

# GIRLS AUDITION FORM

Please Bring a Recent Photo which will not be Returned

## CHILDREN'S THEATRE OF WINNETKA

Peter Pan – Fall 2018

ACT DANCE SING Height

*(do not write above this line)*

*\*Children's Theatre of Winnetka is open to children grades 4-8 residing or attending school within New Trier Township\**

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Email addresses: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Mom's email address) (Dad's email address)*

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(number, street, village, zip)*

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Please circle BEST phone number to reach you for callbacks)*

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Pants Size: \_\_\_\_\_

- This show will have two complete casts with one cast rehearsing Tuesdays, 4:00 - 5:30, and Thursdays, 5:30 - 7:00. The other cast will rehearse Tuesdays, 5:30 - 7:00, and Thursdays, 4:00 - 5:30.
- Both casts may rehearse some Fridays. The casts will alternate between 9 - 11 and 11 - 1 rehearsals on Saturdays.
- Tuesday/Thursday and Friday rehearsals will be longer beginning November 2nd.
- Please note any dates for which you request your child be excused from rehearsal. **All absences will still need to be approved by the directors by Sunday, 9/9.** \_\_\_\_\_
- **No Excused Absences after October 30th.**
- If cast in a flying role, I give permission for my child to be flown by trained parent volunteers.  YES  NO
- If my child is cast in a flying role, I understand a parent will be asked to be trained to assist with flying during rehearsals and performances. Training will be held the evening of Wednesday, November 7th.
- Parents of cast members should expect to volunteer during rehearsals and performances.

**I have read this section: Parent's Initials \_\_\_\_\_**

I have experience in the following (please describe):

Acting: \_\_\_\_\_

Dancing: \_\_\_\_\_

Singing: \_\_\_\_\_

Crew or Technical: \_\_\_\_\_

Gymnastics/Tumbling: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever auditioned for a Children's Theatre of Winnetka production? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

If YES, which show(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been cast in a Children's Theatre of Winnetka production? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

If YES, which show(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

### IF YOU ARE CAST, THERE WILL BE A PRODUCTION FEE OF \$650

*(Confidential, needs-based scholarships are available. To inquire, please call Connie Yonan at 847-751-1870.)*

Would you be interested in participating in our **CREW**? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Please note: Cast members are selected before crew assignments are made. Your interest will not increase or decrease your chances of being cast. Say "yes" only if you *really* want to CREW if you are not cast. You will be contacted in a few weeks if we need additional members on CREW. **IF YOU ARE SELECTED TO CREW, THERE IS A PRODUCTION FEE OF \$50.00.**



Fall Show  
Commitment Form

**Rules of participation:**

- 1. All children will treat each other with respect and kindness. There will be no harassing or teasing of other children or adults. The adults working on the show are all volunteers who do this for the love of children and the theater.
- 2. All cast members will arrive on time for rehearsals, or have a prearranged lateness. In the event of illness, Parents must call Cathy Hirschmann at 847-767-2709 before 3:15pm on weekdays, and 8:00 AM on Saturdays.
- 3. Pre-arranged absences, such as family travel or special events, must be arranged with Cathy Hirschmann no later than 9/9/18. NO pre-excused absences will be allowed after October 30th.
- 4. No electronic communication media **of any kind** are allowed during scheduled rehearsal times with the exception of use for homework at a designated table. This includes cell phones, iPads, and electronic notebooks. If a CTW director, monitor or producer sees or hears such device during rehearsal time, the device will be confiscated and released to the child's parent. Any cast or crew member found using one of these devices may be subject to disciplinary action which may include immediate dismissal from the show.

6. We/I \_\_\_\_\_

give our child/children \_\_\_\_\_  
permission to be in the cast or on the crew of the Fall show produced by the Children's Theatre of Winnetka. We/I will not hold either the CTW Board or the Winnetka Community House liable for any injury sustained by my child during the production. We/I agree that our child will abide by the rules of Children's Theatre of Winnetka or be subject to expulsion from the cast or crew.

Parents' Signatures \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I, (child) \_\_\_\_\_ as a cast or crew member of Children's Theatre of Winnetka, agree to abide by the rules set down for the cast and crew of the show and I understand that if I break the rules I may be expelled from either the cast or crew.

Child/Children's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Winnetka Community House

Note: To be completed by  
Parents/Guardians.  
If you completed this form  
for the previous season's  
show, you do not need to  
complete it for this show.

## Authorization and Release to Verify Background for Children's Theatre of Winnetka Volunteers

I (we), \_\_\_\_\_ hereby authorize Winnetka Community House, Inc., its board of governors, officers, employees and designees to research and legally obtain information related to my background. I authorize any person or entity so contacted to release such information. I acknowledge and understand that by signing this form I am releasing the Winnetka Community House and any person contacted from any claims I or any person asserting a claim on my behalf may have by virtue of the disclosure of the information as authorized by me.

