

SADDLE RIVER YOUTH THEATRE - GUIDELINES

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WEBSITES: www.SRYT.info (General Information) www.SRYT.org (Member Portal)

2015-2016 GUIDELINES (Please Read & Sign Your Registration Form In Acceptance Of These Guidelines.)

1. Cast members must be able to read well or have Parent assistance with memorization.
2. Cast members need to be able to commit to the program's rehearsals and shows. Any conflicts need to be written out clearly on the **SCHEDULING CONFLICTS SECTION** of your **REGISTRATION FORM**. (Limit conflicts to show conflicts & rehearsal absences. If your child can attend an alternate cast's rehearsal time that week--simply attend that rehearsal. There is no need to alert the Directors.)
3. All cast members get a part. Auditions are for character placement only.
4. Cast members are selected for parts based on talents, age, attitude, behavior and past experience with SRYT.
5. Reasons a student may be asked to leave the program:
 - a) Missing/Tardy more than 3 rehearsals without notification at the time of their audition.
 - b) Behavioral issues. (Students and Cast Parents will have warnings before this occurs.)
6. Parts will be given out at the first rehearsal. (In the case of a musical show, parts may be added or edited, depending on what time allows.) Our first session is always a full rehearsal. Parents may not linger to find out parts. Scripts will be given out at this rehearsal.
7. Students are not allowed to use their cell-phones at rehearsal, unless they need to call home. If you require your child to have a cell-phone, please note that the cell-phone will be kept in the SRYT Office during rehearsal.
8. Please assist your children in arriving and being picked up from rehearsal promptly.
9. Please check your **SHOW SCHEDULE** for show times and dates. We need every cast member to attend their own shows.

10. **THERE IS NO TUITION REFUND AFTER YOUR AUDITION DATE. EVERY STUDENT WILL BE CAST IN THE PROGRAM. IF THERE IS A PART ON YOUR GUARANTEED CHARACTER LIST THAT YOU WILL NOT PLAY (FOUND ON YOUR STUDENT CONTRACT), YOU CANNOT AUDITION. THERE IS A WAITING LIST FOR STUDENTS WHO WANT TO BE INVOLVED IN THESE PRODUCTIONS AND THOSE STUDENTS WILL NEED TO BE NOTIFIED IN A TIMELY FASHION.**

11. SRYT Performing Arts School is a not-for-profit organization. SRYT offers a **TOTAL DRAMATIC ARTS PROGRAM**. Our staff of teaching professionals and interns strive to provide a safe, secure environment where the young performer can explore their craft, grow confident as individuals and learn how to be effective members of a team. Students are trained in acting, voice and dance through our musical programs. This is the 19th Anniversary of SRYT. We are now celebrating over 210 youth shows produced in Bergen County to date!

12. WORKSHOP FEES: Please make out personal checks to: "SRYT".

We accept VISA/MASTERCARD. Tuition needs to be paid in full at the time of the audition. You can only pay in two payments if you use a VISA/MASTERCARD.

WE DO NOT ACCEPT DISCOVER OR AMERICAN EXPRESS.

Your 2nd credit card payment will be deducted exactly one month from the audition and there will be a \$25 cc fee added to the 2nd bill.) A Workshop Fee covers ONE PERFORMANCE PROGRAM.

Note: SRYT Memberships offer substantial discounts on tuition and tickets! Explore www.SRYT.org and click on DOWNLOADABLE CURRENT FORMS for Membership Level Details.

New Members must submit a \$50 deposit (which is deducted from your overall tuition) in order to secure an audition time-slot.

13. COSTUME BASICS such as leotards, tights and dance shoes are NOT INCLUDED in your cost of tuition. Cast Parents will be given a list of their child's costume basic needs the 2nd week of rehearsal. CENTERSTAGE (WYCKOFF) and DANCE BAG (PARAMUS) both give SRYT STUDENTS discounts when they mention our name.

14. REGARDING CASTING: The decisions made by the SRYT Directors are final. Neither parents or cast members may phone, text, email or physically approach the SRYT Directors regarding casting decisions. Please work with your child to help celebrate the roles they received, instead of focusing on the roles "they wanted". As a company, we must work in rotation, not every actor, no matter how talented they are, is perfect for every part. Fairness comes in taking turns. Cast members or parents who persist in attempting to persuade or argue over parts will be asked to leave the program immediately. THIS IS SRYT POLICY. We must learn to support each other as a team; only through teamwork will the children's shows continue to succeed.

