

THE THEATRE EDUCATION PROGRAM PRESENTS



Join Alex the Lion, Marty the Zebra, Melman the Giraffe, Gloria the hip hip Hippo and, of course, those hilarious, plotting penguins as they bound onto your stage in the musical adventure of a life-time. Based on the smash DreamWorks animated motion picture, *Madagascar – A Musical Adventure JR.* follows all of your favorite crack-a-lackin' friends as they escape from their home in New York's Central Park Zoo and find themselves on an unexpected journey to the madcap world of King Julien's Madagascar.

Alex the lion is the king of the urban jungle, the main attraction at New York's Central Park Zoo. He and his best friends — Marty the zebra, Melman the giraffe and Gloria the hippo — have spent their whole lives in blissful captivity before an admiring public and with regular meals provided for them. Not content to leave well enough alone, Marty lets his curiosity get the better of him and makes his escape — with the help of some prodigious penguins — to explore the world.

Filled with outlandish characters, adventure galore and an upbeat score, *Madagascar JR.* will leave audiences with no choice but to "Move It, Move It!"



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

JR ENSEMBLE (1ST & 2ND GRADE)

Thursdays 3:45-5:15 (Starting late February or early March we will add more days)

ENSEMBLE

Monday 4:45-5:45, Wednesday 3:30-4:30, Thursday 3:45-5:15, Occasional Fridays 3:45-5:45

PRINCIPALS

Monday 4:45-6:30, Wednesday 3:30-6:00, Thursday 3:45-6:45, Friday 3:45-6:45 (Not all principals will be required at every rehearsal.)

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING DATES. INCLUDE ANY POTENTIAL CONFLICTS WITH YOUR REGISTRATION.

In addition to the regular schedule these additional rehearsals will take place.

Monday, January 27 (NO SCHOOL)

Daytime rehearsal Times TBD

Friday March 27-April 5 TECH WEEK

Mandatory rehearsals Times TBD

We can work with you on some conflicts but Tech week is crucial. Please make sure these dates are available.

AUDITIONS FOR MADAGASCAR SATURDAY, JANUARY 11 @ THE REIF

Grades 3-6 12:00-2:00pm | Grades 7-12 2:30-5:30pm*

All participants get a part. Auditions just help me place you where you fit best. Auditions may last up to three hours, depending on our turnout. Please arrive at the beginning and try to be flexible with the end time.

***This is a change from the information given at the meeting.** Due to a performance on the Main Stage on the 11th we will be confined to smaller spaces and will need to break the groups up.

How to prepare for auditions:

- ♦ **Listen to the soundtrack.** All songs are available on the Reif Website. Get to know the music and practice singing with the performance tracks. Everyone will sing individually during auditions.
- ♦ **Read the audition sides** that are available on the website. Get to know the characters and try experimenting with saying the parts out loud.
- ♦ **Prepare something to recite at auditions.** This can be anything you have memorized. I want to see how you handle language that you are really comfortable with. It can be a poem, a speech or the pledge of allegiance. Once you have recited, I may ask you to do it again as though you are stuck in quicksand or as though you smell rotten eggs. This allows me to see how well you take direction and how you handle different feelings or emotions. (Parents, please help your kids understand ahead of time that getting direction does not mean they have done anything wrong. Sometimes kids shut down when they feel like they are being criticized. Taking direction is part of theatre. Sometimes we try things several different ways before we find the “right” one.
- ♦ **Come ready to dance!** Everyone in the show will dance. (Some more than others) During auditions, students will learn a bit of choreography and I will be watching for their performance quality and willingness to try new things. Above all, look like you are having fun and the “audience” might not see little mistakes!

Check out the Reif website for links to all of the audition audio tracks.

www.reifcenter.org Education-Theatre Education-Music

Also check out the audition sides to get familiar with some of the language used in the show.

www.reifcenter.org Education-Theatre Education-Audition Sides

You can choose which song you would like to audition with. This does not mean that you will only be considered for that one role. You may be asked to read for multiple parts. Just remember that every moment counts in auditions. Give it your all even if you are not reading for the part you want. Directors are always looking to see how versatile you can be and how well you take direction.

Auditions are for 3rd-12th grade. 1st and 2nd graders will be included in the cast but do not need to come for auditions.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING DATES. INCLUDE ANY POTENTIAL CONFLICTS ON YOUR REGISTRATION FORM.

In addition to the regular schedule these additional rehearsals will take place.

Monday, January 27 (NO SCHOOL) Daytime rehearsal Times TBD

Friday March 27-April 5 TECH WEEK Mandatory rehearsals Times TBD

Cast of Characters

ALEX THE LION The main attraction at the Central Park Zoo and undoubtedly “The King of New York City.” He’s a fun loving fella whose devotion to steak is matched only by his devotion to his friends.

Audition Song: “Best Friends”

MARTY THE ZEBRA Alex’s best friend. Born in captivity, Marty dreams of living in the WILD, beyond the confines of the Central Park Zoo.

Audition Song: “Wild and Free”

GLORIA THE HIPPO A bold young lady with a maternal streak that shines when she’s with her three closest friends: Alex, Marty and Melman.

Audition Song: “It’s Showtime”

MELMAN THE GIRAFFE A kind-hearted hypochondriac. He’s always a little bit nervous, but when it comes down to it, he’ll rise to the occasion.

Audition Song: “It’s Showtime”

THE PENGUINS A group of birds on a mission: bust out of the zoo and return home to Antarctica. **SKIPPER** serves as the captain of the group, giving orders with ease and authority. **KOWALSKI** is Skipper’s second-in-command and a dutiful one at that. **RICO** is the brute of the group and will karate chop anything in sight. **PRIVATE**’s primary job in the group is to maintain the cute and cuddly disguise.

Audition song: “Penguins’ Sea Shanty”

THE ZOOKEEPERS In the style of a Motown group, the Zookeepers **ZELDA**, **ZEKE**, and **ZOE** introduce the sights and attractions of the Central Park Zoo. These excited Zoo workers sing and dance and bring the energy to the opening of the show!

Audition Song: “It’s Showtime”

MASON THE CHIMPANZEE A primate with a bone to pick. He is highly intelligent but his species seems to get a bad reputation for being simple minded, and he takes it quite personally! (Non-singing Role)

THE LEMURS A Wild band of creatures native to Madagascar trying desperately to avoid being eaten by the Foosa. **KING JULIEN** is their leader. He is a comedian who sings, dances and needs comedic timing. **MAURICE** is King Julien’s assistant who is not so welcoming to Madagascar’s new inhabitants.

MORT is the littlest of the Lemurs, who can barely get a word in edgewise. Mort does need to have a WAIL that can be heard for miles around! **LYNN**, **LEW** and **LARS** are the rest of King Julien’s posse. Each of them need to be able to sing confidently on their own.

Audition Song: “I Like to Move It”

Additional characters include:

The **FOOSA** (catlike predators with an appetite for lemurs), The **FOOSA LEADER**, Steaks, Servers, Lionesses, Cameraman, Candy Hammernose (A tv news reporter), Old Lady, Subway Announcer, police officers, animal control officers, New Yorkers, a newspaper man, the ship’s captain, and more!

