

2010 Musical STATE FAIR

Audition and Backstage Crew Information

The musical is open to all high school students. At EGRHS we are hoping for a great turn out from all of the student body! Everyone is welcome and encouraged to audition and be a part of this classic American Musical by Rogers and Hammerstein.

At EGRHS, we feel that auditioning should be fun and strive to maintain a supportive atmosphere. **State Fair** is a chorus musical with lots of singing and dancing. All students interested must make a commitment to the show if cast or assigned a crew position. There will be little flexibility with schedules - you need to be available. Please do not audition if you do not plan to take a role offered to you. It is considered very unprofessional to audition, get cast, and then decline participation. Casting is an intricate processes and each part is interrelated. When actors drop out, it affects the entire balance of the cast and causes a lot of problems. Thank you for looking at your schedules ahead of time and making sure you can make this commitment.

TO AUDITION FOR A ROLE IN THE CAST:

All students need to attend one vocal, one reading and one dance audition - so you need to come 3 different times during the week. There are two different READING and DANCE audition times and students need to attend only one. VOCAL auditions are in 15 minute increments with pre-sign up. Students must make every effort to attend the audition times as scheduled. **STUDENTS MUST DO ALL THREE AUDITIONS IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED** for any role.

AUDITION DATES Little Auditorium

Mon. Feb 8	3:15 - 4:30 4:30 - 6:30	DANCE AUDITIONS VOCAL AUDITIONS
Tue. Feb. 9	3:15 - 5:15 5:30 - 7:30	READING AUDITIONS READING AUDITIONS
Wed. Feb. 10	3:15 - 4:30 4:30 - 5:00	DANCE AUDITIONS VOCAL AUDITIONS
Thur. Feb. 11	3:30	VOCAL/READING CALL BACKS
Tue. Feb 16	3:05	FINAL CAST/CREW LIST POSTED

STUDENTS MUST DO ALL THREE AUDITIONS IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED

1. **The Vocal Audition.** Each student should come with a **PREPARED** 1 minute selection. **THIS IS IMPORTANT!!!** Pick something that showcases your voice. Please provide the music for the accompanist. One minute equals one verse or chorus section of a song or about 16 measures. Students who are prepared and have worked on a number demonstrate that they are interested in a role and committed. We will be auditioning singers in 15 minute groups. **Please sign up on the Drama Club Bulletin Board (Blue board by the Little Aud) for a time slot.** This will alleviate your having to wait around for hours. We will also be measuring potential cast members at Vocal auditions.

2. **The Reading Audition.** Each student will read twice from the script. Scripts will not be available prior to auditions, so it is suggested you read the character descriptions of the cast attached prior to auditioning. You can watch the 1945 movie for an idea of the characters and synopsis. Do NOT watch the 1962 version! You need to attend **only one** of the reading audition times.

3. **The Dance Audition.** A short routine will be taught and then you show us what you've learned in small groups. We are looking to see who can dance, who can be taught, and who can take direction. Please wear hard soled shoes to the audition and non-baggy clothing. This means no clogs, no flip flops, no tennis shoes, no baggy jeans or sweats, or oversized clothes. We want to see you and how your body moves - we can't do that if we aren't sure where your knees or hands even are! Students need to attend **only one** of the dance audition times.

4. The Vocal and Reading **CALL BACK** list will be posted Thursday, Feb 11 on the Drama Club bulletin board by 7:30 am. Reading and Singing Call Backs will be that day at 3:30 in the Little Auditorium. If a student is not listed for a Call Back, this does not mean that the student will not be cast in the show. This Call Back will be primarily because we would like to hear you read and sing again from the show. We will also want to see some students read together that may not have had that opportunity in auditions.

Principal Roles are for 3 Men and 3 Women. This is also a chorus show with over 18 character parts for singers and dancers. A lot of opportunities we are excited about! We plan on casting a total of 45 students.

