



Music by  
Alan Menken

Lyrics by  
Howard Ashman & Glenn Slater

Book by  
Doug Wright

Based on the Hans Christian Andersen story and the Disney film produced by Howard Ashman & John Musker  
and written & directed by John Musker & Ron Clements

Originally produced on Broadway  
by Disney Theatrical Productions

# WELCOME TO THE SECOND YEAR OF WOLFPACK PRODUCTIONS!

This is going to be an amazing journey! Not only are we going to create an amazing show but we are in the process of creating a phenomenal theatre program here at Trailside Middle School. In this packet you find information pertinent to the upcoming production for the cast. Please read through the entire packet and sign the form to be submitted at auditions.

## FUN FACTS ABOUT THE LITTLE MERMAID:

- ❖ The show had 685 performances and 50 previews!
- ❖ To simulate the act of swimming on stage, Broadway actors used "Heelys" to skate around the stage.
- ❖ The Broadway Production played in 9 different countries.
- ❖ The show was nominated for both a Tony and a Grammy for Best Original Score.

## COMING SOON:

- ❖ Jr. International Thespian Society Wolfpack Troupe.
- ❖ Opportunity to perform at the National Youth Arts Awards Ceremony.
- ❖ Workshops for mock auditions.
- ❖ Help design parts of your spring musical.
- ❖ Opportunity to learn and help build sets along Stone Bridge's Theatre Program.

This will be Trailside Middle School's 5th musical and the 2nd year as the Theatre Program, Wolfpack Productions! Thank you to everyone who's helped to get us here. And welcome to all our newest helpers! If you audition, you will make it in the show. Everyone will perform in 3 performances, and some students may have multiple roles within their cast. Below you'll find all the dates, times and information for the production, please read carefully. Should you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me at [khudson@trailsidemiddleschoolpta.org](mailto:khudson@trailsidemiddleschoolpta.org).

## **MOCK AUDITIONS:**

October 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> in the auditorium at 3:30pm - 5:00pm. Please be prepared to stay the entire time. You will need to sign up via Sign up Genius found under the Musical Tab on the Trailside PTA website.

Students should come prepared with 16 bars of a Broadway musical song (about 30 seconds) sung acapella and a one minute comedic monologue. Students will be individually emailed personal feedback, tips and suggestions how to do well at the auditions.

If you can't find a monologue and need a monologue check out some of these out:

<http://www.trailsidemiddleschoolpta.org/GetContent/GetDocument.asp?ID=14>

Or these song suggestions:

- "Doll on a Music Box" -*Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (Soprano)
- "Wouldn't it be Lovely" -*My Fair Lady* (Soprano)
- "Journey to the Past" -*Anastasia* (Soprano)
- "Spoonful of Sugar" -*Mary Poppins* (Soprano)
- "The Trolley Song" -*Meet me in St. Louis* (Alto)
- "Breathe" -*In the Heights* (Alto)
- "Maybe" -*Annie* (Alto)
- "I Know It's Today" -*Shrek* (Alto)
- "Consider Yourself" -*Oliver* (Alto/Tenor)
- "Just Can't Wait to be King" -*The Lion King* (Alto/Tenor)
- "Different" -*Honk* (Alto/Tenor)
- "Mama Will Provide" -*Once On This Island* (Alto/Tenor)
- "Edelweiss" -*Sound of Music* (Baritone/Bass)
- "One Last Kiss" -*Bye, Bye Birdie* (Baritone/Bass)
- "If I were a Rich Man" - *Fiddler on the Roof* (Baritone/Bass)
- "The Impossible Dream" -*Man of La Mancha* (Baritone/Bass)

Check out our Musical link at the Trailside PTA website for ideas and suggestions.

## **AUDITIONS:**

October 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm-6:00pm in the auditorium (students are dismissed after their audition time, max audition slot is 30 mins.) You will need to sign up via Sign up Genius found under the Musical Tab on the Trailside PTA website.

Students should come prepared with 16 bars of a Broadway musical song (30 seconds) sung acapella (sung without music) and a one minute comedic monologue memorized.

## **CALLBACKS:**

October 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> in the auditorium at 3:30pm - 6:00pm (if student is called back, be prepared to stay entire time)

**SUPER SATURDAY: (Mandatory Attendance for Cast and Crew.** Our long concentrated rehearsal to get the show on its feet.):

March 16, 2019 at Trailside Auditorium, 9:00am – 3:00pm.

