woman/Enchantress should be portrayed by an actor with a flair for the visually dramatic as this is a non-speaking role. Her transformation in the Prologue needs to entice the audience into the story. After the Prologue, this student may join the ensemble as a Villager or castle Servant.

Gender: Female

## Gaston

Gaston is pompous and dim-witted and will do whatever it takes to win Belle's hand. Gaston has all the confidence in the world but lacks the humility to balance it. Finding a strong singer and actor is more important than physical size and stature for this role. He has to be able to sell his big eponymous number with gusto and arrogance as well as lead the Villagers in "The Mob Song." Biceps can be added to the costume, but the bravura needs to come from within.

Gender: Male

Maurice
Maurice is an aging and eccentric inventor, but more importantly, the adoring and protective father of Belle. This non-solo singing role is perfect for the student who can have fun interpreting this crazy old man while conveying some very strong emotions: fear and fatherly love.

Gender: Male
Lefou
Lefou is Gaston's equally dim-witted lackey. This character needs to be Gaston's foil and should double the laughs for them both. Consider auditioning Lefou and Gaston in pairs to find the right chemistry. Lefou should be able to sing, act and dance. Choose a student who has some gymnastics training if you wish to embed tumbling into Lefou's movement.

Gender: Male
Les Filles De La Ville - Silly Girls
Les Filles De La Ville are in love with Gaston and will do almost anything just to be near him. Look for three girls who can portray the comic nature of these roles and enjoy playing off each other. Les Filles De La Ville sing together in three numbers and their sound should mix well.

Gender: Female
Lumiere
Lumiere is a confident, charming French mâitre d who (under the enchantress's spell) is becoming a candelabra. He has an incessant bickering rapport with Cogsworth, so consider auditioning in pairs to find a good fit. Lumiere should be a strong singer who can light up the stage in "Be Our Guest." If you have a student who can handle the French accent, fantastic! This role covers a range of emotions (from charming entertainer to brave soldier) and requires prominent song and dance, so try to cast a strong, versatile performer.is a self-confident, charming, French mâitre d' who (under the Enhantress's spell) is becoming a candelabra. He has a never-ending give-and-take with Cogsworth, so the student playing Lumiere must work well with the child you cast for that role. Consider auditioning in pairs. Lumiere should be a strong singer who can "light up" the stage in "Be Our Guest." If you have a child who can handle the French accent, fantastic! This role covers a range of emotions (from charming entertainer to brave soldier) and requires prominent song and dance, so try to cast a strong, reliable performer.

Gender: Male

## Cogsworth

Cogsworth is the British major-domo of the castle who is becoming a clock. Like all of the castle s Servants, he shows a fatherly compassion for Belle yet is perfectly submissive to the master, the Beast. Cogsworth enjoys feeling like the boss and has no problem getting into it with Lumiere. Cast a strong actor and singer who can act in charge.

Gender: Male

## Mrs. Potts

Mrs. Potts is the castle s endearing cook who is becoming a teapot. The actor you cast needs a strong, sweet voice and should be able to convey comforting, maternal qualities amidst the chaos that is breaking out in the castle. Look for a student who can play a loving mother figure to all the characters.

Gender: Female

## Chip

Chip is Mrs. Potts s son who is becoming a teacup. You may cast a younger student for this role, but it is not imperative. Chip has a wonderful naïveté that endears him to all of the Servants. Cast an actor who can portray the honesty and spirit of a child and is comfortable trying to sing Chip s few solo lines.

Gender: Male

## Madame De La Grande Bouche

Madame De La Grande Bouche is an opera singer who is becoming a wardrobe. Madame is larger-than-life in everything she does, including her singing and dancing. Look for that student who can portray the ultimate diva with a heart with an outsized personality and voice. Madame has some harmony lines with Mrs. Potts and Babette, so cast a singer who can hold her own but knows when to pull back in order to sound good with the others.

Gender: Female

## Babette

Babette is the maid of the castle who is turning into a feather duster. She misses the finer things in life. Babette is happy to be at Belle s service at a moment s notice, but her true heart comes through in Human Again. Look for a good actor with solid vocal skills to handle Babette s harmonies.

Gender: Female

Monsieur D'Arque
Monsieur D'Arque is a sinister townsman who works for Gaston. Cast an actor who can believably exude his sinister personality. Although Monsieur D'Arque has few lines of solo singing in "The Mob Song," this is primarily a non-singing role, so look for a solid actor first. Monsieur D'Arque can double as a Servant in the rest of the show.

Gender: Male

## Servants

The Servants of the castle can include Statues, a Dust Pan, Flatware, Plates, an Egg Timer, Napkins, a Carpet, Salt \& Pepper Shakers and any other household (or castle hold items) you and your cast can imagine. These enchanted characters are the Rockettes of the castle. They should be able to handle a potentially awkward costume while singing and dancing in two big production numbers. These roles can also accommodate multiple ages if you are looking to augment your cast with some young students.

Gender: Any

## Villagers

The Villagers are the inhabitants of Belle s town. There are some featured solos and lines that will come from this ensemble (Bookseller, Baker, etc.). The group must provide vocal power throughout the show and dance in the production numbers, so be sure to cast performers with a wide base of ability. These actors can double as the castle Servants if needed.

Gender: Any

## BEAUTY AND THE BEAST JR

Is presented through special arrangement with Musical Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. MTIShows.com

If you have questions or concerns about the audition process or the production, please contact us at (734) 547-5156 or foreveraftermail@gmail.com. Please do not contact the director or casting panel concerning casting decisions, call backs, or audition scores.

PLEASE FILL OUT THE ATTACHED AUDITION FORM

AND BE READY TO HAND IT IN AT YOUR AUDITION

