

## Information on the Summer Musical Theatre Class

### **Why do the class?**

To provide homeschooled students with the opportunity to learn musical theatre in an educational setting, with performances in a performing arts center  
To provide a summer music class for those families who would like their students' musical training to continue during the summer. **All students registering for the class will be cast in the show. Exception being child townsperson (CTP), which are by audition only.**

### **Why in the summer?**

While we understand some homeschoolers school year round, many have a more flexible schedule in the summer. This allows for limited interruption in academic studies, and provides a fun learning experience for the summer.

**What:** a 6 week, 4 times/week class (until tech weeks) to teach students musical theatre, including acting, singing, character exploration, choreography, costuming, stage presence, pit orchestra, technical aspects, etc. This year's show will be *Hello Dolly*, a funny, entertaining tale about a matchmaker and the shenanigans that happen as she makes romance bloom for her clients - and herself!

**Dates:** Audition Prep/Orientation Meeting - Thursday, May 30th 7 - 9 pm

Auditions: Thursday June 6th, 3 - 9 pm, Friday June 7th, 3 - 9 pm by appointment both days

Rehearsals - Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays (Friday 7/12 as needed) - 9 am - 1:30 pm  
June 17th - June 27th at Troy Adventist Academy

Rehearsals/Tech week/Dress rehearsals (at Waterford Kettering PAC) - July 1st - 24th

Performances - 3 performances July 25 - 27 at Waterford Kettering Performing Arts Center

**Who:** Students in 6 - 12th grade, including seniors who graduated in the spring of 2024

Child Townspersons (CTP) - (ages 8 - 10) - limited number by audition only

Maximum number of students: 60, not including orchestra members & crew

**Specific roles will be by audition. We do not "pre-cast" or double cast roles.**

Orchestra members: must audition if not in OHMI Symphony, or be approved by Mr. Beard

Crew: **HS students only** (not rising 8th graders) will work with adults on props, set, lighting, etc.

**Registration:** begins March 1, 2024. **Students need to be registered by May 1st.**

**Tuition:** See last page in the packet. The cost includes tuition, costumes, standard make-up kit and a voucher for two tickets per family to one of the performances. Costs not covered: undergarments and shoes. Cast is responsible for those. **A \$50 deposit is due with registration.**

### **What the tuition pays for:**

Putting on a quality musical theatre production costs money. Funds are needed for paying for royalties & performance rights, renting librettos (choral books and scripts), buying/renting the orchestration, purchasing/making costumes, buying materials to build the set, props, advertising, tickets, rehearsal space rental, and provide some remuneration for the staff. The biggest cost is to pay for the venue. We feel very strongly that it is important to use the PAC for the students to have an authentic theatrical experience. By using the Performing Arts Center, we can provide the lighting, sound, stage, set and technical aspects needed for a quality production. The stage will have sound amplification, and we will have use of wireless microphones so young voices do not have to strain to be heard. Also, the orchestra will get experience playing in the pit, just like a professional production. All of these things are important to have a successful educational experience.

### **Benefits to teaching drama/musicals:**

Experience in the Arts is not just about "doing plays" or learning how to move or speak in a specific style. It encourages self development; esteem building; learning to express oneself and sharing. Drama deals with the world of human experience and because it is experiential, it provides realistic and purposeful experiences for

individuals. It's also a lot of fun to do a musical! Using your imagination to bring a story to life is a grand & glorious thing. Experience in the performing arts helps participants develop real life skills. Most importantly, these skills are taught in a fun, non-threatening way. Students aren't necessarily aware of any of these educational benefits – they'll just be having fun.

Through musicals, participants:

- Improve confidence and self esteem
- Polish performance skills
- Develop imagination and creativity
- Develop communication skills
- Develop a love of literature and the spoken word
- Train their voices
- Gain oral presentation skills
- Speech correction
- Act in plays
- Prepare for auditions
- Perform duologues
- Work together as a group
- Express their dramatic abilities
- Develop better thinking skills
- Teach students to be more expressive in their music
- Learn to accompany a live 2+ hour performance in pit orchestra



#### FAQ:

What instrumentation is needed for the pit orchestra? And what is the “pit” ?

If you are interested in playing in the pit, ask us if your instrument is needed. The pit is an area in the front of the stage, below the stage where the orchestra plays during the musical. There is lighting down there, and it is open on top for the music to be heard. Students not in OHMI need to audition to be sure they are at the appropriate ability level. Pit music is written for professional musicians, so students must be experienced.

Is volunteer time expected of the parents?

Yes. As with all OHMI classes, we need your help to make things run smoothly. There will be a sign-up with various things we will need help with, especially during tech week & performances. Some examples are publicity, tickets, costumes, staging, ushering, props, and set building. We will have two **set building days - June 29th & July 13th** - that the cast, orchestra, & crew and families are expected to help. You are only required to do one set build day.

Can we still go on vacation?

Yes. However, students may not miss more than a week of rehearsals, and **NOT during the last 2 weeks before the show** because they are critical. We mostly avoid Friday rehearsals so people can go away for the weekend in the summer. There will be a few Friday rehearsals toward the end. We will not have rehearsal July 4 & 5. If you are chosen for a lead, the expectation is you will make the show a priority. Do not register if you will miss more than a week, or need to be gone the last 2 weeks of rehearsal.

**Tuition:** The cost includes tuition, costumes, make-up fees and a voucher for two tickets to one of the performances. Tuition must be paid in full by May 24th, 2024 If your student drops the class after June 1st, fees are non-refundable unless someone from the waiting list takes your place in the show. Parents can make multiple payments if you wish.

This show may use modern technology with digital backdrops and a specialized projector to achieve the look of the Broadway show. Set plans are being developed, so we will see!

