

Dear Edwina, Jr. - THE AUDITION PROCESS

Preparing for your audition is as easy as 1-2-3!

Step 1- Fill out your Audition Form. You should bring it with you to the audition. Make sure you've attached a photo that shows your face!

Step 2 - Read the script carefully, along with the character descriptions provided by PVTC to identify your first-choice character.

Step 3- Refer to the audition packet to see what specific material you should prepare to showcase your first-choice character and rehearse for your audition.

Auditions will take place on **Friday, May 13th**. We will send an email reminder about auditions as they approach. There are no callbacks for *Dear Edwina, Jr.*

Naturally, each student will feel some nervousness about auditions, but rest assured that we strive to make the process as painless as possible. The auditions are a chance for the director to observe actors both in solo work and with others. Auditions will happen in small groups so that no student will have to audition in front of everyone at camp.

Please review the character descriptions and listen to the CD with your child, and then complete the audition form together. On the audition form, each child must identify **three** parts they would enjoy. For their audition, they should prepare the lines and section of song identified in this packet for their *first choice* character. If preparing part of a song is beyond your child's experience level at this point, we ask that they be prepared to sing part of a familiar song, such as "Happy Birthday". These assigned lines and songs do not have to be memorized however it will benefit your child's self-esteem if they feel they are prepared and familiar with their character choice.

Given that we only have two weeks of camp, students are expected to know their lines and lyrics on the first day of camp, July 25th, so we can maximize our rehearsal time. Students will, of course, work with the music director on singing and director on acting at camp. **Consider what amount of time can be spent at home on the script in order to help determine which roles are appropriate to audition for.** Parent help at home is crucial for characters with greater amounts of spoken lines.

Each child will be asked to dance as part of their audition. Please wear closed-toe shoes and comfortable clothing. When students arrive for their audition, we will teach simple choreography to all students, which everyone will use for their audition. There are several featured dancing roles in *Dear Edwina, Jr.*

AUDITION FAQs

Question: Who will be at my audition?

Answer: A group of 8-12 other campers who are a similar age to you. You will audition with this whole group, so you never have to be alone! **PVTC Summer Staff** will also be there: the director, musical director, choreographer, stage manager, and projects instructors - all of these teachers are excited to work with you this summer!

Question: My audition is 1 hour, what will we do?

Answer:

A group warm-up/game - This puts new campers at ease and allows everyone to get to know each other and the teachers. It also allows us to see how performers work as an ensemble.

A simple dance combination - Each student will learn a short piece of choreography. Come to the audition in clothes and shoes that allow you to move!

Singing - Each actor must sing at auditions. If you are trying out for a specific part, you should learn the section of the song associated with your first-choice character. If this whole process is new to you, you can choose a simple song like "Happy Birthday" or the ABC's.

Acting - Certain characters require acting auditions. To find out if your character requires an acting component, click on the character names above.

DEMYSTIFYING AUDITIONS: DOs AND DON'Ts

DO Give yourself enough time to prepare for your audition. Be familiar with your song and lines, if your character speaks. Practice in front of other people, like friends or parents.

DO Get a lot of rest the night before your audition. Make sure you have your audition form and character prep sheet ready before you come to the theatre.

DO Make interesting physical and vocal character choices - don't be afraid to take risks!

DON'T Wait until the last minute to prepare for your audition. You want to be calm, confident, and relaxed.

DON'T Wear flip-flops or restrictive clothing to your audition. You want to be able to move freely.

DON'T Forget to have fun!

Dear Edwina, Jr. - CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

Edwina Spoonapple is the creator, director and choreographer of “The Dear Edwina Show.” Her character goes through a tremendous arc throughout the series of events in the play; from frustration to relief, anger to joy, horror to happiness & all within one afternoon in her own garage!

Becky is Edwina's enthusiastic friend and the top of the cheerleading pyramid for the Paw Paw Wildcats. Cheerleading consumes her life and creating new cheers for everyday occasions brings her great joy. This girl even cheers her anger!

Scott is a neighbor boy who is helplessly in love with Edwina. He dotes on her every move and is always conniving a way to gain her attention. We are looking for a strong singer and actor with comedic timing.

Kelli is Edwina's neighbor and Paw Paw, Michigan's resident ballerina.

Bobby is Edwina's new next-door neighbor. He is a friendly and compassionate character who goes out of his way to help others.

Lars Vanderploontk is of the Vanderploontk triplets and a neighborhood friend of Edwina. He is incredibly accident-prone and twists his ankle in the first scene. Lars has many prat falls before he actually twists his ankle. We are looking for good physical comedy skills.

Billy Vanderploontk is of the Vanderploontk triplets and a neighborhood friend of Edwina. He works double duty on “The Dear Edwina Show” by performing onstage and serving as Box Office Manager.

Cordell Vanderploontk is one of the Vanderploontk triplets and a neighborhood friend of Edwina. He works double duty in “The Dear Edwina Show” by performing onstage and serving as House Manager.

Annie is Edwina's friend and the Girl Scout of Paw Paw. Annie works for and collects her Girl Scout badges like they were buried treasure. No matter what problem may arise, she is prepared with the know-how and resources to solve it in a flash - A MacGyver for the new generation! She is perky, energetic and helpful& maybe even too helpful.

Aphrodite is one of the 'letter readers' in “The Dear Edwina Show.” She has a vocal solo whereby she explains her dilemmas in hopes of receiving Edwina's advice.

Carrie is one of the 'letter readers' in “The Dear Edwina Show.” She has a vocal solo whereby she explains her dilemmas in hopes of receiving Edwina's advice.

Abigail is one of the 'letter readers' in “The Dear Edwina Show.” She has a vocal solo whereby she explains her dilemmas in hopes of receiving Edwina's advice.

Periwinkle is one of the 'letter readers' in “The Dear Edwina Show.” She has a vocal solo whereby she explains her dilemmas in hopes of receiving Edwina's advice.

Vladimir (F5-A3) Edwina’s scary uncle from afar. Vladimir's lines are written with a Transylvanian "Dracula" accent in mind.

Frank is a rude, self-centered, bratty, offensive, disrespectful, socially inept child and the subject of Vladimir's song, Frankenguest. We are looking for a bold actor for this role.

Chef Ludmilla, William, Sonomoa, and Fairy Foremother are part of a team that instructs the rest of the company on how to set a table in "Fork, Knife, Spoon."

Susie and The Napkins are a local band who have just come from a Battle of the Bands concert at the Paw Paw Community Center to sing "Say No Thank You." Susie and The Napkins get to sing and dance a lot!

Johnny and Queen Of Boola Boola sing and act out a story told by Susie & The Napkins.

Lola is new to America and expresses her shyness in the song, "Hola, Lola.”

Harry is Lola’s cousin and the reason she flies from Lima, Peru, to Honolulu. He is a fun, happy-go-lucky character and just wants to make sure his favorite cousin is having a good time.

Mary Sue is Betty Bob's backup for "Put it in the Piggy."

Katie Spoonapple is Edwina's little sister and a math wiz. Although she arrives at the end of the play, she has the very important role of influencing Edwina's thoughts and feelings. It is Katie that brings about the climax of the play, showing Edwina the "best advice of all.”

Ann Van Buren is the Kalamazoo Advice-A-Palooza talent scout.

Joe/Jo Spoonapple

Edwina's older brother/sister. Percussionist of “The Dear Edwina Show.”