

AUDITION PACKET



Music Director: BEN WEDLER

Choreographer: LESLIE BEAUCHAMP

Directed by

TODD FRYMIER & CHRISTOPHER J. MURPHY

Online Sign-Up Begins: May 4

Auditions: Sunday, June 14 (5-8PM)

Call-Back: Monday, June 15 (7PM)

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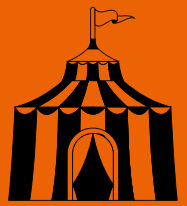
Character Breakdowns

Parent/Youth Acknowledgement of Material (Parents of/Actors ages 14-17 only)

Youth Protection Policy (Actors ages 18+ only)

**Open Audition Spots by Reservation Only.
Sign up at FWYT.org/auditions**

AUDITION NOTICE: AUDITION TIPS



Remember...

Don't think of an audition as a competition. Think of it as a chance to do something you love to do- perform! For however long you're up there, that role is yours. Make the most of it. Be creative. HAVE FUN!

The Directors are all rooting for you to succeed!

General Audition Tips...

- **BE PREPARED.**

Directors are impressed by actors who care.
Know the show. Read the script. Listen to the music.

- **BE ON TIME.**

- **ALWAYS PAY ATTENTION.**

Listen quietly to others. It is polite...PLUS you learn from what they do.

- **REMEMBER, YOU ARE AUDITIONING ON-STAGE & OFF.**

The directors are always watching.

- **DON'T APOLOGIZE OR MAKE EXCUSES.**

Director's can tell when you're sick. Just do the best you can.

- **GIVE IT 150%.**

Do your absolute best, then...

- **LET IT GO.**

Whatever happens happens. IT'S ONLY A PLAY!!!

Reading Audition Tips...

- **BE SEEN!**

Don't hide behind your script.
Hold it about chest level so we can see your face.

- **BE HEARD!!**

Project your voice so directors can hear & understand you.

- **BE CONFIDENT (even if it's fake)**

Plant your feet. Use your face, your hands, your whole body to communicate.

- **LISTEN TO YOUR FELLOW ACTORS!!!**

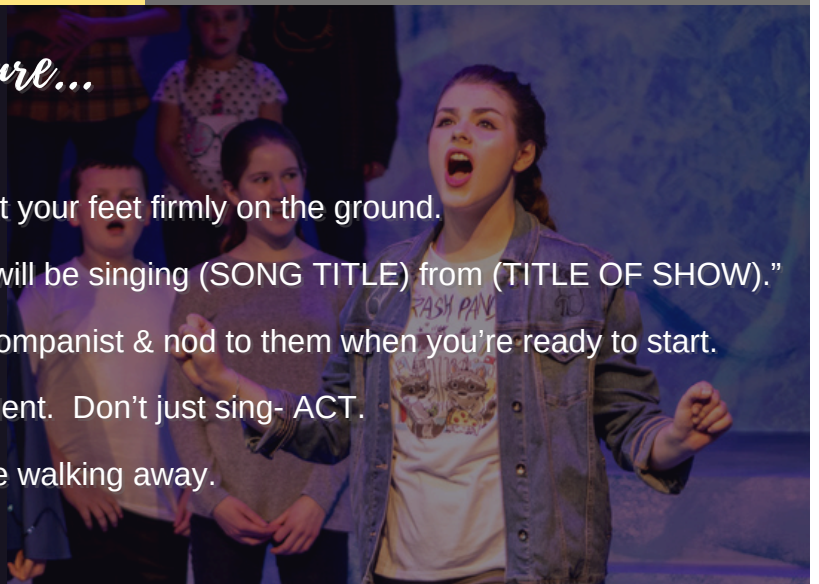
Pay attention & react to what they do.

- **DON'T JUST READ, ACT!!!!**

Directors know you can read.
Show them you can ACT!

Musical Vocal Audition Procedure...

- Enter
- Go to your spot in front of the Directors & plant your feet firmly on the ground.
- Say "Hello, my name is (YOUR NAME) and I will be singing (SONG TITLE) from (TITLE OF SHOW)."
- Make eye contact with the Music Director/Accompanist & nod to them when you're ready to start.
- Sing your song. Be loud. Be clear. Be confident. Don't just sing- ACT.
- When finished singing, say "Thank you" before walking away.
- Exit.