### A little more information on what it takes to do a musical....

We do a whole lot more than put on a “little show” .....

OHMI provides approximately 144 hours of instruction time during the summer musical. This instruction is done by an experienced staff - music director, drama director, choreographer, orchestra director, vocal coach, accompanist, costume director, etc. To provide a quality educational experience, musical theatre should be performed in an actual theatre with all the usual technical support. We provide this by using the Performing Arts Center at WK High School. OHMI is known for its beautiful sets and period-appropriate costumes. Sets and costumes are all researched and produced to be an accurate portrayal of the time period. Students are taught about the historical time period in which the production happens. They do character studies, drama games, and assist in making props, costumes, and the set which teaches them the technical side, and helps them take ownership of the show.

What is the cost of this? OHMI's budget for an average production is \$45,000. Yes, you read that correctly. It costs money to put on a good show, and give the students the educational experience they need. Your tuition payment does not cover the cost of the show. The reason current OHMI families are given a discount is the school year program partially subsidizes the summer show. Most programs like ours other places would cost \$700 - 900 per student.

Some comparisons:

**OHMI - 6 weeks, with pit orchestra - \$400 (discount for OHMI Family, and paid by May 1st).** (includes \$28 ticket voucher) **\$450 - non OHMI family (not enrolled in the school year program)(discount if paid by May 1st)**

Macomb Center Musical Theatre Workshop (Jr. Show) - \$450 - 12 Days

Community House in Birmingham - \$500 - 1 week - similar to Macomb's program

Young People's Theatre in Ann Arbor - \$750 - 3 weeks

So you can see why \$450 for non-OHMI and \$400 (with discounts) for OHMI families for 6 weeks and a full-fledged Broadway musical is an amazing price. Non-OHMI families pay more because they are not part of the school year program, which subsidizes the musical.

We also provide vouchers for 2 tickets/family so parents can see their student perform without paying additional fees. This is not included in any other theatre program, but it is OHMI's policy that parents should not have to pay to see their child perform since you are already paying tuition. That is why we do not charge for concerts like many schools do. So your tuition cost is actually \$28 less.

Parent volunteers are critical to making the show a success. If we did not have the volunteer help the tuition cost would be much higher as we would have to hire more staff. It is a great way to learn more about theatre yourself, make some new homeschooling friends, and have fun in the process. It's a fun way for the family to spend part of your summer - join us!

Tuition Costs	OHMI Family	Non-OHMI Family	Orchestra	Crew
By May 25th	\$425	\$475	\$75	tshirt cost (\$20)
If paid in full by May 1st	\$400	\$450	n/a	n/a

## Hello Dolly - Calendar

May 30th	Mandatory Student/Parent meeting - get audition packet, rehearsal, order t-shirts 7-9 pm <b>TAA</b>
June 6 & 7	Auditions 3:00 - 9:00 pm    6/6 - <b>Troy</b> , 6/7 - <b>Waterford</b> ,
June 17	First Rehearsal            9 am - 1:30 pm
June 24	Ticket sales open
June 29	Set Building Day - all called (must attend one set build day)
July 4th & 5th	NO REHEARSAL
July 13	Set Building Day - all called (must attend one set build day)
July 11	Business Ads/Well-wisher Ads due
July 20	Tech run - through        12 - 4 pm
July 23	Parent Photo Night
July 25- 27	Performances of <i>Hello Dolly</i> at 7 pm
July 28th	CCO (Cast, Crew, & Orchestra) Party 3 - 7 pm

### Rehearsals - M, T, W, TH - 9:00 am - 1:30 pm

June 17 - 20 - Troy Adventist Academy  
24 - 27 — Troy Adventist Academy

July 1 - 3 — WKHS                      4th & 5th - NO REHEARSAL

**Rehearsals - M, T, W, TH, F                      9:00 am - 1:30 pm            Waterford Kettering PAC**

July 8 - 11                                      July 12th - as needed

**Tech Rehearsals - M, T, W, TH            1:00 - 5:00 pm    Waterford Kettering PAC**

July 15 - 18

July 19 - **Friday evening 5 - 9:30 pm**

**Dress Rehearsals - Sat., M, T, W    5:00 - 9:30 pm    Waterford Kettering PAC**

July 20, 22 - 24

\*\*\*Note that not all cast may be required every rehearsal day, except for the last 2 weeks when all are called.

### **List of roles for Hello Dolly**

Dolly Gallagher Levi - matchmaker and life coach extraordinaire who loves to meddle in people's lives

Ernestina Simple - client in need of Dolly's services

Ambrose Kemper - Artist who wants to marry Ermengarde

Horace Vandergelder - owns the Yonkers Hay and Feed, a half-millionaire, curmudgeon, client of Dolly

Ermengarde Vandergelder - niece of Vandergelder

Cornelius Hackl - Vandergelder's chief clerk

Barnaby Tucker - assistant to Cornelius

Minnie Fay - shop assistant to Irene Molloy

Mrs. Irene Molloy - owns a hat shop in NYC, widow

Mrs. Rose - old friend of Dolly's

Coachman

Rudolph Reisenweber - major domo of the Harmonia Gardens

Stanley - waiter

Fritz - waiter

Harry - waiter

Louie - waiter

Danny - waiter

Manny - waiter

Hank - waiter

First Cook

Second Cook

Judge - presides over the Night Court in NYC

Policeman

Court Clerk/Recorder  
Paperhanger

**Chorus:**

Opening scene crowd

Yonkers Band members

Feed Store Customers

Harmonia Gardens Customers

Waiter/ HG Staff Ensemble

Polka Contest Contestants

Parade Ensemble

Adorable puppy to walk in the parade - pre-cast - Jing Jing Gu. 