15. SNACKS – We USUALLY take a 10-minute snack break. POPCORN AND PEANUTS ARE NOT ALLOWED. Please make sure you send your child with a water bottle. You must provide your own 3-Ring 1 1/2 Inch binder for your child's script. We ask that they bring their script, a highlighter and pen/pencil to every rehearsal. We also ask that they wear shoes that they can dance in--NOT flip-flops or boots.

16. WEEKLY FLYERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Cast parents are responsible for checking their child's script binders and backpacks for weekly notices. Please QUIZ YOUR CHILD regarding possible oral announcements. Almost ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE MADE BY GROUP EMAIL--PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAIL WEEKLY FOR UPDATES.

17. Cast parents are not allowed to sit in on rehearsals/classes. You must wait in the foyer until rehearsal/class is over.

18. NO TOUCHING POLICY – Please let your children know that this policy will be enforced. No sitting on laps, no piggyback rides, no massages—NOTHING. These actions have been known to cause accidents or to be deemed inappropriate by PARENTS and STAFF. In addition, any vandalism or theft of property, witnessed by SRYT STAFF or INTERNS will be billed directly to the cast member's family. Breaking any of these rules is grounds for dismissal.

20. SRYT CONTACT NUMBERS: 201-825-8805

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PLEASE MAIL ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

"SRYT, Inc. 37 East Allendale Road, Allendale, N.J., 07401"

21. It is the CAST MEMBER's responsibility to memorize their lines and dance steps at home—this is their homework. As a cast parent, it is your responsibility to make sure this homework is getting done. Please reinforce with your child what we have already asked them to do: set aside some quiet time every day to run their lines and practice their songs and dance steps.

22. TICKETS are \$10.00 for Members and their families \$12.00 for Non-Members.

Seating will be reserved for this show unless announced otherwise. Cast families are required to purchase a minimum of 10 tickets to be divided amongst the number of shows that your child is on over the run of that show. All shows/presentations will be performed at Archer Hall, 37 East Allendale Avenue, Allendale, N.J., 07401 (unless specified otherwise)

23. Parents and Students must agree NOT to use the name "SRYT", "SADDLE RIVER YOUTH THEATRE" or the name or picture of any student, teacher or crew member in ANY SOCIAL MEDIA - Facebook, Instagram, Vine, Snapchat, etc. without their express permission. Any comment or post made by an individual student or group must NEVER have our theatre company's name attached in any form. SRYT CANNOT monitor social media and we wish to avoid instances of inappropriate online behavior and cyber-bullying. Please explain this to your children. They may NOT create online groups with the name "SRYT" or "SADDLE RIVER YOUTH THEATRE" or any derivation thereof---no matter how benign this might seem. The only online activity that SRYT personally monitors is our WEBSITES. In addition, SRYT will not intervene in ANY incidents of SOCIAL MEDIA issues within the Cast. We feel this is a Parent issue that must be discussed in the home.

24. SRYT, Inc. is a 501c3 Not-For-Profit performing arts school. This means that no single staff member profits, aside from their base salary, on monies collected from tuition and ticket sales. This is the full-time profession of most of the adult teachers and directors. Donations made to the Youth Theatre are dollar-for-dollar tax deductible and go towards the running of the shows. Our sets, costumes, props and effects are very expensive—we often do not “break even” even after what appears to be successful shows, just because of the sheer amount of money originally laid out to get a production off its feet. Our school is unique in that it offers a positive, non-competitive activity for your children; all sports programs are competitive and culminate with a winner and a loser. There are no losers in Youth Theatre—only a cast coming together to perform their show. Everyone's a winner! In addition, the show itself brings a community together to support its youngest members and to be entertained. Isn't this exactly the type of program people talk about when they wish back to easier and simpler times? Included on all registration forms is a slot for donations. Please help us keep the Youth Theatre running by making a tax-deductible donation today. (Or, maybe you know of a business or corporation that would like to contribute to a worthy cause? We can give you solicitation material to give them to read and respond to.) Thank you for all your help in this matter.

PARENTS OR GUARDIANS ARE REQUIRED TO READ THE ABOVE GUIDELINES AND SIGN THEIR REGISTRATION FORMS IN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEING TO THE SRYT 2015-2016 GUIDELINES.