Mount Vernon Community Children's Theatre
The Little Mermaid
Audition Information

Auditions, Rehearsals & Shows will be at Bryant High School
(2709 Popkins Lane, Alexandria, VA, 22306)

AUDITIONS: Auditions are **Monday November 30th** and **Tuesday December 1st** from 5:30-8:30pm at Bryant High School.

Actors ages 8-18 are welcome to audition. Actors must be 8 years old on or before December 1st in order to audition. Actors should sign up for ONE audition slot.

Please arrive a few minutes early to check in for your audition. After your audition group is released, you are free to leave. Auditions are closed; parents and/or peers will not be permitted to watch.

Please have actors come to the audition with:

1. **A current photograph** (school pictures or a photo printed from your home computer are fine)
2. **A signed Parent Agreement** (below).

At Auditions actors should be prepared to:

1. **SING**: Sing 30-60 seconds of a Broadway-style song of their choice. An accompanist will be available and actors are encouraged to bring sheet music, though it is not mandatory. Actors singing without an accompanist may be asked to sing a familiar song (such as Happy Birthday or Take Me Out to the Ballgame) with the piano, in addition to their song choice. Please be aware that actors may be cut off if their song is longer than 60 seconds.

   MusicNotes.com is a good resource for downloading sheet music. MusicNotes.com, and their app, have a piano feature that allows an actor to practice singing along with an accompanist. This can be very helpful in preparing to perform with a live pianist at the audition. This feature is also a good way to see if the song is in the correct key for the actor's vocal range. Oftentimes on MusicNotes.com the key can be easily changed within the program. Please note that actors will not be permitted to sing with recorded tracks in the audition.

2. **ACT**: Actors should prepare ONE of the six short monologues at the end of this document for auditions. The monologues do not need to be memorized; however, it should be rehearsed and actors should be familiar enough with the material to make distinct acting choices and look up from the paper as they read. Actors will be considered for all roles, no matter which monologue you choose.

CALLBACKS: The callbacks are by ***invitation only*** and will be held on **Thursday December 3rd**, from approximately 5-9pm at Bryant High School. If an actor is not available to attend callbacks, it may affect casting decisions. *If your actor is invited to attend callbacks, we will contact you by Wednesday December 2nd*. At the callbacks, actors will be asked to sing something from the show, dance, and read sides from the script. If you are asked to attend callbacks, please wear clothes and shoes that you can dance in; no character shoes, sandals,

Uggs or Crocs. We would prefer for hair to be pulled back with no dangly jewelry. Anything the actors need for callbacks will be provided to them when we contact you on Wednesday, or at callbacks themselves. The callback allows the production staff to gather more information about an actor. Not being invited back does not mean you are not being considered for a role. Likewise, **a callback does not guarantee a role in the show.**

CASTING: Casting calls will be completed by Sunday December 6th. **Only those cast will receive a phone call.** All others will receive an e-mail notifying them that the casting decisions have been completed. The e-mail will be sent once all the calls have been made and all roles accepted.

REHEARSALS:

- Rehearsals will take place at Bryant High School EVERY **Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 6pm- 8:30pm**, from Monday January 4th – Thursday April 1st.

  (Please note there ARE rehearsals scheduled on Monday 1/18, Monday 2/1, Monday 2/15 and Monday 3/29 - all of which are FCPS holidays. Cast members are still expected to attend rehearsals on those dates, even though they are days off from school.)

- There will not be rehearsal the week of FCPS Spring Break (Mon 3/22-Fri 3/26).

- However, Tech Week (Dress Rehearsals) will begin on Monday 3/29, *which is the day after Easter and still a FCPS holiday*.

- TECH WEEK rehearsals are from 5-9pm, instead of 5:30-8:30pm, on the following dates: Monday 3/29, Tuesday 3/30, Wednesday 3/31, Thursday 4/1 and Friday 4/2. All actors MUST be able to attend all tech week rehearsals. NO conflicts are allowed during tech week.

PERFORMANCES: Performances will take place at Bryant High School on:

- Saturday April 3rd @ 2pm & 7pm
- Sunday April 4th @ 3pm
- Saturday April 10th @ 2pm & 7pm
- Sunday April 11th @ 3pm

**Actors are required to be at Bryant two hours prior to show time.*

Note: Actors are not allowed to leave the theatre between the two shows on Saturdays. They will have an hour break between shows to eat dinner **at** Bryant. MVCCT will provide an online sign-up for parents to purchase between show meals for their actors, or parents can bring their actor dinner during the break.

Also, there will be a brush-up rehearsal between the two show weekends on Thursday April 8th from 6-8:30pm.

CONFLICTS: **MVCCT expects this production to be the actor's first priority after schoolwork, and for them to prioritize rehearsals before all other activities.**

MVCCT's rehearsal and show schedule is time intensive. Cast members are expected to attend **all rehearsals** for which they are called, and to be on time. In addition, actors are also expected to spend time outside of rehearsals practicing their lines, blocking, singing and choreography.

