

MARCH Drama Productions

We are honored that your family is interested in participating in MARCH Drama Productions. This handbook will give you a deeper insight to the program and allow you all to determine if the MARCH Drama Productions program is a good fit for your family. The following information will offer a step by step process to follow to make sure you are connected and receiving up to date information regarding MARCH Drama Productions.

- 1. Please make sure you are a member of the McKinney Area Christian Homeschool Association and that you have signed the statement of faith.
 - a. MARCH Membership Link*
 - b. MARCH Statement of Faith**

- 2. Please read the MARCH Drama Productions Handbook
 - a. MARCH Drama Productions Handbook**

- 3. Please complete the MARCH Drama Productions Membership Application - by completing this form you will be able to receive all the up to date information in reference to MARCH Drama Productions. There is no commitment or cost to the MARCH Drama Productions membership application process. It will aid us in future planning for the program. Please complete a form for each student/students that are interested in participating.
 - a. MARCH Drama Productions Membership Application**

- 4. After you have become a member of MARCH Drama Productions, you will receive the current production parent information packet. This will include all rehearsal dates, technical rehearsal dates, and performance dates as well as the title of the production. If the production is a good fit for your family you will need to complete a MARCH Drama Productions Registration/Audition Form and submit payment.*

Thank you again for your interest in MARCH Drama Productions. Please reach out with any and all questions as we are here to serve your family in the journey of theatre.

Thank you again, The MARCH Drama Productions Team

DeAnna Stone, Heather Hangen and Shannon Olinski

MARCH Drama Productions Handbook

The Purpose of MARCH Drama Productions is:

1. To glorify God and pursue Godly character as we explore the stage.
2. To provide a theatrical experience in a spiritually grounded, safe and healthy environment.
3. To provide an opportunity to enhance the homeschool experience for families through the stage.
4. To provide opportunities to exercise Godly character through the journey of the stage.

Doctrinal Ways

In addition to the MARCH statement of faith, we require families involved in the Drama Productions Program to agree to the following:

Our doctrinal Statement of Faith is fundamental to basic Christian tenets and contains those doctrines to which we unreservedly adhere. The following areas are left primarily to the teaching of the home and church:

1. Church government, authority, and discipline
2. Time and mode of baptism
3. Security of the believer
4. Timing of future events
5. Second work of grace or baptism of the Holy Spirit
6. Sinless perfection
7. Gifts of the Spirit, tongues, interpretation of tongues, healing, miracle working, and discerning of spirits

In honoring our desire concerning the outreach of this program, there will be no attempt made by directors to promote these doctrinal positions during the Drama Productions process. We desire to remain united in the salvation and love of Christ, avoiding dissension, which may be caused by doctrinal differences.

Biblical Conflict Resolution – Matthew 18:15-17

We understand that conflicts and misunderstandings will arise between students and adults. We do not encourage an adult/teacher to go directly to a student with a conflict that is outside the normal student/teacher relationship. We do encourage adults to go directly to the other adult or parent (in case of a conflict between two students, an adult/student, or adult/adult conflict), according to Matthew 18:15. If the situation is not resolved according to Scripture, then bring your concern/grievance to the Drama Productions Committee. Then according to Matthew 18:16, two or more of the Drama Productions team will meet with the parties involved to attempt Biblical reconciliation. If, at that point, there is still no Biblical reconciliation, the Committee will meet with all parties involved to attempt Biblical reconciliation according to Matthew 18:17, "if your brother refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church". Any dispute arising from or related to your membership and participation in MARCH Drama Productions shall be taken to the MARCH Board for resolution. See MARCH Bylaws, Article III, Section 5.A. Disagreement Between Members.

Mission Statement:

MARCH Drama Productions

MARCH Drama Productions is a theatrical production opportunity that offers students the ability to experience the stage in a way that reflects and builds Godly character.

