



Are you blind when you're born? Can you see in the dark? Even if you can't answer yes, it's time for auditions for the Westchester Sandbox Theatre's production of Cats! In this packet you will find:

- Information about auditions, the show (including a synopsis and character breakdown), rehearsals, and performances.
- Audition Form
- Audition Scenes

Please note: students must be in grades 2-8 to participate. WST is a tuition based program, and a non-refundable registration fee of \$495 is due before the start of rehearsals. We look forward to seeing you at auditions! Please feel free to contact us with any questions and break a leg.

Truly,

Jason Summers  
Artistic Director, WST

Jenna Dallacco  
Associate Artistic Director, WST



# Auditions

## LOCATION

**Sandbox Studios**  
**300 Waverly Avenue, 2nd Floor, Mamaroneck, NY**

*Our new location is officially open!*

## WHAT TO PREPARE

Please prepare a short song of your choosing. You may sing a capella or with an electronic device. All performers will be called to a dance audition on March 7 or March 8.

## WHAT TO BRING

- Your completed Audition Form
- Your audition scene
- Your FELINE CHARISMA!

## HOW AUDITIONS WORK

Plan on arriving ten minutes prior to your audition time. This allows us to collect your form and for you to be relaxed and ready to do your best!

You will perform your short song for a member of the creative team of the show. This gives us the opportunity to hear your singing voice, as well as learn about your unique strengths as a performer..

**We respectfully ask that no family members watch auditions.** Please remember that we want all of our auditioners to succeed and we are rooting for you!



## **DANCE CALLBACKS**

All performers will receive an appointment for a dance callback following their audition. You will be notified via email from the address [cats@wstshows.com](mailto:cats@wstshows.com). **Please add this address to your contacts now to prevent it from getting lost in spam.** We will use these dance auditions as a tool to learn more about performers in the areas of movement. Dance callbacks will be held on Thursday, March 7 and Friday, March 8.

## **CASTING**

Cast lists for CATS. will be emailed before the parent/performer meeting.

## **A NOTE ON CASTING**

***"Please understand that the casting process is complicated and takes into account many factors. We will not entertain questions about why a certain performer was or wasn't cast in a certain role. Please trust our judgment and know that we will do everything we can to ensure that every performer has a good time and learns a lot along the way!"***

# Rehearsals

## **SCHEDULING**

Rehearsals may be held Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 4:00pm and 8:00pm, Saturdays between the hours of 11:00am and 8:00pm, and Sundays between the hours of 11:00am and 7:00pm. These hours are a range of possible days and times. Rehearsals will be held at Sandbox Studios in Mamaroneck. All performers will be required to complete a **Conflicts Request Form**. We will use this information to make our show's full schedule, which will be emailed to everyone from the address [cats@wstshows.com](mailto:cats@wstshows.com). **We do our best to create the rehearsal schedule around the schedules of the performers.** Please note, performers will not be called to every rehearsal. **Rehearsals will begin on or around March 15.** There will be approximately two to three rehearsals each week, for one to three hours at a time depending on what we are trying to accomplish. This commitment will increase in the two weeks leading up to the first performance. Performers may not have any conflicts the week leading up to their cast's first performance. This is known as tech week, and it is mandatory that cast members are available. Select days during tech week will be held at the White Plains Performing Arts Center, our performance venue.

## **MANDATORY DATES for CAST(S) PERFORMING MAY 2-5**

April 25 - May 5



## **MANDATORY DATES FOR CAST(S) PERFORMING MAY 9-12**

May 2 - 12

The rehearsal schedule will have ALL of the rehearsals listed as follows:

DATE

TIME

WHAT WE ARE DOING AT REHEARSAL

WHAT CHARACTERS ARE CALLED

CONFLICTS

There will be an email reminder each day there is rehearsal, letting you know any other important information for that day. Please try to avoid new conflicts!

## **WHAT TO BRING TO REHEARSALS**

- Your highlighted script, in a binder
- A refillable water bottle
- A pen or pencil to write your blocking and to take notes
- Shoes and clothing you can comfortably move in

## **AN IMPORTANT NOTE ON CONFLICTS**

**If you are listed as a conflict for a rehearsal, OR if you cannot attend due to unforeseen circumstances, it is the performers responsibility to learn the material taught at home.**

**Conflicts will no longer be permitted during performance weekends. This is to ensure the integrity of the production as well as to respect the cast as a whole. Only select a performance weekend if you are completely available.**

## **PICK UP AND DROP OFF**



Performers may be dropped off no earlier than 10 minutes before the start of a rehearsal. This is to give our staff members adequate preparation time, and to ensure the safety of cast members. We respectfully ask that you pick up performers on time from rehearsals.