AUDITION NOTICE:

PARENT/ACTOR GUIDE TO THE MATERIAL



RIDE THE CYCLONE is a musical featuring adult language, situations, and material for mature teens and adults. The production staff, and everyone at Arena Dinner Theatre & FW Youtheatre are committed to creating a safe and respectful environment to explore this material and bring this story to life.

All actors must be 14 years old or older at the time of auditions -- no exceptions.

To help actors and parents judge if this show is right for them, we strongly encourage everyone to familiarize themselves with the material in advance. The music is available on Youtube and the script is available to read online here: pdfcoffee.com/ride-the-cyclone-lib-pdf-free.html

Here's what you can expect if you choose to RIDE THE CYCLONE (MAJOR SPOILERS & ADULT LANGUAGE AHEAD)...

VIOLENCE:

- One character acts out a few lines from *Waiting for Godot* and says "Shall we hang ourselves?"
- There is a slap, and a "punch in the boob".
- See the first entry, below, in "Sexual content".

SEXUAL CONTENT:

- One character is gay. His dream is to become a "heartless boozehound harlot in post-war France." This song contains a lot of references to being a sex worker, using alcohol and drugs, violence, illness and self harm. He is in a slip and heels for this song. Two men kiss during the song. He wants to be "That fucked-up girl".
- One character repeatedly grabs his privates, in a "rap" fashion.
- One character talks about a crude tattoo that reads "Born to bone" (with two skeletons – but we don't see the tattoo).
- One character acts out a few lines from *Waiting for Godot* and says "I hear it gives you an erection."
- The words virgin and virginity are used.
- In one song a character sings about saving a cat-people planet by spreading his "seed". During the song, the following phrases are used: Kinkomatic powers, Freaktastic seed, sexy cat women, making love. Also during the song the "lovemaking" happens behind a sheet.
- One character describes how she lost her virginity just hours before the accident in a port-a-potty with a carnie. And while technically consensual, the "carnie" was almost 20 years her senior, and the act was a product of her low self-esteem. The experience, and her death, leads to some closure and joy for her.

LANGUAGE:

- Swear words include: dick, shit, hell, goddammit, Jesus Christ
- A song uses the phrase "Fucked up girl" many times.
- Bitch is used to describe the building.
- The phrase "Little Orphan A-hole" is used to describe one character.
- The word "fornication" is used.
- "Eurotrash bitches" is used in a rap song. Son-of-a-bitch is used to describe the evil Count Dogulous.

SUBSTANCES:

- Two teen characters drink out of a vodka bottle.
- One teen is described as having provided alcohol to his cousin, a minor.
- One parent uses a bong.
- The words "chronic" and "ganga" are used.
- Cigarettes are used several times. A rap song mentions champagne and weed.
- Two characters act out an improv that talks about using and/or dealing recreational drugs.

OTHER POSSIBLE TRIGGERS:

- One (non-human) character sees into the future and has a "magic-like" quality.
- All of the human characters in this show have died in a roller coaster accident. One was decapitated. That is indicated by the character carrying a headless doll, and her make-up and wig is a little creepy.
- One character is a bully, but has a journey towards understanding that.
- One character uses the phrase "culturally ingrained alcoholism" to describe a Ukrainian man.
- One brief character is dying of Uranium poisoning, so she puts her child up for adoption to save him. His adoptive parents don't like him and he is neglected.
- Very briefly, there is a character miming speaking in tongues/snake-handling with a preacher. The preacher is bitten by a snake and dies. The son (one of the major characters) becomes non-verbal because of the trauma. Once dead, he decides to speak again.
- White people rap.

AUDITION NOTICE: DATES & TIMES



OPEN AUDITIONS: Sunday, June 14, 2026

- EVERYONE must SIGN UP online for a five minute audition spot at fwyt.org/auditions. Sign-up will go live May 4.
- Fill out & bring an audition form and ACCURATELY COMPLETED conflict sheet. Paper copies will be available at auditions if you need to fill it out there.
- Arrive at least 5-10 minutes prior to your audition time (more if you need to fill out the audition form there).
- Location: Arena Dinner Theatre, 719 Rockhill, Fort Wayne, IN 46802. (Enter the main doors on Rockhill.)

Everyone should be prepared to...

- Sing approx. 32 bars of a song of your choosing. Selections from RIDE THE CYCLONE or in a style similar to the the song/role you are audition for are encouraged.

Everyone should bring...

- Clearly marked piano/vocal sheet music for an accompanist OR a device with an accompaniment track you can bluetooth to the theatre's speaker.