The final cast and crew list will be posted at 3:05 on Tuesday, Feb. 16 on the Drama Bulletin Board the website at www.egrhsdrama.org The first rehearsal for all cast members will be Tuesday, Feb 23 at 3:30pm.

Please know all of your **conflicts** at auditions, i.e., sports practices, games, lessons, concerts, work, trips, etc. **Be prepared to list them:** both after school and evenings. Please know if you are flexible on your conflicts. These commitments will be looked at when casting.

Rehearsals will be primarily after school - Monday thru Friday. We do not rehearse on the weekends except for Saturday **April 24th** which is **Mandatory**. We do not rehearse during Spring Break. We will work into evening rehearsals during show week.

Performance dates are April 29, 30, May 1, 2010.

If you have any questions, or if you have a problem attending a particular set of auditions, please talk to Mrs. Pamela Steers (Director) in room 246 or e-mail at psteers@egrps.org

TO SIGN UP FOR BACKSTAGE AND PRODUCTION POSITIONS

Any students who are interested in working backstage as stage managers, crew, lights, sound, costumes, makeup, publicity, program, etc. should stop by one of the auditions and fill out a form. All assignments for cast and crew, are made by February 16th and posted. Let us know your interest.

Please know all of your **conflicts** at auditions, i.e., sports practices, games, lessons, concerts, work, trips, etc. **Be prepared to list them:** both after school and evenings. Please know if you are flexible on your conflicts. These commitments will be looked at when putting a crew together.

Most crew positions will need to commit to rehearsals in April, beginning April 19. See previous page for additional dates, times, etc.

TIPS FOR AUDITIONING:

1. Pick a song that can showcase your voice. It does not have to be from State Fair . Practice it and know it well. It does not have to be memorized, but a copy for you and for the pianist would be ideal.
2. Really “push” at the reading auditions. Always strive to act “more” than “less.” We want to see what you can do. Presence, Energy and Projection (PEP) are what we are looking for.
3. Wear proper shoes and clothing to dance auditions.
4. Make a commitment now and clear your schedules for March and April. Let us know you are committed to being a part of this production.
5. Listen to the Original Broadway Cast CD so you have an understanding of the characters and the songs each character sings. Watch the 1945 movie.
6. Have fun and just try your best. If you do your personal best, you’ve already learned something!

State Fair Synopsis and Cast of Characters

Rodgers & Hammerstein's only musical written directly for the screen is now a stage musical that's had critics raving from coast to coast. Set against the colorful backdrop of an American heartland tradition, STATE FAIR travels with the Frake family as they leave behind the routine of the farm for three days of adventure at the annual Iowa State Fair. Mom and Pop have their hearts set on blue ribbons while their daughter and son find romance and heartbreak on the midway. Set to the magical strains of an Academy Award-winning score and augmented by other titles from the Rodgers and Hammerstein songbook, STATE FAIR is the kind of warm-hearted family entertainment only Rodgers & Hammerstein could deliver!

PRINCIPALS

3 Women

3 Men

FEATURED

4 Women

1 Girl (age 11)

6 Men

ENSEMBLE

Singing-dancing ensemble consisting of Barkers, Vendors, Judges, and Fairgoers

CHARACTERS

Abel Frake - a farmer

Gus - the Frake's hired man

Margy Frake - the Frake's daughter

Melissa Frake - Abel's wife

Wayne Frake - the Frake's son

Dave Miller - the local storekeeper

Eleanor - Wayne's girlfriend

Harry - Margy's boyfriend

The Fair Announcer

The Hoop-La Barker

Emily Arden

The Astounding Stralenko

Vivian - a cooch dancer

Jeanne - a cooch dancer

Pat Gilbert - a newspaper reporter

Charlie - a newspaper photographer

Lem - a farmer

Clay - a farmer

Hank Munson - a farmer

The Chief of Police

Violet - his daughter

The Fairtones

Judge Heppenstahl

Mrs. Edwin Metcalf of Pottsville

2 Roustabouts

Barkers, Vendors, Judges and Fairgoers