

REIF THEATER ARTS PRESENTS

Disney THE LION KING

1st Class/
Auditions
Saturday, Sep. 6
Performances
Nov. 21-23



Tuition and registration due before auditions. Space is limited!
For Students in 3rd-12th Grade.

The Lion King JR. tells the story of the epic adventures of a curious cub named Simba as he struggles to accept the responsibilities of adulthood and his destiny as king. Along the way, Simba encounters a colorful cast of characters including spunky lioness Nala, charismatic meerkat Timon, and loveable warthog Pumbaa. To claim his rightful place on the throne and save his beloved Pridelands, Simba must find his inner strength and confront his wicked Uncle Scar.

The Lion King JR. features classic songs from the Broadway musical and animated feature film, including "I Just Can't Wait to Be King," "He Lives in You," and "Hakuna Matata." Disney's *The Lion King* has captivated the imagination of audiences around the world, and now you have the opportunity to join the cast of this one-of-a-kind musical. Help bring the African savanna to life on the Reif stage. with Simba, Rafiki and an unforgettable cast of characters as they journey from Pride Rock to the jungle and back again in this inspiring, coming-of-age tale.

Disney's *The Lion King Jr.* is presented through special arrangement with and all materials are provided by Music Theatre International.

Theater Arts build confidence and character. Come make friendships and memories that will last a lifetime!

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION DEADLINE Friday, August 22

Register early and save! TUITION Before August 22-\$150 After August 22-\$180

AUDITION SCHEDULE

3rd-6th Grade Saturday, September 6, 11:00-2:00pm

7th-12th Grade Saturday, September 6, 2:30-6:00pm

(Please plan to stay for your entire audition time.)

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

JR. ENSEMBLE* (Likely younger cast)

Tuesday & Thurs 3:30-5:00, Some Fridays 3:30-6:30

SR. ENSEMBLE (Likely older cast)

Monday, Wed, Friday 3:30-6:30

PRINCIPALS (MAIN CHARACTERS)

Mon, Wed, Fri 3:30-6:30, Tues & Thurs 3:30-5:30

Not all Cast members will be required for the entirety of every rehearsal. Detailed weekly schedules will depend on casting.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE IS EMAILED. READ EMAILS THOROUGHLY!

REHEARSALS BEGIN MONDAY, September 8th, 2025

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

Attendance at rehearsals is crucial to our success. In addition to the regular schedule these additional rehearsals will take place.

Monday, November 3 (NO SCHOOL)

Friday, November 14 (NO SCHOOL - Start of Tech week)

We will still have rehearsal these days either at the regular rehearsal time or as daytime rehearsal Times TBD

NOVEMBER 14-20 TECH WEEK

MANDATORY rehearsals-Times TBD

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

*Which group you are placed in depends on casting. Every role is important. Students who are cast in larger roles will have to attend more rehearsals. If you do not wish to be considered for a main role, please let the director know.

PRINT AND KEEP THIS PAPER TO REFERENCE IMPORTANT DATES. CHECK YOUR EMAILS REGULARLY THROUGHOUT THE REHEARSAL PROCESS.

AUDITIONS FOR The Lion King JR. SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 @ THE REIF

Grades 3-6 11:00-2:00pm | Grades 7-12 2:30-6:00pm

All participants get a part. Auditions just help me place you where you fit best. Please plan to stay for the entire session of auditions for your age group. **Students must be registered and paid before auditions.**

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.
- ♦ **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 your favorite commercial. (Returning performers, I challenge you to choose something new each time you audition!) 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! Come ready to show any “tricks” you may have in your repertoire. This is a DANCE show!
- ♦ **Read the audition sides** that are available on the website. Get to know the characters and try experimenting with saying the parts out loud. (This may not happen until callbacks but it is good to familiarize yourself with the story and characters.

Check out the Reif website www.reifcenter.org for the following resources...

- Links to all of the audio tracks. There will be a version of the music with words to help you learn the song. There will also be a version of the music without words for them to practice with once they are comfortable. Sheet music is also available on the website for selected audition cuts.
- Audition sides to get familiar with some of the language used in the show. Audition sides are short scene selections from the script that may be used as part of the audition process. These sides will help you understand the characters and how they interact with each other.

You may be asked to sing or 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 think you want. Directors are always looking to see how versatile you can be and how well you take direction.

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE...

Students will be required to supply their own footwear for the performance. In addition to shoes, certain items may be required for their costumes as well. Instructions regarding these items will go out after casting and the design process is complete. We do our best to provide costumes but as the cast sizes keep growing, it has become impossible for us to purchase and store everything we need for a musical of this size.

Parents should anticipate volunteering to help. We need help monitoring children during performances, sewing costumes, gathering props, etc. Please let me know how you can help!

REHEARSALS BEGIN MONDAY, September 8, 2025

PERFORMANCES November 21-23, 2025

Please see page 1 for other important dates.

Register at www.reifcenter.org Questions: Call The Box Office (218)327-5780 or email Katie ksmith@reifcenter.org

CHECK YOUR EMAILS REGULARLY FOR SCHEDULES AND UPDATES THROUGHOUT THE REHEARSAL PROCESS!