CALL-BACK / MAKE-UP AUDITION: Monday, June 15 @7PM

- Location: Arena Dinner Theatre, 719 Rockhill St. (Enter the main doors on Rockhill.)
- Actors needed at Call-Backs will be notified via call or text immediately following open auditions.
- If you are unable to attend the Sunday audition, you may audition this night. Email Murphy@fwyt.org to RSVP.

CASTING NOTIFICATIONS: Via phone or email asap following auditions.

REHEARSALS: Rehearsals begin July 12 or 13 and run thru August 12; and will be held Monday-Friday (7-10PM) and/or Sunday (Time TBA). Not all dates will be used and not all actors will be called for all rehearsals. A specific schedule based on cast availability will be made after casting.

TECH WEEK: Sunday, August 9-Wednesday, August 12 (Sunday: Time TBA, M-W: 6:30-10PM)

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT REHEARSALS:

Not all actors will rehearse every day. However, the nature of this show does require most actors to be present at most rehearsals. A specific schedule based on actor conflicts will be made after casting.

PERFORMANCES:

August 13 (7PM), August 14 (7PM & 10:30PM), August 15 (7PM), August 16 (2PM) + HOLD August 16 (6/7PM), 2026

ABOUT THE SHOW:

What happens after the ride ends? In this darkly comedic, electrifying and edgy musical, six teenagers from the St. Cassian Choir must plead their case for a second chance at life after a tragic roller-coaster accident wipes them out. Their fate rests in the hands of The Amazing Karnak, a mechanical fortune teller who sets the rules and spins the wheel of destiny with a promise to save whichever has the best story. With jaw-dropping music, sharp humor, and an unexpectedly tender heart, *Ride the Cyclone* is a one-of-a-kind theatrical thrill ride you won't forget. But leave the little ones at home- this provocative partnership with Arena Dinner Theatre is best enjoyed by mature teens and adults!

AUDITION NOTICE: CHARACTER BREAKDOWNS



Arena Dinner Theatre & Fort Wayne Youtheatre seek 6 actors ages 14-22 to portray the students and 1 actor ages 22+ to play the Amazing Karnak for this thrill-ride musical. All actors must be 14+ at the time of auditions- no exceptions.

We encourage performers of all races and ethnicities, genders and abilities to audition.

CHARACTERS...

- **The Amazing Karnak:** Age- Eternal. The interactive narrator. Karnak is an advanced precognition machine whose proclivity towards predicting the deaths of carnival guests caused his owners to set him permanently in Family Fun Mode. This had dire consequences. Male, Female or Nonbinary Identifying. Will be in a small box, seated onstage the entire show. Catchphrase: “Your lucky number is seven. You will soar to great heights. Be sure to ride the cyclone.” (Non-singer, Non-dancer)
- **Ocean O’Connell-Rosenberg:** Age 17. The “most successful girl in town.” President of both the St. Cassian High School student council and chamber choir, Ocean is a brilliant go-getter (or chronic over-achiever if you ask her peers) who strives for excellence in everything she does. Female Identifying. Catchphrase: “Democracy rocks!” (Belter Alto/Soprano, dancer)
- **Noel Gruber:** Age 17. The “most romantic boy in town.” The only gay guy in all of Uranium, Noel yearns to leave his boring job at Taco Bell and the drab world of Saskatchewan behind for a life of glamour and extravagance. Male or Nonbinary Identifying. Catchphrase: Being the only gay man in a small rural high school is like having a laptop in the stone age. I mean sure, you can have one, but there’s nowhere to plug it in.” (Smooth Cabaret Voice Tenor, Dancer)
- **Mischa Bachinski:** Age 18. The “angriest boy in town.” A teenager recently adopted from Ukraine by parents who thought they were getting a toddler, Mischa maintains a strained relationship with his new family and reputation for angry outbursts. Male Identifying. Catchphrase: “my gangsta persona is just armor to conceal that I am a naked child wandering through the wilderness, holding in my hands my wounded fragile heart.” (Rapper/Folksinger- Baritone/Bass, Dancer)
- **Ricky Potts:** Age 17. The “most imaginative boy in town.” Suffering from childhood trauma and a self imposed mute, Ricky copes by maintaining a vivid inner life of fantasy and self-expression. Male, Female, or Nonbinary Identifying. Catchphrase: “Level up!” (Rock Voice Baritone, Dancer)
- **Jane Doe:** Age ?. A mysterious, emotionless, deeply creepy headless girl who appears beside the Choir in limbo. Must wear disturbing makeup and might wear black contacts. Female Identifying. Catchphrase: “When the lioness has children, she stops making love to the lion. The lion gets jealous, sometimes so jealous he eats the children. You’d think this would upset the lioness; far from it. They make love again like the children never existed. I find that idea terrifying.” (Classical Operatic Soprano, Dancer)
- **Constance Blackwood:** Age 17. The “nicest girl in town,” Constance is a kind, considerate girl whose genuine affection for her hometown puts her at odds with her peers. Secretly, she resented being belittled or cast aside for her kindness, as many people thought less of her for her positive view on the town. Female Identifying. Catchphrase: “Sorry!” (Rock Voice Alto, Dancer)