### **REHEARSALS:**

Weekly Rehearsal Calendars will be posted online after auditions at [trailsidemiddleschoolpta.org](http://trailsidemiddleschoolpta.org) under the musical tab! In general, Rehearsals will be Tuesday-Thursday with Tech days on Fridays and makeup days on Mondays. Not everyone will be called to every rehearsal so CHECK THE CALENDAR! Starting in March EVERYONE (crew included) will be called Tuesday- Thursday!

### **PERFORMANCES:**

#### *Coral Cast:*

Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 7:00pm

Friday, April 26, 2019 at 7:00pm

Saturday, May 4, 2019 at 7:00pm

#### *Aqua Cast:*

Thursday, May 2, 2019 at 7:00pm

Friday, May 3, 2019 at 7:00pm

Saturday, May 4, 2019 at 2:00 pm

## **Rules of Rehearsal**

1. Act like an adult, be treated like an adult. Act like a child, be treated like a child.
2. Listen when the Director is talking.
3. Be positive, and never make fun of anyone.
4. Always give 110%.
5. No food in the auditorium or any rehearsal space. Food only in the cafeteria.
6. Be on time! Rehearsals start at 3:30pm!
7. Make rehearsal a priority unless otherwise discussed with the director, missing or being late to 5 rehearsals will result in dismissal from the show.
8. Be a good audience member, no talking while others are performing.
9. Leave backpacks (and cell phones) at the back of the house at the start of rehearsal.
10. Behavior Policy- "3 Strikes You Are Out" Policy. The first strike is a verbal warning to the student, the second is a call to the parents and a written warning, and the third will be dismissal from this year's musical.

## **Attendance Policy**

Please make rehearsals a priority! If you miss, it makes it harder for others to rehearse in your absence. The cast is a team and we can only be strong if we work as one! If you miss something it is YOUR responsibility to get in contact with the director to find out what you missed. You may need to come in on a make-up day (typically Monday). Please email Katie Hudson (Director) at [khudson@trailsidemiddleschoolpta.org](mailto:khudson@trailsidemiddleschoolpta.org), if you plan on being absent or late. If you are late and/or miss 5 rehearsals, you will be dismissed from the production.

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## **Parent Volunteers**

The more the merrier! Please make sure ALL parents fill out the Volunteer Sign-Up Genius. Please try to sign up for at least 3 slots for either the show/tech or rehearsal slots. The students and I appreciate your time.

**FINAL CHECKLIST BEFORE AUDITIONS! (TASKS)**

- Make payment for fees either via check or online
- Fill out the Audition Form on the Musical tab on the PTA website
- Sign up for audition time slot on Signup Genius and write it down
- Read, review, and sign THIS CONTRACT. (Bring to Auditions)
- Review Rubric for the audition
- Prepare a 1-minute Comedic Monologue and 16 bars of a song. (You can choose your own song or pick from the pre-selected music.)

**Wolfpack Productions Audition Contract**

Please tear out this page and bring this completed form with you to the audition.

I have performed all the prior tasks listed in the above packet. I have read and understood this packet and agree to bring my best attitude and personal commitment to this show.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Audition Rubric

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria	Score
<p><u>Stage Presence</u></p> <p><b>4-</b> Stands up straight, looks relaxed and confident, and establishes eye contact with everyone in the room during the presentation. Audition was memorized.</p> <p><b>3-</b> Stands up straight, but is not as relaxed or confident and makes eye contact with almost everyone in the room during the presentation. Audition was mostly memorized.</p> <p><b>2-</b> Is lacking eye contact, stands up straight some of the time, and had some confidence. Use of script inhibits performance.</p> <p><b>1-</b> Uses little or no eye contact and is hunched over; is very tense and shows little confidence. Use of script in hand detracts from performance.</p>	
<p><u>Vocal Ability</u></p> <p><b>4-</b> Sings clearly, has excellent rhythm and correct pitch, shows that he or she feels comfortable singing. Enunciation was clear and all words were understandable.</p> <p><b>3-</b> Sings most of the correct notes, only a few stumbles, and a good voice. Seems pretty comfortable singing. Enunciation was clear with most words understandable.</p> <p><b>2-</b> Misses several notes, and shows unconformity on stage. Has a decent voice. Enunciation was clear some of the time with some words understandable.</p> <p><b>1-</b> Does not have rhythm and misses all or almost all of the notes. Does not seem comfortable singing. Enunciation was unclear and most words were not understandable.</p>	
<p><u>Characterization</u></p> <p><b>4-</b> Facial expressions and body language fit the theme of the performance and show the performer's effort. Actor shows thought was put into the character of the piece.</p> <p><b>3-</b> Some efforts shown and facial expression and body language contribute somewhat to the theme of performance. Actor shows to put effort into understanding of the character but not always in character.</p> <p><b>2-</b> Singer breaks concentration frequently. Facial expressions and body language are somewhat forced; the person is not very excited. Expressions do not fit theme. □</p> <p><b>1-</b> Singer is unsuccessful at establishing character. There are few facial expressions and body language. Person is not excited and little effort is shown.</p>	
<p><u>Movement</u></p> <p><b>4-</b> Is able to take command of the stage and can incorporate either suggestions or movements from the audition workshops or instruction during the audition(s)</p> <p><b>3-</b> Is slightly hesitant or unsure of stage movement during auditions but still attempts to make effective use of the stage space</p> <p><b>2-</b> Tries to take command of the space but cannot use the space with confidence or appropriate use at all times</p> <p><b>1-</b> Unsuccessful with use of space or movement on the stage</p>	