## Show Synopsis

One of the world's best-known and meow-velous musicals! *Cats* is set amongst a larger-than-life junkyard playground and is alive with purr-fect felines including Rum Tum Tugger, Mr. Mistoffelees, Macavity, Jennyanydots, Old Deuteronomy, Skimbleshanks and Grizabella.

The Jellicle Cats come out to play on one special night of the year—the night of the Jellicle Ball. One by one they tell their stories for the amusement of Old Deuteronomy, their wise and benevolent leader, who must choose one of the Cats to ascend to The Heaviside Layer and be reborn into a whole new Jellicle life

## Character Breakdown

Asparagus "Gus" the Theatre Cat / Growltiger	Gus the theatre cat may be very old, but he once was quite famous. Although Gus has played every possible part, his favorite is the role of "Growltiger," and the Jellicle cats gather to hear its tale.
Mister Mistoffelees	Mr. Mistoffelees is the best feline magician! He enchants the Jellicle cats with his illusion act and it's surreal tricks. Role requires strong dance skill and ability.
Rum Tum Tugger	Tugger loves the spotlight! He is a curious and contrary cat, with many fans and admirers. Role requires confidence and swagger.
Skimbleshanks	The railway cat! Skimbleshanks is a cheerful ginger cat who works on the mail train. He has great pride in



	his nighttime vocation.
Grizabella	The glamour cat. Grizabella was once young and beautiful, but now is a shadow of her former self. She left the Jellicle cat tribe years ago, and the group shuns her when she tries to return. Role requires an excellent singer and actress.
Demeter and Bombalurina	Elegant, feline, and confident, Demeter and Bombalurina are best friends. Both cats are flirtatious. Roles require strong vocal and dance abilities.
Macavity	Macavity is a master thief, and feared by many of the Jellicle cats. He has earned the nickname "The Master Paw" by committing many crimes and never getting caught. Role requires strong dance ability.
Victoria	Victoria is a timid, innocent cat, embodied in her pure white coat. Role requires flexibility and dance skill.
Jennyanydots	Jenny is an old gumbie cat, that seems lazy at first glance. BUT, she comes alive at night, getting her house in order and training pests to be useful.
Mungojerrie and Rumpleteaser	Brother and sister, these 2 have perfected the art of mischief and messes! These 2 dancers work as a team and will execute their dance as partners.
Munkustrap	A young leader of the Jellicle cats, who serves as narrator for many of the show's songs. Munkustrap is dignified and mature. Role requires a strong singer.
Bustopher Jones	The St. James' Street Cat. Bustopher is a snappy dresser and a social butterfly!
Old Deuteronomy	The Jellicle cats' wise and revered patriarch. He deeply cares for each and every cat in his fold. Having lived many lives, Old Deuteronomy is



	ancient. Role requires a strong singer.
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## MEETING

Our Cats Parent / Performer meeting will be held “open house” style on **Sunday, March 10**. Please come between the hours of 10:00am and 12:00pm to pick up your script and mingle with your cast and creative team. We’ll be happy to answer any questions should you have any.

If you have not already made your payment, the non refundable registration fee of \$495 will be due at this time. You will receive your script at this meeting and costume measurements will be taken.

## PERFORMANCES

Performances of Cats will be held at the White Plains Performing Arts Center, located at 11 City Place, 3rd Floor, White Plains, NY.

**Conflicts will no longer be permitted during performance weekends. This is to ensure the integrity of the production as well as to respect the cast as a whole. Only select a performance weekend if you are completely available.**



# sandbox audition form

child's name

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child's grade

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parents' names

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home address

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city

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state

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zip

---

child's school

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phone 1

*type (cell, home, etc.)*

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phone 2

*type (cell, home, etc.)*

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medical conditions or allergies

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## please read the following carefully

Payment of the production fee in full is due at the Parent Meeting. No refund of the production fee will be given for any reason. The production fee is \$495.

WST reserves the right to photograph and make a video or audio recording of participants throughout rehearsals and performances and use any such photographs, video or audio recordings for advertising and on any promotional materials now or in the future.

WST has rules regarding missed rehearsals and missed performances. If you or your child do not fulfill your commitment to a given production, it can result in your child's dismissal from the program. In this case there are no refunds. Such dismissal will be in accordance with basic attendance and behavioral guidelines, but can also occur at the discretion of the director, artistic director, or executive director. The attendance policy includes any late pickup in excess of 10 minutes. This form serves as notice.

Parents are not permitted to watch rehearsals. Parents are not permitted backstage at any time before, during or after any performance.

Shoes or sneakers must be worn at all times in the theatre. By signing below you agree to waive all rights and forever hold harmless the Westchester Sandbox Theatre, its employees, volunteers and all other agents, for any personal injury resulting from the wearing of sandals, flip flops, or any other heel-less footwear, or walking barefoot in the building.

name (printed)

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how did you hear about WST?

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signed

date

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email

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see you at the **sandbox**