FOR PARENTS OF & STUDENT AUDITIONERS:

PARENT/YOUTH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MATERIAL

Actors who have not yet graduated high school (even if 18) & parents **MUST** complete this page & return with all other audition materials.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MATERIAL: UNDERSTANDING & INFORMED CONSENT

Ride the Cyclone includes themes and dialogue that may be emotionally intense and may include topics such as: death, violence, sexual content, illegal substances, mature themes, strong language, and references to sensitive subject matter.

Arena & Youtheatre are committed to creating a safe and respectful environment in which to explore this material and bring this story to life.

If you have not already, we encourage you to look carefully at all the information provided in this packet and do any other research you may wish.

- We have read the Parent/Actor Guide to the Material.
- We acknowledge that options to read the script and listen to the score were made available to us; and we either availed ourselves of those options or made an informed decision not to.
- We understand the tone and mature themes of the show and agree the youth may audition and participate in rehearsals and performances if cast.
- We understand that participation will require working with the cast and production team to portray serious, intense and mature emotions/situations as part of the storytelling.

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Youth Name: _____

Youth Signature: _____

Date: _____

ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL AGE STUDENTS
MUST RETURN THIS FORM AT AUDITIONS.

FOR AUDITIONERS 18+ ONLY:

YOUTH PROTECTION POLICY. PLEASE READ.

IF CAST, YOU WILL NEED TO SIGN & RETURN PRIOR TO REHEARSALS.



Fort Wayne Youtheatre - Youth Protection Policy

Policy Statement

As an organization that primarily serves youth, our highest priority is the safety and wellbeing of youth. It is the policy of Youtheatre to diligently protect youth by providing safe spaces for theatre education and experiences. We work every day to ensure our policies, procedures and practices embody the highest safety standards for the young people and artists that we serve.

Fort Wayne Youtheatre has zero tolerance for any abusive behavior against youth or between youth. If a paid or volunteer staff member is found criminally guilty of abusive behavior, their employment/volunteer right will be terminated immediately.

This policy is communicated and applied to staff, youth actors, youth taking Youtheatre classes, volunteers and contractors. It is also shared with parents of youth engaged at Youtheatre. Questions about interpreting this policy should be directed to Fort Wayne Youtheatre's Executive Director or Fort Wayne Youtheatre's Governance Committee.

Policy Overview

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Definitions

For Fort Wayne Youtheatre's Youth Protection Policy, the following definitions apply:

- Adult: any person who is 18 years of age or older who is an actor, employee, intern, teaching artist, member of a production team, independent contractor, or volunteer with Fort Wayne Youtheatre.

FOR AUDITIONERS 18+ ONLY:

YOUTH PROTECTION POLICY

MUST read this page.



- Youth: any person 17 years of age or younger involved in Youtheatre's programming as a student, actor, assistant, volunteer, intern, or employee. Individuals are considered a "Youth" at Youtheatre throughout a particular program or production in which they are involved, even if they turn age 18 during the course of the program or production participation or are an 18-year-old high school student.
- Private Space: any non-public spaces including dressing rooms, bathrooms, rehearsal rooms, and classrooms.
- Public Space: any common space accessible to the general public or to those granted access to spaces such as lobbies, theatres, and hallways.
- Rule of 3: Youtheatre practices safe Adult-to-Youth ratios with a "Rule of 3", meaning no Adult will be one-on-one with a Youth in a Private Space. For the purposes of this Rule of 3, any Youth who starts the program or production at age 17 will be considered a Youth even if the individual turns 18 during their participation in the program or production.