If actors have a pre-existing conflict that prevents them from attending specific rehearsal(s) they **MUST** disclose it on their audition form. This includes one-time absences, *and* weekly conflicts that will result in the actor being late to rehearsal.

ALL CONFLICTS MUST BE LISTED ON THE ACTOR'S AUDITION FORM.

If additional conflicts are added after casting is complete, it could result in the actor's role in the show being changed, or their offered role being rescinded.

MVCCT is committed to the success of this production and expects the same level of dedication from the cast.

PARTICIPATION FEE: MVCCT is a non-profit organization with private fundraising efforts and government grants only covering a portion of our expenses. There is no cost to audition. There is a participation fee of **$350** for those cast, due by the mandatory parent's meeting (see below). Other expenses to anticipate may include purchasing dance shoes, tights, or other small personal costume items. **Scholarships are available**. Contact admin@mvcct.org for more information.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES:
MVCCT requires **parents to assist** in:

(1) Pre-Show Jobs (such as cast board designer, advertising, raffle basket, room monitors, planning cast party, etc.)
(2) Four hours of Set Construction. The set construction will require parents to be available on one or two Saturdays to help build the set. Dates forthcoming.
(3) Show Day Jobs (concessions, ushering, makeup, microphones, helping backstage, etc.) *Many of the Show Day require the parent to also attend tech week rehearsals to practice their job.

The show's producers will explain the parent responsibilities in much more detail at the mandatory Parent Meeting (See below.)

PARENT MEETING: There will be a ***mandatory*** parent/guardian meeting on Thursday January 7th from 7:30-8:30pm at Bryant High School. **A parent or guardian is required to attend this meeting**.

QUESTIONS: If you have any questions, please reach out to us at admin@mvcct.org or 703-594-7466.

We look forward to seeing you at auditions!

MVCCT's The Little Mermaid

MONOLOGUES

Please prepare **one** monologue from the following options. The text does not need to be memorized, but it should be rehearsed and familiar enough to make distinct acting choices and look up from the paper as you read. You will be considered for all roles, no matter which monologue you choose.

A

Now we got to make a plan to get that boy to kiss you, before it's too late! You gotta bat your eyes, like this… Then you gotta pucker your lips, like this… You put those two things together; you got that boy in the palm of your hand!

B

I'd miss you if you were gone. Not in a dopey way. Not in a "crazy, hopeless, I'm-so-in-love-but-she-doesn't-know-I'm-alive" kinda way. Not like that at ALL. Uh, I gotta go.

C

As long as you live under my reef, you'll obey my rules! That's the last time you're ever swimming to the surface! Understood?
(Ariel leaves)
Agh! Heaven help me! She's headstrong! Willful! Stubborn as a barnacle – I can govern a kingdom, but I can't control my own daughter. She needs her mother, and so do I.

D

He doesn't understand me! He doesn't even try. If he really and truly loved me, then he'd never… He can break every single treasure I own… but he can't break me! What if home isn't the place where you were born? What if it's a place you have to discover for yourself?

E

Did you ever try to take a princess sailing? It's a joke! Their crinolines get caught in the rigging. And most of 'em can't even swim. Where am I gonna find her, Grimsby? A girl who's as carefree and alive as the sea itself!

Parent Agreement Form

You must initial every sentence, and bring it with you to the audition.

_____ My actor and I agree that rehearsals for The Little Mermaid will be his/her/their **first priority**, after schoolwork, for the time period of January 4th – April 11th, 2027.

_____ I understand that if my actor has a pre-existing conflict that prevents them from attending specific rehearsal(s) they **MUST** disclose it on their audition form. This includes one-time absences, *and* weekly conflicts that will result in the actor being late to rehearsal. **ALL CONFLICTS MUST BE LISTED ON THE ACTOR'S AUDITION FORM**. **If additional conflicts are added after casting is complete, it could result in my actor's role in the show being changed, or their offered role being rescinded.**

_____ If my child is cast, I understand that there is a participation fee of **$350 per actor** that is due by the mandatory parent meeting on Thursday January 7th from 7:30-8:30pm. **Scholarships are available**. Contact admin@mvcct.org for more information.

_____ I understand that MVCCT requires **parents to assist** in:
(1) Pre-Show Jobs (advertising, raffle basket, room monitors, planning cast party, etc.)
(2) Four hours of Set Construction
(3) Show Day Jobs (concessions, ushering, makeup, microphones, helping backstage, etc.) **I understand that many of the Show Day Jobs require parents to also attend Tech Week to practice their job. **

Parent Name (please print):_____

Parent Signature: _____

Your Actor's Name (please print): _____

Date: _____