

New Family Initial Audition FAQs



New Family Mentorship Program Team CMT Mentorship Team Children's Musical Theater San Jose

Q: What should my performer and I bring to the initial audition?

A: Please bring the **Audition Resume and Contract**, **Rehearsal Calendar**, and the **Move-In/Strike/Buy-Out** forms you received when you registered online for your performer's initial audition. Please complete and sign these forms in advance, giving special attention to any conflicts you include on the rehearsal calendar. A few tips:

- You do not need to attach a photo of your performer to the audition resume. CMTSJ will take a photo of your performer during the initial audition.
- Please bring a personal check in the amount of \$100.00 and made payable to "CMTSJ" to accompany your move-in/strike/buy-out form.
- Your performer may bring a pre-recorded backing audio track to use when singing her/his initial audition song (see below for details).
- Your performer should wear clothing and shoes that are comfortable for dancing. (Wearing soft jazz dance shoes is optional during auditions.)

Q: What will happen during the initial audition?

A: You and your performer will be at the initial audition for about 2 hours. Please arrive 15 minutes before your registered start time. You will review and sign your completed Rehearsal Calendar and Move-In/Strike/Buy-Out forms and a statement about the show's production processes with a member of the CMTSJ staff. You will also complete any registration and move-in/strike/buy-out payments and deposits that remain outstanding. Your performer will have her/his photo taken, have costume measurements taken, and review a short list of lines of dialogue (selecting one to read later during the initial audition).

Performers in the audition group will then learn a dance combination taught by a CMTSJ dance instructor. When they are finished, you may join them in the audition room to watch all the performers audition.

Q: Does my performer need to bring musical accompaniment to the initial audition?

A: Performers can sing an initial audition song either *a capella* or to a pre-recorded backing audio track, whichever method they prefer. If your performer brings a recording, the audio track should be on a standard CD or CD-ROM disc that is playable in a regular CD player, or as a playable track saved on your electronic device (smartphone, tablet, mp3/mp4 player); an initial audition assistant will use the room's audio system to play your performer's backing track while s/he sings her/his initial audition song. Please do not stream your audio track from the internet during the initial

audition since our WiFi service is not available for non-CMTSJ staff, and your cellular service may be limited inside our building. Live piano accompaniment is not available during initial auditions.

Q: Will my performer be called back for additional auditions?

A: All performers will be asked to attend a general dance callback audition, which will occur later in the week after initial auditions are complete. Some performers may also be asked to return for character callback auditions (and super callback auditions, if needed). When performers finish their initial audition, they will receive a callback form indicating their specific callback auditions as determined by the show's artistic staff. Potential callback and super callback audition dates and times are listed on the Rehearsal Calendar form.

Please note that while all initial auditions are open (available for families to watch), all callback and super callback auditions are closed (not available for families to watch).

Q: Are there any meetings I will need to attend throughout the show's production?

A: There are four mandatory meetings that all parents who are new to CMTSJ are expected to attend throughout the show's production:

- **New Parent Orientation Meeting/All Family Meeting** — After the cast list has been posted online, all new parents attend these two meetings to become oriented to CMTSJ's procedures, to learn about the rehearsal and production processes, to get information about volunteering, to receive the official rehearsal schedule, and to hear about the show from the show's artistic staff and coordinators. The date and times for these meetings are listed on the Rehearsal Calendar form. (All performers are in rehearsal while the 90-minute New Parent Orientation Meeting occurs. All performers and parents then attend the 30-minute All Family Meeting that follows.)
- **Hair & Make-Up Meeting for New Parents** — All parents who are new to CMTSJ attend this one-hour tutorial and demonstration on how to prepare hair and apply theatrical make-up. This meeting typically occurs during the one-week period before the start of the show's mandatory rehearsals.
- **Moving Into the Theater Meeting for New Parents** — All parents who are new to CMTSJ attend this one-hour orientation about the shift from the studios/rehearsal hall to the theater. This meeting typically occurs during the one-week period before the start of the show's mandatory rehearsals.
- **New Performers & Parents Theater Tour** — All performers who are new to CMTSJ attend this 30-minute tour of the Montgomery Theater. (Those new performers' parents attend, also.) The tour occurs on the date of each show cast's first mandatory tech rehearsal at the theater.

Q: Will I need to provide volunteer hours during the show's production?

A: CMTSJ is a not-for-profit organization that exists in part through the power of volunteerism. A typical show needs about 4,500 hours of volunteer time divided among all performers' families. It is absolutely crucial to a show's production that each family contributes volunteer time. CMTSJ needs each family to provide a minimum of 20 hours volunteer time on a show. We simply cannot mount successful theatrical productions without each family's volunteer help! Information about volunteering will be reviewed during the All Family/New Parent Orientation Meetings (see above).