



AUDITION INFO

Center Stage Academy announces its Spring theatre production, *School of Rock The Musical*. Auditions are open to ANY students currently in 6th-12th grade. The production will be directed by Michael Hutton and Jennifer Renfrow, with musical direction to be determined.

Please review all the information provided in this packet. If you have further questions, please call 660-747-6133.

AUDITION INFORMATION

- When:** *Saturday, December 8th 10:00am-1pm (or by online submission / see below)*
Students will arrive in accordance with their scheduled time through the Calendly app (see listed below)
- Where:** **Center Stage Academy**
349 SE DD Highway
Warrensburg, MO 64093
- Attire:** *Auditionees should dress for success in clothes that make them feel confident and enhance their individual personality. It's important to dress nicely and have a polished appearance so that directors know that you take the audition seriously. Hair should be pulled out of the face in a style that you like. Please no hats, it hides your face.*
- Preparation:** Students must prepare a song selection, no longer than a minute, preferably in a hard rock style. Selections may be from rock musicals or popular rock songs. Additionally, a song from the musical will be provided on the Center Stage Academy website for student use.

Audition Format

Those wishing to audition should schedule an audition time through the Calendly app (found both on the center stage website and at <https://calendly.com/michaelwhutton/schoolofrockauditions>). Then actors will perform their prepared song for the directors in the order listed on the Calendly app. As soon as they are finished with song, students are free to go.

For those wishing to audition but unable to attend the December 8th audition date, video auditions will be accepted. Please ensure that the quality of the recording is sufficient enough for the directors to clearly hear all notes of the prepared song. Send all audition videos to Michael Hutton at michaelwhutton@gmail.com

Callbacks

If the director finds it necessary to see any actors for additional readings or singing, callback auditions will be held Friday, December 14th, from 4pm to 6pm. A callback list will be posted on the Center Stage website by Sunday, December 9th by 4:00pm.

Additional Audition Information

Auditions will be closed (meaning only children auditioning will be allowed in the audition room.) Parents can wait in the lobby or can drop children off and pick them up at the time listed above.

As with all auditions, there will be some children that are not cast in the production. It is important to understand this before auditioning and for parents to help prepare their children for this possibility. We try to include as many actors as possible but logistically there is only room for a certain number of performers on the stage. It is our goal to cast the best actor for each role while considering the many factors that influence casting: singing (quality and range), acting (character, diction, timing, projection, etc.), dancing (character movement and skill), height, physical appearance in relationship to others being cast, connection to the audience, ability and willingness to take direction, respect for directors and other performers, and overall attitude. If you are not cast, we encourage you to sign up to help backstage.

PRODUCTION INFORMATION

Performances

March 15-16, 2019

Rehearsals

- Rehearsals will be between the following times: Friday evenings 4:00-9:00 pm AND Saturdays from 9:00-5:00 beginning the weekend of **January 4th, 2019** through the Performance Dates, with additional rehearsals occurring in late December 2018.
- Mandatory dress rehearsals on **Wednesday, March 13th and Thursday, March 14th.**
- **Additional full cast rehearsals will be held December 29th (10am-2pm), December 30th (2pm-4pm), and January 2-3, (4pm-7pm).**

Rehearsals will be scheduled on Fridays and Saturdays from **January 4th, 2019, through March 16th, 2019.** Detailed rehearsal schedules will be available on our website as they become available. Depending on their part, performers may not be called for rehearsal on certain days or they may only be called for a portion of rehearsal. Attendance is absolutely necessary at every rehearsal you are called for. On the audition form there is a place for you to put your known conflicts between these dates. If we know now, it is easier to accommodate minor conflicts. However, if we feel your conflicts will be too difficult to schedule around, you will not be cast in this production. Conflicts that come up after casting has been posted or rehearsals begin will not be considered in scheduling and you will be expected to be at the rehearsal.