I hereby authorize each and every party contacted to release any and all information requested by the Winnetka Community House in connection with my **volunteer activities for Children's Theatre of Winnetka.**

**All personal information will be kept secure and confidential.**

Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



Winnetka Community House  
620 Lincoln Ave.  
Winnetka, IL 60093

## a few words about auditioning, casting policies and rules

**History:** Children's Theatre of Winnetka was founded at the Winnetka Community House in 1974, with the intent to provide an overall theater experience for the children of New Trier Township. Auditions are open to all New Trier Township children (children residing or attending school in New Trier Township) grades 4-8. Our goals remain the same: 1) we teach all aspects of theater arts - producing, directing, acting, singing, dancing, lighting, sound, stage management, crewmanship, props, makeup, special effects, ushering and other disciplines which are needed to create a show; 2) we produce two shows a year that are aimed at appealing to young audiences; and 3) we work to maintain a high standard of professionalism. Since 1974, our shows have ranged from fairy tales to modern classics to Broadway musicals. Over the years our popularity has grown - both among the children who wish to be in our casts and on our crews and among the adults who seek to lend us their talents. Our adult board is an all-volunteer, working board.

**Auditions:** Auditions and callbacks are CLOSED which means all non-auditioning children and parents may not watch auditions. We have instituted this policy to provide your child with the privacy needed to be comfortable and the opportunity to be their creative best. Please feel free to wait for your child in the lobby area of the Community House or return home until your child calls for pick up when their audition is completed. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

**Casting:** The casting committee consists of the directors of the production, plus any other production staff that the directors wish to include. Normally, the choreographer and the vocal coach are included. At least one casting committee member must be a Board member. Casting is by consensus, with the Director having the final say in case there is no consensus. When there are co-directors, consensus must be reached. With the increased popularity of our productions, the number of children auditioning has risen enormously. It has been necessary for the Board to constantly review casting policies and to establish a casting philosophy. Rules of thumb have been established over the years, some of which are Board policy and some of which are common sense, to aid casting committees in cases where there are a great many talented children available:

### **Board Policy:**

1. The Director(s) have the freedom to choose those children that they deem most fit to play all acting roles.
2. Board members' children and children of non-board members who are working on the production will be called back as a matter of courtesy.
3. When, and only when, talent is equal, a Board member's child will be chosen over a non-Board member's child.
4. If more than one child from the same family auditions for a show, there is no guarantee that all children will be cast.

### **Common Sense:**

1. The choreographer is the best judge of dancers.
2. The vocal coach is the best judge of singers.
3. The Directors are the best judge of actors.
4. A grading system will be used to break ties.

All children who try out are graded on acting, singing and dancing. In each case, grading is subjective. There is no scientific way to grade these talents. Directors may have preconceived ideas of how they want the characters to look, act and sound; therefore, it is entirely possible that a child with exceptional talent might be turned away because he or she does not fit the Director's concept. Frequently, children who are not cast in one production will be cast in the next one (based upon the different needs of that show.)

An important factor that enters into casting is a child's size. Every show has different size requirements and the directors select their leading characters first and build their cast around them to create a believable cast. For example, a boy might be "born to play" the part of the father, but if he is no taller than the actor selected to play his son, he will not work out as that character; the audience would not believe him in the part. By the same token, Annie cannot be taller than Daddy Warbucks, and so on. Sometimes a child cannot be cast because of size, despite

enormous talent. Other times children of lesser talent must be cast because of their size-appropriateness, in order to make the play believable to the audiences.

Our crew system is designed to allow those children who are not cast and those who are interested in developing backstage skills to be involved in its actual production. It would be very easy to use adults as crew, but we have chosen to use children for all crews and to teach backstage disciplines as well as onstage ones. We are proud of our crew system. We always have some children who do not wish to act but only to work on crew and we make every attempt to give them their first choice of crews. Our goal in all productions is to give crewmembers as much responsibility as possible.

CTW is a non-profit, volunteer organization. Most of our directors, producers, vocal coaches, choreographers, stage managers, etc. all donate their time for the love of Children's Theatre.

Scholarships are available for the production fee. Call Connie Yonan at (847) 751-1870. All inquiries and scholarships are kept confidential.

***We request that parents of cast members participate in some capacity during the show.*** There are a variety of opportunities that will fit both your interests and time constraints. A parent meeting will be called after casting is complete to describe these opportunities to you.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and thank you for your children!  
THE BOARD OF THE CHILDREN'S THEATRE OF WINNETKA