1) Mandatory Background Checks

Background checks, including criminal history and Sex Offender Database searches, are conducted for every position at time of hire, before programming begins. Background checks are not permitted for individuals under 18. Youtheatre conducts periodic rechecks for positions working directly with Youth and reserves the right to randomly check any employee or all employees at any point during their employment.

2) Youth/Adult Interactions

Youtheatre prohibits Adult interactions with Youth outside of scheduled rehearsals, performances, classes, or Youtheatre programming and/or professional activities.

Safe Ratios / Rule of 3: Youtheatre practices safe Adult-to-Youth ratios with a "Rule of 3", meaning no Adult will be one-on-one with a Youth in a Private Space. Specific guidelines with respect to fraternization include, without limitation:

- a) Adults must comply with the Rule of 3. However, should Adults need to work one-on-one with Youth (beginning of class while waiting for other students, end of rehearsal before actor is picked up, during class for discussion, instruction, or coaching), the door to any Private Space will remain fully open and/or unlocked providing access to Public Space and to other personnel/build occupants.



5) Child Abuse/Neglect – Mandatory Reporting

Fort Wayne Youtheatre has zero tolerance for abuse. Any mistreatment or abuse by an employee or volunteer will result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment or volunteer service and cooperation with law enforcement.

Indiana Code §31-33-5-1 states any individual who has reason to believe that a child is a victim of child abuse or neglect shall make a report. Knowingly failing to report your belief that a child is a victim of child abuse or neglect is a Class B Misdemeanor under Indiana Code §31-33-22-1. To report child abuse or neglect, please call 1-800-800-5556. The Indiana Department of Child Services allows these reports to be made anonymously. Reporting suspected child abuse must be completed within 24 hours from the time of any suspected abuse or neglect.

6) Non-retaliation

Fort Wayne Youtheatre will not permit retaliation against anyone who complains or participates in the investigation. If an individual attempts to retaliate, severe discipline, up to and including termination, will be imposed, regardless of the outcome of the investigation. If any employee believes that he or she has been retaliated against for exercising his or her rights under this policy, the employee should report such conduct using the complaint procedure set forth above.

7) False Accusations Prohibited

Because false accusations may have serious impact on the person accused, any individual who makes a complaint that they know to be false will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

8) Disciplinary Action

Interaction with Youth that violates Youtheatre policies will result in discipline, up to an including termination, as well as reporting of the incident to relevant authorities as required by law.

FOR AUDITIONERS 18+ ONLY:

YOUTH PROTECTION POLICY

MUST read this page.



- b) Generally, Adults may not offer and/or give rides to Youth at any time, for any reason. However, in certain limited circumstances where Youtheatre-sanctioned professional activities require it and where parent authorization is provided in writing, an Adult may provide a ride to a Youth. In these circumstances, the parent/guardian and another Youtheatre employee should be notified.
- c) Adults may not host or accept invitations to parties hosted by Youth or their family, unless the entire cast or class is invited and the Youth's parent/guardian is present. The sole exception to this rule is for high school senior graduation parties hosted by Youth and their families.

We recognize that Adults and Youth may have relationships with a Youth's family outside of Youtheatre (whether familial or otherwise). Sections b) and c) do not apply to those relationships and apply only to Youtheatre related activities (rides or parties).

Adults are prohibited from "dating" Youth or otherwise having outside personal contact with Youth, or encouraging an emotional and/or sexual relationship with a Youth who is in any way affiliated with Fort Wayne Youtheatre or its programs. Anyone found in violation will be immediately dismissed, with possible law enforcement notification depending upon the situation

3) Appropriate Language and Communications

The use of obscene language, gestures, discussions about sexual content, drugs, alcohol, or other adult content around any Youth or volunteer is strictly prohibited.

Staff should not be in contact with Youth students, actors, or volunteers outside of their job duties. Any music, video, or illustration used in programming must be age appropriate for all ages in the room. Any media with sexual references, illegal drugs, tobacco/vaping products, alcohol references, adult themes, or adult language is not permitted for use in Youtheatre programs (unless the program itself contains it).

4) Social Media and Electronic Communication

Adults are not permitted to send email, social media, and/or text messages, conduct phone calls, photograph or post images of Youth outside of formal communication relevant to the business of Youtheatre. Where pre-existing relationships exist between an Adult and a Youth related to electronic communication, the Adult will notify in writing their supervisor or Executive Director.