Production Fee and Other Expenses

- Each cast member (regardless of part) is required to pay a **production fee of \$160.** This fee is used directly to offset the cost of show licensing, script rental, orchestration rental, facility rental, costumes and technical elements of the production. The production fee will be due in two payments. \$80.00 will be due by January 15th and

\$80.00 due February 15th, 2019. Payments may be charged to your card on file at Center Stage.

- Optional Show T-shirt (\$15-\$20)
- Show Tickets (\$10-\$12 per ticket)
- Possible cost of costumes not supplied such as, socks, tights, shoes, jeans, etc.

Other Information

- Cast members are required to be at ALL rehearsals for which they are scheduled and at ALL performances.
- Only conflicts listed on your audition form will be excused.
- If an absence is necessary, in case of emergency or illness, please contact the director. More than two absences may result in dismissal from the show.

Casting

The cast list will be posted on the Center Stage Academy website on **Saturday, December 15th, 2018**. Please fill in the Production Agreement online form as soon as casting is posted. Please do not call the studio for casting information.

AUDITION MATERIALS

If you select your own song, you must provide accompaniment track on a device cued to the proper place (no CDs or acapella singing.) If you are using a track off of youtube, take a screen recording so you are not dependent on internet or signal strength.

To hear and rehearse the provided vocal selection (if you are not preparing one), visit www.centerstageacademy.org/schoolofrock

Audition Tips

- Be professional (positive, happy, organized, polite) from the second you step out of the car.
- Make sure to check in when you arrive with your completed audition form.
- When it is your turn, be confident, take a nice, comfortable stance and stand tall. Look REALLY happy to be there.
- Make sure you project your voice (including when introducing yourself) and continue doing so as you sing your song.
- Take a deep breath and focus.
- Enjoy yourself during your performance.
- Do NOT apologize. Even if you make a mistake, or are sick or have a cold! Everyone occasionally messes up and directors understand that and won't hold it against you. Don't ask to try again.

SYNOPSIS:

Act 1

DEWEY FINN, a guitarist for the band No Vacancy is all rock and roll, except for a couple of key ingredients: fame and glory. In fact, he's a mess! As the band plays a set at the Olympic Powerhouse, Dewey gets carried away with an improvised solo ("I'm Too Hot for You"). The next day as Dewey lies asleep, PATTY pressures

NED, her boyfriend and Dewey's former rocker friend, to demand the rent from their roommate and encourage Dewey to get a real adult job. Dewey claims he's going to pay up by winning Battle of the Bands ("When I Climb to the Top of Mount Rock"). Dewey heads to rehearsal only to find he's been replaced. He heads to work at a record store but is promptly fired for being late. Dewey, beaten down, answers a phone call from ROSALIE MULLINS, principal of the most esteemed Horace Green Prep School. She is calling to offer Ned a substitute teaching position. There's only one reasonable solution for Dewey—pose as Ned, accept the job, and make a little change.

It's Dewey's first day at school... and he's late. Rosalie welcomes Dewey to campus after the school sings the "Horace Green Alma Mater," and she informs him of their elite expectations ("Here at Horace Green"). Dewey meets his pupils who have a lot of questions for their curious new teacher. Unfortunately, Dewey has only one item on his curriculum—recess. Dewey returns home to find Ned discreetly playing Guitar Hero, and while they play, Dewey tries to convince Ned to join Battle of Bands with him just like the good old days ("Children of Rock"). Their daydream is abruptly ruined by Patty returning home from shopping. She then gives Dewey a reality check. Dewey has thirty days to pay his rent, or he has to leave ("Mount Rock – Reprise").

Dewey returns to school the next day (after missing first period), and he overhears Rosalie and his students singing "Queen of the Night." Dewey suddenly understands he must start a band with the students to win Battle of the Bands. He begins to assign instruments and roles to each of the students ("You're in the Band"). He puts ZACK on electric guitar, KATIE on bass, LAWRENCE on the keyboard, FREDDIE on drums, MARCY and SHONELLE on backup vocals, SOPHIE and MADISON as roadies, MASON on tech, JAMES on security, BILLY on style, and SUMMER as manager ("You're in the Band – Reprise"). The band is complete... almost. TOMIKA still hasn't peeped a word, and Lawrence is certain he's not cool enough to be in the band. Each student has his or her own set of problems to reckon with at home ("If Only You Would Listen"), but like they say, there's no crying in rock and roll.