MARCH Drama Productions Team

The role of the Drama Productions Team is to serve and support the MARCH Drama families throughout the journey of the production. Directors, Assistant Directors, Choreographers, Vocal Directors, and others that may serve in a leadership role for your student or students share in the spiritual mission of MARCH Drama Productions. The theatrical process serves as an avenue to mirror Godly character, build up each student in Christ and ultimately allow growth through a spiritual foundation. Those in a director position must have references provided and reviewed as well as participate in an interview with the MARCH Drama Productions Team. In addition, they are observed during the process at length to ensure their delivery of material, interaction with students and dedication to the process is congruent with the spiritual values and spiritual grounding of the MARCH Drama Productions mission statement. The foundation of MARCH Drama Productions goes beyond the performance of the stage and seeks to ultimately reflect our love and respect for Christ.

Participation Requirements

1. You MUST be a member of MARCH and pay membership fees each year. The membership year is June 1st through May 31st. Remember, the MARCH Drama Productions program is only one program under the big umbrella of MARCH. There are other amazing programs to consider such as Graduation, Group Activities, Group Field Trips, Enrichment, Dual Credit, etc.
2. You must sign an electronic statement online that confirms you have read this handbook and will follow these guidelines.
3. You must fill out a MARCH Drama Productions Membership Application
4. Parents will be required to volunteer in various areas of the production during tech and performance week at a minimum of 2 times: Backstage, Concessions, Tech Meals, Tickets, Costumes, Props, etc. Our Volunteer Coordinator will keep track and assign positions if necessary.
5. Each student and one parent will need to complete and sign a registration/audition form for each production as well as complete payment.

MARCH Drama Productions Process

Production Titles

Each production title is selected by the MArCH Drama Productions Team with guidance from the MArCH Board. The titles will often be surveyed with our MArCH families to allow input and suggestions. They will vary through the year as the team reviews plays and musicals as well as explores the best age groups for each production. The team hopes to be able to offer multiple titles a year and offer your family the flexibility to choose what will work best for your scheduling needs.

Production Age Groups

MArCH Drama Productions offers flexibility in schedules as well as your desired level of participation. Many productions will offer a 1st -12th grade option; however, we will also explore possibilities for elementary age productions from the ages 1st-6th grade as well as 7th -12th grade. The production title will often determine the age group based on the ensemble needs as well as the general storyline of the production. As the team approaches a production, there will be communication offered in regards to the age range for the students.

Production Audition Process

The team pursues an educational process and will NOT cut students from the cast but rather allow growth through their audition and participation. The audition is very much a part of the overall experience. We work to help each student grow in comfort as they learn to represent their work. They will be provided material to prepare and be brought to a great comfort level prior to the audition process to know exactly what to expect.

Production Casting Process

During the casting process, the drama production team hires an outside supporting casting director to help in casting the production. We respect this process and want to uphold the integrity of the stage by offering an additional fair assessment by a professional outside of the MArCH organization. Being that we do not make cuts in the casting, we double cast roles to allow for more educational opportunities. This means that your student will have a partner throughout the process. They will work together and learn to encourage one another throughout the journey. Your student will have 3 performances in their "On" night role and 3 performances in their "Off" night role. The beauty of this method is to allow all students to learn what it means to serve and celebrate others successes. As an example, your student may be cast as Belle for her on night performances and then as Villager #2 on their off night performances. Students are expected to be at all performances even on their "Off" night.

Production Rehearsals

MARCH Drama Productions will present a rehearsal plan with each production. Your family will know the dedicated number of hours you can plan for as you review each production opportunity. Typically, the rehearsal plan will be on Thursdays from 1:00-3:00pm. We ask students to attend 80% of the rehearsals scheduled; however, we understand that often we may have things pop up that will challenge the plan. We will work through the rehearsal scheduling challenges with your family if the need arises. *Sick Policy: You must be free from fever and/or symptoms for 24 hours without medication.*

Production Rehearsal Attire

The rehearsal attire needs to be comfortable clothing that will allow you to move for blocking and choreography. Shoes that are supportive and comfortable are encouraged. Due to choreography and movement, the safety of your student is our utmost concern. There are a few notes to consider when selecting your choice of attire for rehearsals listed below:

1. **ALL** shorts must be at least fingertip length when arms are fully extended at sides of legs.
2. No Skirts and Dresses for rehearsals due to choreography and movement.
3. No offensive clothing, including offensive wording.
4. No clothing that exposes the midriff.
5. No halter or strapless tops.
6. No loose or low-cut tops
7. No bra straps or other undergarments visible through or outside outerwear.
8. No facial piercings other than a tiny nose stud or hoop. No gauges.