<u>Adaptability</u> 4-Is able to take direction well and be both creative as well as take initiative in a scene with instructions to change their prepared pieces and able to learn quickly. 3- Tries to take directives into account with their prepared audition pieces and makes some changes but does not completely change the pieces as requested 2- Listens intently but cannot adapt the prepared pieces after hearing ways to adapt or change the audition pieces according to the requests of panel members 1- Is unsuccessful listening or taking new direction with audition pieces	
<u>Overall Impact (Confident, Believable, Passionate, Engaging)</u> 4-Student's passion, artistic interpretation and courageous nature are ever present. Student makes big and memorable actions that fit with the theme of the character. 3-Students passion, artistic interpretation and courageous nature are often apparent. 2-Student seldom exhibits confidence and passion in their performance. May seem nervous at times and breaks concentration. 1-Student is apathetic, self-conscious and unprepared. Are not focused and seem distracted.	
<u>Creativity</u> 4- Uses initiative and creativity in both staging and delivery of the audition 3- Uses some initiative and creativity in both staging and delivery of the audition 2-Uses little initiative and creativity in both staging and delivery of the audition 1-Does not use initiative and creativity in both staging and delivery of the audition	
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	
<u>Comments:</u> Do you think this student was well prepared for today's audition? _____ Were they a good audience member? _____ Range: _____ Dance/Movement Experience? _____ Student should be called back? _____ Possible Roles? _____ _____ _____ _____	
Panelist's Signature	

Notes about Audition:

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Areas Student can improve:

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## **The Little Mermaid: Synopsis**

In a magical kingdom beneath the sea, the beautiful young mermaid, Ariel, longs to leave her ocean home to live in the world above. Based on one of Hans Christian Andersen's most beloved stories and the classic animated film, *Disney's The Little Mermaid* is a hauntingly beautiful love story for the ages. With music by eight-time Academy Award winner, Alan Menken, lyrics by Howard Ashman and Glenn Slater and a compelling book by Doug Wright, this fishy fable will capture your heart with its irresistible songs, including "Under the Sea," "Kiss the Girl" and "Part of Your World."

Ariel, King Triton's youngest daughter, wishes to pursue the human Prince Eric in the world above, bargaining with the evil sea witch, Ursula, to trade her tail for legs. But the bargain is not what it seems, and Ariel needs the help of her colorful friends, Flounder the fish, Scuttle the seagull and Sebastian the crab to restore order under the sea.

## **Character Breakdown**

### **ARIEL**

Ariel is a strong-willed teenaged mermaid who longs to be human. She possesses a keen curiosity for the world both under and above the sea – much to the chagrin of her father, King Triton. Big-hearted, she's more accepting of and delighted by others' differences than most of her fellow merfolk, but she also has a rebellious streak that can get her into trouble.

### **PRINCE ERIC**

Prince Eric is the adventurous human monarch who captures Ariel's heart. Charming and sensitive in nature, he has a warm voice and demeanor that evoke his flair for romance. There is also a stubborn side to the Prince, who is determined to do whatever it takes to get what he wants – including the girl with the mysterious voice.