The next day, Dewey shares with the students a song he wrote ("In the End of Time") while the teachers, including GABE BROWN, begin to speculate about the new music teacher (Faculty Quadrille). Dewey asks permission from Rosalie to take the students on a field trip, but the prospects look grim. He returns to practice ("In the End of Time - Band Practice") and encourages the band ("Stick It to the Man"), which is interrupted by Rosalie returning to the classroom to confirm that the school administration denied permission for the field trip. The band leaves for the first round of competition. The kids arrive onsite, and play their first public performance. Cue drumroll! The kids rock it out and qualify for Battle of the Bands ("In the End of Time – The Audition/Stick It to the Man – Reprise").

Act 2

The band is in full rehearsal mode ("Time to Play"), but there's one problem: parents' meetings fall right before the competition. In a moment of inspiration, Tomika rallies enough courage and surprises everyone with a soulful rendition of "Amazing Grace." The band has a new front woman! Unexpectedly, Rosalie pops into the classroom to observe their work, and Dewey pretends to use his so-called 'sing-song' method with the students ("Math Is a Wonderful Thing"). The pressure's on.

Rosalie reveals that despite her conservative presence, she loves to rock out to Stevie Nicks ("Where Did the Rock Go?"). She then opens up about wanting to be free in spite of her position. She finally comes around and permits the field trip. The next day at breakfast, Patty excitedly relays a letter to Ned from Horace Greene and quickly leaves for work. Ned discovers it's a payment from the school and is just about to call the school to clear up the mistake when Dewey realizes it's time to face the music.

Parents meetings are about to begin while the band learns a new song Zack has been playing around with ("School of Rock – Band Practice"). Their parents stumble upon them just as the kids find their groove, and are shocked that their kids have traded in their books for music. Dewey reminds the parents how incredible their kids actually are. At that very moment, Patty (who learned about Dewey's substitute teaching from Ned) breaks through the door to reveal Dewey's true identity. The parents confront Dewey ("Dewey's Confession"), but the kids won't be stopped—they secretly head over to compete at Battle of the Bands. Mason informs Rosalie that the kids don't care about Dewey's real identity. All they care about is that he taught them that rock could set them free. Meanwhile, a bus-full of kids arrive at the apartment to convince Dewey that he's changed their lives

("If Only You Would Listen – Reprise"). Dewey knows he has to follow through and leaves to watch the kids rock it out with Ned.

The school band arrives late ("I'm Too Hot for You – Reprise"), and Dewey decides that they should play the song that Zack wrote, even though the band virtually hasn't practiced it. Dewey reminds them performing's not about playing perfectly, it's about rocking out with all your heart. The parents arrive and watch the concert from the back of the venue ("School of Rock"). The stage is set, the volume is cranked up high, and the kids are ready. With every bit of heart and soul, the School of Rock delivers a performance that wins over the crowd. And the winner of Battle of the Bands is... No Vacancy. A rowdy crowd erupts in support of the kids, calling them back to the stage for one last encore ("Stick It to the Man – Encore"). The School of Rock passes with flying colors. Class dismissed ("Finale")!

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

The Adults

- **Dewey Finn:** The protagonist, Dewey is a struggling rockstar who is kicked out of his band, *No Vacancy*, at the beginning of the show. In need of money, he impersonates Ned Schneebly and gets a substitute teacher job at the Horace Green School, where he founds the band *School of Rock* with the students, who are musical prodigies. Dewey is usually wild, desperate, naive, dull-witted, and somewhat more childish than his students.
- **Rosalie Mullins:** Rosalie is the principal of Horace Green, and is very uptight and traditional at school. However, she feels an intense amount of pressure from work, which is what causes her to be so high strung. She has a secret love of rock and roll music, and longs to be as carefree as she once was.
- **Ned Schneebly:** Dewey's longtime friend, former bandmate, and current roommate. Ned is very easily manipulated, and tends to let people walk all over him—especially his girlfriend, Patty. He still loves rock and roll music, but is held down by Patty. He is a substitute teacher and is impersonated by Dewey at Horace Green.
- **Patty Di Marco:** Ned's girlfriend. She is very demanding and domineering, and doesn't let Ned make any decisions for himself. She hates Dewey and wants him out of the apartment and out of her and Ned's lives.