Cast of Characters

Rafiki A wise mandrill who acts as healer of the Pridelands and guides Simba on his journey home. She is an omniscient character, evincing an air of mystery. Rafiki has significant solos in "Circle of Life" and "He Lives in You," and leads the African chants throughout the show. Looking for a confident performer with a strong singing voice.
Vocal range top: C5
Vocal range bottom: A3

Mufasa The strong, honorable, and wise lion who leads the Pridelands. Mufasa should command respect on stage and also show tenderness with his son, Simba. Looking for a mature actor who can convincingly portray the king.
Vocal range top: C5
Vocal range bottom: B3

Sarabi A featured lioness, Mufasa's mate, and Simba's mother. Looking for an actor who can deliver the care and command of a queen.

Zazu The anxious yet loyal assistant to Mufasa who is always busy trying to do his duty. Zazu's lyrics are spoken rather than sung, and the role can be played by a boy or girl.

Scar The antagonist of the show, overcome with jealousy of his brother, Mufasa, and nephew, Simba. Coldhearted and wickedly intelligent, he will stop at nothing to become king of the Pridelands. Looking for a mature performer who can bring out this villain's dark side while handling Scar's sarcastic sense of humor.
Vocal range top: A4
Vocal range bottom: A3

Young Simba The protagonist of the story, is an adventurous and endearing cub who can't wait to be king of the Pridelands. Simba is playful, energetic, and naive, but after his father Mufasa's death, Simba struggles with shame and his destiny. Looking for a strong singer and dynamic performer in this role.
Vocal range top: E5
Vocal range bottom: B3

Simba Grows from a cub to lion in "Hakuna Matata." Older Simba has more complex moments as he reunites with Nala, mourns his father, and returns to confront Scar. Looking for a mature actor.
Vocal range top: E5
Vocal range bottom: B3

Young Nala A courageous lion and Young Simba's best friend. She is not afraid to speak her mind. While Young Nala does sing a little, look for a strong female performer who can portray this confident cub.
Vocal range top: C5
Vocal range bottom: A3

Nala Grows from a cub to a lioness before she confronts Scar, so cast a more mature actress to play the character beginning in Scene 10. As with older Simba and Young Simba, ensure that this switch in actors performing a single role is clear. Direct the actors to share a mask or costume piece that distinctly represents Nala, as well as a movement vocabulary.
Vocal range top: E5
Vocal range bottom: G3

Sarafina A featured lioness and Nala's mother.



Cast of Characters Continued

Shenzi One of Scar's hyenas who plot to take over the Pridelands. She is the sassy one of the trio and is always looking out for herself. With Banzai and Ed, she should be able to laugh loudly and long, as well as be menacing to Young Simba and Young Nala. This role can be played by a boy or girl.

Banzai A slick yet childish hyena who works for Scar. He would be the leader of the group if hyenas weren't so lazy. Looking for an outgoing and confident actor who can portray nastiness and gruffness. This role can be played by a boy or girl.

Ed The third member of Scar's trio of lackeys. He has a loud, cackling laugh that is his only form of communication. Looking for an actor who can laugh unabashedly and communicate through physicality and facial expressions rather than words. This role can be played by a boy or girl.

Timon An outcast meerkat who lives in the jungle with Pumbaa. He is afraid of his own shadow, but pretends to be the confident, relaxed leader of the duo. Timon is one of the funniest characters in the show. Looking for a charismatic actor who understands comic timing. This role can be played by a boy or a girl.

Vocal range top: B4

Vocal range bottom: B3

Pumbaa A kindhearted, sensitive warthog who enjoys his simple life of grubs and relaxation. A loveable and loyal friend to Timon and Simba with deadpan humor. This role can be played by a boy or girl.

Vocal range top: G5

Vocal range bottom: D4

Lionesses The fierce hunters of the Pridelands and featured in "The Lioness Hunt," "The Mourning," and "Shadowland." Looking for strong singers and dancers.

Hyenas Scar's army, helping carry out his evil plot to take over the Pridelands. Hyenas are mangy, mindless creatures who sing in "Be Prepared." Looking for actors who are able to sing the background parts of that song while playing the loud and raucous characters.

Ensemble In addition to the Lioness and Hyena ensembles, there will be various inhabitants of the Pridelands, such as giraffes, elephants, antelopes, wildebeest, and other creatures. Ensemble actors will also be grasslands, stars, and jungle dancers. There will likely be three separate ensemble groups who will be assigned to specific scenes.

Song List

Circle of Life Rafiki, Ensemble

Grasslands Chant Ensemble

The Lioness Hunt Lionesses, Ensemble

I Just Can't Wait to Be King Young Simba, Zazu, Young Nala, Ensemble

Be Prepared Scar, Shenzi, Banzai, Ed, Ensemble

They Live in You Mufasa, Ensemble

The Stampede Ensemble

The Mourning Rafiki, Young Nala, Sarabi, Lionesses

Hakuna Matata Timon, Pumbaa, Young Simba, Simba, Ensemble

Shadowland Nala, Rafiki, Lionesses, Ensemble

Can You Feel the Love Tonight Timon, Pumbaa, Simba, Nala, Ensemble

He Lives in You Rafiki, Simba, Ensemble

Luau Hawaiian Treat Timon, Pumbaa

Finale Company