



Casting Guidelines

Updated 3/27/24

Thank you for sharing your talents with Chaska Valley Family Theatre. CVFT's mission is to provide quality, affordable live theater for our region, in an environment where families can participate together. While we endeavor to produce the finest theatre possible, we do so in a balanced effort, ensuring that we continue to build our core of talent, improve the quality of our productions, and meet our family-oriented mission. In part, we attempt to achieve this balance in the following ways:

Open Casting

Unless stated elsewhere in audition information, auditions are open to all persons within the specified age and gender ranges. We do not pre-cast, nor do we promise that everyone who auditions will be cast. Casting is based on ability and experience. We are a community-based theatre, and as such, in the case where multiple persons are qualified for the same role, we may give preference to persons who live in our immediate region. To be considered for casting, auditioners should be at least 8 years old by the time of rehearsals. Exceptions to this may be requested, but are not guaranteed, and will be decided on a case-by-case by the CVFT Board of Directors.

Family Participation

When one member of a family is cast, we endeavor to cast all members of the immediate family that wish to participate. If parents are uninterested in participating on stage, we invite the parents to participate in other ways. These might include helping with children back stage, ushering/ticketing, or other behind-the-scenes roles.

Family-Friendly Environment

When adults or young adults are working together, they should be sensitive to the presence of children and choose language and content that are appropriate to a family environment. The production team is responsible for reminding cast members about this.

Scheduling

Where possible, we try to schedule families to be at rehearsal on the same nights. We also attempt to avoid times that are usually reserved for family events such as Sunday mornings, holidays, etc. A preliminary schedule is published at the time of auditions. Changes will be with as much notice as possible in order to allow participants to coordinate family schedules. In return, we expect participants to take their commitment to the production seriously, and attend every rehearsal possible. Rehearsal conflicts must be communicated before casting. Conflicts within the 2 -weeks prior to opening (blackout period) may result in not being cast in the production.

The CVFT Board of Directors takes our mission seriously. We participate in the casting process and review the cast list prior to posting. Our role is not to direct the artistic vision of the production, but to provide experience and context to the casting process to help ensure that the mission of CVFT is carried forward. We invite you to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

Chaska Valley Family Theatre, Board of Directors