The Students

- **Summer (Manager):** Summer is a high-achieving girl who hates nonsense. Initially, she absolutely despises Dewey, but comes to love the band—or, perhaps, the power that comes with it—and is willing to do anything to see it achieve. Summer is one of the brightest students at Horace Green, as shown by the fact that she has significantly more gold stars on the achievement board than any of her peers. Throughout the show, she is convinced that winning the "Battle of the Bands" will look good on her college application.
- **Tomika (Vocals):** Tomika transfers to Horace Green after being accepted off of the waiting list. She is shy and doesn't speak to anyone at school, and feels as though she's not as intelligent as the other students. However, it turns out that she is a highly gifted singer, and becomes the secondary singer in *School of Rock*, behind only Dewey. She is adopted by two men who are a couple, whereas in the movie she had her two biological parents.
- **Zack (Guitarist):** Zack is the son of an uptight businessman with no time for his children. Because of that, Zack keeps a lot bottled inside and has issues with being too stiff with his guitar playing at first. However, Dewey discovers that Zack is actually a musical prodigy, as shown when Zack writes the band's anthem, *Teacher's Pet*, after only a month or so of playing rock music.
- **Lawrence (Keyboardist):** Lawrence is an unconfident boy, and is also gluten intolerant. He initially believes that he isn't cool enough to be a part of the band, but Dewey is able to convince him that he's amazing. At the beginning of the show, Lawrence's only friend is Tomika, but he doesn't think she counts because she never talks. He's a very imaginative keyboard player, and talented at improvising.
- **Freddy (Drummer):** Freddie is a rambunctious boy, as shown when he repeatedly slams cymbals together disruptively during music class. He is constantly told he isn't intelligent—by both his own father and Summer—but Freddie and Dewey both think that he's intelligent in a different way, and that Freddie's father just doesn't see that.

- **Katie (Bassist):** Katie is a quiet, serious girl who keeps mostly to herself. She plays the cello at school, but is quick to pick up the bass at Dewey's encouragement. She is stone-faced when she plays, and takes her instrument and the band very seriously, although not as much as Summer takes managing.
- **Shonelle and Marcy (Backup Vocals):** Shonelle and Marcy are quieter girls who tend to blend into the background. They are *School of Rock's* backup singers, and also talented dancers. Dewey tells their parents that they have the voices of angels.
- **Billy (Stylist):** Billy is a flamboyant boy with a love of style and fashion magazines. He is disgusted with Dewey's outfit choices, and how no one else in the band shares his artistic vision, but is confident in his styling choices regardless. Billy comes from a long line of football players, and his father wants him to be one as well, but Billy has absolutely no interest in doing so.
- **Mason (Tech):** Mason is a super-smart, nerdy, tech-savvy boy who designs all the lighting and special effects for the band, *School of Rock* using his laptop. He's also very forgiving, as he's the first to accept Rosalie when she decides to drop her high-strung act, hugging her and saying "You're the best, Ms. Mullins". In addition, he also appears to have experience with pyrotechnics.
- **James (Security):** James is a gruff and tough boy who becomes the band's security guard. During rehearsals, Dewey has him stand near the door, and if James sees anyone potentially who might blow *School of Rock's* cover—like Rosalie or one of the teachers—he has the job of alerting the rest of the band so they can hide the instruments.
- **Sophie and Madison (Roadies):** Sophie and Madison are *School of Rock's* roadies, but, since the band doesn't go on tour, they are essentially backup dancers. Each girl is a talented dancer and they could often be found together, much like Marcy and Shonelle. The roadies usually dance near Freddie and the drum set.