### **GRIMSBY**

Grimsby is Prince Eric's prim and proper valet. Rigid in bearing and personality, he is constantly trying to guide Prince Eric toward the throne and a suitable bride fit for a royal marriage. Under his stern demeanor, Grimsby truly is fond of Eric, whom he worries about and attends to as though his own son.

### **FLOUNDER**

Flounder is Ariel's sincere and sensitive best friend who rarely leaves her side. A spunky fish with a sweet sense of humor, he can be awkward and anxious around his unrequited crush.

### **SCUTTLE**

Scuttle is the know-it-all seagull who serves as Ariel's expert on all things human. Garrulous and off-beat, Scuttle's eccentricities are more endearing than aggravating. Even as he makes up ridiculous names and functions for common human objects, his intentions are friendly and his enthusiasm is infectious.

## **SEBASTIAN**

Sebastian is the choirmaster of King Triton's court who has a flare for the dramatic. A meticulous and uptight crab, Sebastian is ever-anxious, whether he's conducting a concert premiere or protecting Ariel from Ursula. When he's performing – which is almost always – he's undeniably charismatic. His movement should be more fidgety than fluid.

## **KING TRITON**

King Triton, King of the Sea and a harried single father to seven girls, struggles to balance his political and paternal powers. A widower, Triton is as fond of his daughters as he is frustrated with their teenage angst. Even when unsure of his parenting technique, he is a tender patriarch who becomes a royal force to be reckoned with when Ariel's safety and happiness is threatened by his sister, the Sea Witch Ursula.

## **MERSISTERS**

Aquata, Andrina, Arista, Atina, Adella, and Allana are the daughters of King Triton and sisters to Ariel. Full of personality and sass, each should be distinct in character.

## **FLOTSAM & JETSAM**

Flotsam and Jetsam are Ursula's sinister lackeys. With devious charm, these electric eels convince Ariel to visit the Sea Witch. Tricky and menacing, they are always lurking about, ready to take advantage of sea inhabitants at their most vulnerable moments. Altos or tenors.

## **URSULA**

Ursula is the tentacled and manipulative Sea Witch who is sister to King Triton. Cunning and calculating, she will stop at nothing to get what she wants – and what she wants is Triton's throne. To gain the upper-hand, she utilizes her slick sense of humor, a flash of glamour, and larger-than-life confidence. Ursula can be played by a low alto, but a contralto is ideal.

## **CHEF LOUIS**

Chef Louis is the melodramatic head chef in the palace. Wild and frenetic, he becomes physically and vocally flustered by Sebastian, who always manages to escape his grasp. A tenor, he should be highly comedic with exaggerated movement and an over-the-top French accent.

## **WINDWARD & LEEWARD**

Windward and Leeward, trumpet fish, are heralds in King Triton's court.

## **PILOT**

The Pilot, the uniformed helmsman of Prince Eric's ship, is a nautical expert who entertains the sailors with wild tales of the sea. A little too superstitious for Grimsby's taste, the Pilot nevertheless maintains strict control of his ship and crew even as he sings with a jolly cadence.

## **ENSEMBLE ROLES**

### **SAILORS**

The Sailors are the competent crew of Prince Eric's ship. Hardy and eager for adventure, they are vigorous, efficient, and attentive to the Pilot's orders, always prepared for rough seas and stormy weather.

### **SEA CREATURES**

Sea Creatures of various shapes, sizes, and species comprise the underwater ensemble of King Triton's court. "Under the Sea" presents opportunities to showcase both talented singers and dancers.

### **MAIDS**

The Maids are four palace servants who report to Grimsby. They haughtily assist Ariel in preparation for dinner with Prince Eric and are a bit jealous of this pretty stranger in their midst.

### **CHEFS**

The Chefs comprise the sous staff of the eccentric Chef Louis. Their equally overblown movement adds to the comedic chaos of dinner as they chase Louis around the dining room.

### **PRINCESSES**

The Princesses try everything they can to win the heart of Prince Eric. As none possesses the voice he is searching for, each should have an exaggerated and comedic personality that is revealed through song.

### **GULLS**

The Gulls comprise Scuttle's zany back-up flock in "Positoovity." These feathered friends of Scuttle's are equally as off-beat, though they present an opportunity to showcase the talented – and very on-beat – dancers in your cast.

### **LAGOON CREATURES**

Lagoon Creatures of various shapes, sizes, and species that help set the mood for Ariel and Prince Eric in "Kiss the Girl" this presents opportunities to showcase both talented singers and dancers.