Production Technical Rehearsals

MARCH Drama Productions tech week is where all the joy begins to come together. We ask that families commit to ensuring their student/students attend each night of tech and all performances. This is a crucial week and plays a huge factor in their comfort level as we approach opening night. Working with the set, on stage, managing props and performing in costumes, provides the opportunity to make sure they are confident in their performances. Tech week is mandatory as each student is valuable in this process and they are all needed. With that being said, it is a long week for all but specifically for the younger students, so the team will often allow the younger students some flexibility in scheduling. This will be communicated ahead of time for all families.

Production Cost

Each production may have a varying cost depending on the title of the production and the needs for that specific production. It is our goal to keep the cost of the production as low as possible. Typically, the cost will average \$100.00 per student; however, keep in mind this fee also includes the cast t-shirt for your student as well. The cost of the production pays for the royalty rights, storage for set and costume pieces, scripts, rehearsal space and performance venue. We also provide the ability to pay for drama productions over the course of 3 months as a support to your family if needed. We DO NOT want the cost to keep your family from participating in the journey. If there is a financial need, please reach out to Shannon Olinski (solinski@marchgroup.org) and allow us to work with you and your family. Our ticket sales pay it forward to the next production, allowing for items such as specific lighting, mics for the students and various spot lights. We are a non-profit organization and we work diligently to spend your fees to pay for the production at hand and rely on ticket sales for the ability to grow the program.

Production Costumes

The needs of costumes can be rather overwhelming at times depending on the production. We offer a rental costume fee with each production. This fee allows us the ability to order and prepare the costume needs of your student for the production. The costume fee is usually minimal (such as \$15.00), depending on the production. This is offered as a service to your family. It will help alleviate stress in regards to ordering items or preparing them yourself. We will manage the costume for you and remove this challenge from your semester. You do not have to pay the rental fee and may opt to purchase your costume on your own, and that is acceptable as well. We only ask that you work with the costume coordinator for selections and purchases. Many times your student will be asked to provide their own plain black shoes and socks, black pants or a plain white or black shirt. Each production is different and often requires different needs; however, this will all be communicated prior to registration for the production.

MARCH Drama Membership Application Form

If you are interested in participating in MARCH Drama Productions as a program you will be asked to fill out an application for your student/students. This is a one time form that will allow us to make sure you receive all communication for the program. The application form allows us to collect information in regards to your family as well as to the needs of your student. This does NOT commit you to any productions; however, it is a way for us to know of the interest of your family and allow us to plan diligently for the future. There are NO fees or obligations associated with the MARCH Drama Productions Membership Application process. After the application process is complete you will be eligible to receive production information to determine what productions you may decide to participate in for the season. Please fill out one form for each student in your family that is interested in participating in the program.

[MARCH Drama Membership Application Form](#)

Production Registration

The registration process is where you as a family will decide if you are interested in committing to the production title, cost, rehearsal schedule and performance dates. It is during the registration process that you will receive further information in regards to the production and ultimately commit to the journey of that production. The statement below will appear on the registration/audition form in regards to the commitment for the production. It is our goal to allow the students to embrace the journey and not a specific role. If your student/students are interested in auditioning for the production you will be asked to fill out and complete the registration form that will be provided for each production.

Parent Volunteer Requirements

This process is something that requires additional support from families. We need your expertise, care and support to carry out a production of this magnitude. We simply cannot manage this journey alone. We need your help. A Parent or Guardian must volunteer their time at a minimum of two slots on the sign-up genius provided for each production. Minor students are not considered an adult and are NOT eligible to fulfill this role for the parent or guardian. Failure to fulfill this responsibility will result in the dismissal from a student and their future participation in MArCH Drama Productions. If there is a reason that creates a challenge for you in the process of volunteer support, please communicate the need with Shannon Olinski solinski@marchgroup.org and the need will be discussed with the MARCH Drama Productions Committee.

