

Ballyhoo Theatre – James and the Giant Peach TYA

Ballyhoo Theatre Mainstage and Edmonds College are excited to announce our Mainstage production of James and the Giant Peach YTA (Youth Theatre Audiences), February 12-28, 2027. Auditions are open to those aged 10+ (Most actors cast will be 18+).

Featuring a wickedly tuneful score by the Tony Award-nominated team of Pasek and Paul and a quirky book by Timothy Allen McDonald (*Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka, The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley*), *James and the Giant Peach* is a masterpeach! When James is sent by his conniving aunts to chop down their old fruit tree, he discovers a magic potion that results in a tremendous peach... and launches a journey of enormous proportions. Suddenly, James finds himself in the center of the gigantic peach – among human-sized insects with equally oversized personalities – but, after it falls from the tree and rolls into the ocean, the group faces hunger, sharks and plenty of disagreements. Thanks to James' quick wit and creative thinking, the residents learn to live and work together as a family.

Performances are at The Black Box at Edmonds College.

NOTE: James and the Giant Peach is a co-production with Edmonds College. With grant money (and hopefully additional sponsors) we are offering this show to the community completely free of charge to all audience members for the entire run. There will also be 2 shortened shows for children under 5. We will be doing outreach to many student populations, especially those traditionally under-served. Participating actors need to be comfortable performing for audiences that may not follow typical “theatre etiquette” – including a fair amount of audience noise. In addition, all actors will be asked to do a short meet and greet/picture opportunity following each show (this is always a big hit!) The goal is to expose children to an amazing first theatre experience without judgment or expectation.

What to Prepare:

Please prepare a cut of a song in the style of the show that displays your vocal range, and a comic monologue. Audition time limit is 3.5 minutes maximum. Initial auditions will be available in person on Saturday November 14 starting at 1:00pm, and via video due on November 13 by 8:00pm (although you may send them in as early as you like). Email ballyhoo.theatre@gmail.com for an in-person audition slot.

In person callbacks are Saturday, November 21st. Video callbacks are acceptable if you are unable to come in person.

Please submit a resume, headshot (if you have one), and these audition forms (pages 2 and 3) via email along with your initial video, or bring them to your in-person audition. You may also submit all of your information digitally ahead of time even for in-person auditions.

James and the Giant Peach – Rehearsal/Show dates:

Please mark any full/partial conflicts after each date below. It's very important that we have your conflicts ahead of time, and that (other than illness) these conflicts don't change throughout the process. Include your travel time (with typical bad Seattle traffic) in your conflicts. We will likely rehearse 5 days a week with 6 days a week as we get closer. Minimal conflicts will be allowed as this is a short rehearsal process.

Possible rehearsal dates:

Monday, Jan 11 – 6:00-9:30
Tuesday, Jan 12 – 6:00-9:30
Wednesday, Jan 13 – 6:00-9:30
Thursday, Jan 14 – 6:00-9:30
Friday, Jan 15 – 6:00-9:30
Saturday, Jan 16 – List all free hours:
Monday, Jan 18 – 6:00-9:30 (Maybe, holiday)
Tuesday, Jan 19 – 6:00-9:30
Wednesday, Jan 20 – 6:00-9:30
Thursday, Jan 21 – 6:00-9:30
Friday, Jan 22 – 6:00-9:30
Saturday, Jan 23 – List all free hours:
Monday, Jan 25 – 6:00-9:30
Tuesday, Jan 26 – 6:00-9:30
Wednesday, Jan 27 – 6:00-9:30
Thursday, Jan 28 – 6:00-9:30
Friday, Jan 29 – 6:00-9:30
Saturday, Jan 30 – List all free hours:
Monday, Feb 1 – 6:00-9:30
Tuesday, Feb 2 – 6:00-9:30
Wednesday, Feb 3 – 6:00-9:30
Thursday, Feb 4 – 6:00-9:30
Friday, Feb 5 – 6:00-9:30

Shows dates/times:

Fri, Feb 12 - 7:00pm (NOTE 7:00, not our usual 7:30)
Sat, Feb 13 - 2:00pm
Sun, Feb 14 - 2:00pm
Tues, Feb 16 - 10:00am – SCHOOL-DAY SHOW*
Fri, Feb Feb 19 - 7:00pm
Sat, Feb 20 - 2:00pm
Sun, Feb 21 - 2:00pm
Tues, Feb 23 - 10:00am – SCHOOL-DAY SHOW*
Fri, Feb 26 - 7:00pm
Sat, Feb 27 - 2:00pm
Sun, Feb 28 - 2:00pm

*We will be performing two weekday matinees. You MUST be available for these shows to be considered for the cast.