Commitment for Production

I understand I must be a MArCH member in good standing. I understand that by auditioning I am making a commitment to this cast. I am choosing to participate in this production regardless of the role to which I may be assigned. I therefore commit to fulfilling the responsibilities of a cast member by attending 80% of all rehearsals and all tech and dress rehearsals, learning lines and blocking on time, and having a positive and respectful attitude. I will inform the director in advance and as soon as I am aware of any absences. I understand that my family must volunteer in some way to support the production during the week of tech and performances such as concessions, dressing room support, etc. As a parent, I understand that failure to communicate a need or fulfill the volunteer expectations will result in dismissal from the MArCH Drama Productions Program. As a parent I will support the authority and decisions of the director and will refrain from coaching students; I will communicate any questions or concerns with the director in an appropriate time, place, and private manner and not during rehearsals or performances. I understand that if I do not fulfill these responsibilities that the student may be replaced in this production or suspended from the program and parents may be excluded from attending drama events. We understand that casting is based on performance at auditions as well as levels of past cooperation and past participation such as meeting deadlines, attitude, and attendance.

Communication Process

The communication process is very important. The more you share the better for our program. Anything your student may be experiencing is helpful to know in allowing us to serve your child in the best way possible. We are here to serve your family. The directors of the MArCH Drama Productions Team are all volunteers. We have a passion and desire to create the opportunity to allow homeschool students the ability to experience the stage in a safe and healthy

environment. By communicating challenges, concerns or encouragement along the way you will help us know how to support your student. You are welcome to reach out at any time to allow us the opportunity to serve you better. Families that participate in MArCH Drama Productions may connect and communicate at any time with the leadership of the MArCH Board President to allow insight to any thoughts, concerns or challenges.

MARCH Board President : president@marchgroup.org

Thank you again,

DeAnna Stone (Artistic Director)

Shannon Olinski (Managing Director)

MARCH Drama Productions Committee : Amy Marchena, Keisha Holland, Kyla Wapskineh, Holly Norton

Information is distributed primarily through:

1. **Email**
Checking your email frequently is crucial!
2. **Google Calendar**
MARCH Drama Productions will provide a Google Calendar for your convenience.
3. **Blog/Google Classroom**
The Blog and Google Classroom is critical in communication. Choreography, music, notes, etc. will be posted weekly for students and families.

MARCH Drama Productions Sample Schedule

March Drama Productions 2021-2022 - Seussical JR					
Date	Day	Grade	Purpose	Time	Location
October 7	Thursday	1st-12th	Workshop	1:00-3:00pm	CRBC
October 14	Thursday	1st-12th	Workshop	1:00-3:00pm	CRBC
October 21	Thursday	1st-12th	Auditions	1:00-3:00pm	CRBC
October 28	Thursday	1st-12th	Callbacks	1:00-3:00pm	CRBC
March Drama Productions Musical Rehearsal Schedule					
Date	Day	Grade	Purpose	Time	Location
Nov 4	Thursday	1st-12th	Rehearsal	1:00-3:00pm	CRBC
Nov 11	Thursday	1st-12th	Rehearsal	1:00-3:00pm	CRBC