TECH/LOAD IN:

Saturday, Feb 6 – 12:00-10:00pm – Load In/Tech/Rehearsal (Actors will be called in the late afternoon)
Monday, Feb 7 – Tech Rehearsal 5:30-10:00pm
Tuesday, Feb 8 – Pre-Dress/Tech 5:30-10:00pm
Wednesday, Feb 9 – Dress Rehearsal 5:30-10:00pm
Thursday, Feb 10 – Full Dress Rehearsal 5:30-10:00pm

Ballyhoo Theatre – James and the Giant Peach

Shileah Corey, Artistic Director

Name:

Pronouns:

Phone number:

Email address:

Ballyhoo strives to create a casting process that is welcoming and serves those auditioning as well as the creative team in the full exploration of the material. All body types, races, ethnicities, and abilities are desired for any available role. Ballyhoo recognizes that most characters are written as binary (using he/him or she/her pronouns) and we invite GNC, genderqueer, transgender, and nonbinary actors to submit for all roles with which they identify – **all roles are open to all genders**. If you have access needs, please let us know. If there is anything that will help to make you comfortable in our audition room, please ask.

What time in the evening do you become available Monday-Friday? Please include your travel time to Lake Forest Park Town Center (our rehearsal space) and Edmonds Collge for the tech week (list the time you are available to START rehearsals). Typically, on weeknights, rehearsals will be from 6:00-9:30pm.

What time are you available on Saturdays? Please include your travel time to time to Lake Forest Park Town Center (our rehearsal space) and Edmonds Collge for tech week (list the time you are available to START and END rehearsals).

What is your availability for callbacks on November 21? (Please list ALL available hours)

How strong would you say you are singing harmonies?

Please list your dance/movement experience (if not included on your resume):

Are there any roles you are particularly interested in being considered for?

Please list the roles roles that you are NOT willing to accept:

Are you willing to accept an Ensemble/Understudy position?

Please list anything else you'd like us to know, or list any questions you have:

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS – All roles are open to ALL genders. Some roles may double with different characters and Ensemble. ALL positions for the show are volunteer positions with a small stipend.

Stipends:

Adults (18+) will each receive \$325.00

Minors will each receive \$100.00

We will be casting 14 total actors: 9 Principal, 4 Ensemble/Understudies, and 1 external Understudy for James.

James Henry Trotter – A lonely young boy who lacks confidence. Having lost both his parents in a freak accident, he feels he belongs nowhere in the world. However, when given the right encouragement he becomes resourceful and innovative. A good friend.

Ladahlord – The mysterious Narrator of the show. Ladahlord is a showman who watches over James and guides him (and the audience) on this musical journey.

Spiker & Sponge – Spiker and Sponge are the sort of aunts (or monsters) that you fear ever being stuck with. They take James into their home but only so that he can be their own personal servant. Spiker is the brains of the operation, and Sponge is more concerned with the comforts in life.

Ladybug – A motherly ladybug who has become human-sized after eating a crocodile tongue. Respectable and classy, she has a warm, caring heart. Has her eye on Grasshopper.

Grasshopper – A wizened grasshopper who has become human-sized after eating a crocodile tongue. An excellent musician. Has his eye on Ladybug.

Earthworm – An earthworm who has become human-sized after eating a crocodile tongue. A bit of a scaredy-cat. He worries about everything, but is very friendly and brave when called upon.

Centipede – An ornery centipede who becomes human-sized after eating a crocodile tongue. Hates humans, in part because Spiker and Sponge fumigated his family. Prickly and rude, everyone thinks he is a pest.

Spider – A normal spider who has become human-sized after eating a crocodile tongue. She is warm and friendly to James.

Ensemble (4) – Various Ensemble characters, and each will understudy 2 principal roles.