Nov 18	Thursday	1st-12th	Rehearsal	1:00-3:00pm	CRBC
Nov 25	Thanksgiving Holiday	1st-12th	No Rehearsal		
Dec 2	Thursday	1st-12th	Rehearsal	1:00-3:00pm	CRBC
Dec 9	Thursday	1st-12th	Rehearsal	1:00-3:00pm	CRBC
Dec 16	Thursday	1st-12th	Rehearsal	1:00-3:00pm	CRBC
Dec 23	Christmas Holiday	1st-12th	No Rehearsal		
Dec 30	New Year Holiday	1st-12th	No Rehearsal		
Jan 6	Thursday	1st-12th	Rehearsal	1:00-3:00pm	CRBC
Jan 13	Thursday	1st-12th	Rehearsal	1:00-3:00pm	CRBC
Jan 20	Thursday	1st-12th	Rehearsal	1:00-3:00pm	CRBC
Jan 27	Thursday	1st-12th	Rehearsal	1:00-3:00pm	CRBC
Feb 3	Thursday	1st-12th	Rehearsal	1:00-3:00pm	CRBC
Feb 10	Thursday	1st-12th	Rehearsal	1:00-3:00pm	CRBC
Feb 17	Thursday	1st-12th	Rehearsal	1:00-3:00pm	CRBC
Feb 24	Thursday	1st-12th	Rehearsal	1:00-3:00pm	CRBC
Tech and Performance Week					
Feb 27	Sunday	1st-12th	Set Load In	2:00-7:00pm	Church St.
Feb 28	Monday	1st-12th	Tech	5:00-9:00pm	Church St.
Mar 1	Tuesday	1st-12th	Tech	5:00-9:00pm	Church St.
Mar 2	Wednesday	1st-12th	Tech	5:00-9:00pm	Church St.
Mar 3	Thursday	1st-12th	Performance	5:30-10:00	Church St.
Mar 4	Friday	1st-12th	Performance	5:30-10:00	Church St.
Mar 4	Friday	1st-12th	Performance		Church St.
Mar 5	Saturday	1st-12th	Performance	12:00-11:00pm	Church St.
Mar 5	Saturday	1st-12th	Performance		Church St.
Mar 5	Saturday	1st-12th	Performance		Church St.

The MArCH Drama Productions Team is here to serve your family and your student/students. We believe the stage provides a wonderful opportunity to learn valuable life lessons that will help establish a foundation for their future. These lessons include learning to overcome challenges, balancing schedules, working as a team, graciously working through disappointments, humbly accepting success, recognizing there is a bigger picture in life and that we are ultimately here for God's Glory. We encourage your students to have a voice and share their concerns, challenges, and seek to advocate for their journey. It is a huge part of their growth. We are open to hear their heart and help them through any challenges. We respect these students and seek to build into each one of them. We will link arms with each one of you and walk the journey together. Please communicate any concerns and allow us to walk this amazing journey with you and your family. We are honored to work with your family and your students.

The Drama Production Team will prayerfully work through any challenge not specifically stated in the MArCH Drama Productions Handbook.

MArCH Drama Productions Student Expectations

1. The role of each student is to encourage and support their peers. Students should leave all critiques to the directors and should not critique one another.
2. We understand with each production there is opportunity to exercise Godly character for moments of disappointment or moments of excitement. The Drama Team will send the cast list out in ample time to allow students to experience their disappointment or excitement with their families privately and then be prepared to embrace the journey once arriving at the rehearsal.
3. Participate, engage and enjoy the process.
4. To allow optimal learning for all please limit cell phone usage during rehearsal, tech and performances. Please do not use phones unless necessary and discussed with a director; however, phones may be used for taking notes.
5. We must honor the facilities in which we rehearse or perform.
6. Fulfill your commitment to learning the blocking, choreography and vocals.
7. Bring all required supplies to rehearsal. Pencil, script, water, etc.
8. Snacks are allowed for a rehearsal over 2 hours; however, we ask that students not share snacks and eat only when given permission.
9. No PDA. No public displays of affection of any kind.
10. No sexual misconduct or other behavior that is inconsistent with Biblical standards of sexual purity.
11. Students must dress in conformance with their biological sex and use the restroom, locker room, shower, and changing facilities consistent with their biological sex.
12. Please keep conversations wholesome and supportive of Godly character.
13. Bullying or fighting of any kind will not be tolerated and will be dealt with at the discretion of the Committee.
14. Communication is of the utmost importance. Please allow us insight on any struggles, challenges or concerns that you may experience. We are here to serve and support you all. We cannot fix what we do not know. Please keep us in the loop and allow us the opportunity to serve you during the journey.

