

REIF THEATER ARTS PRESENTS

THE WIZARD of OZ Youth Edition

Auditions
Sunday, January 4
Performances
March 27-29
2026

Tuition and registration due before auditions. Space is limited!
For Students in 1st-12th Grade

Join Dorothy and her loyal companion Toto as they “Follow the Yellow Brick Road” through the Land of Oz, determined to reach the Emerald City, where the great and powerful Wizard of Oz will help them get home. Of course, along the way, Dorothy encounters witches (both good and bad), Munchkins, talking trees and winged monkeys. But most importantly, she befriends three unique characters: a Scarecrow with no brain, a Tin Man with no heart, and a Lion with no “nerve.” Their journey to happiness – and self-awareness – is a glowing testament to friendship, understanding and hope in a world filled with both beauty and ugliness.

The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition is presented through special arrangement with and all materials are provided by Concord Theatricals.

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

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION DEADLINE Friday, December 19

Register early and save! TUITION Before December 19-\$150 After December 19-\$180

AUDITION SCHEDULE

3rd-6th Grade Sunday, January 4, 11:00-2:00pm

7th-12th Grade Sunday, January 4, 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, JANUARY 5, 2026

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

We have a full month less of rehearsal time for this production compared to past shows. Attendance at rehearsals is crucial to our success. In addition to the regular schedule these additional rehearsals will take place.

January 16 & 19, February 16 (NO SCHOOL)

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

March 20-26 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.

*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 WIZARD OF OZ* Sunday, January 4 @ THE REIF

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

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. (If you wish to be considered for Dorothy, please come ready to sing *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*.) Remember, there is only one Dorothy and there are many more fun characters! 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, January 5, 2026

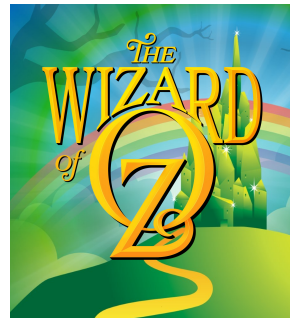
PERFORMANCES March 27-29, 2026

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



DOROTHY GALE A sweet, innocent young lady with a streak of boldness, outspoken and headstrong, who dearly loves her family, friends and dog, Toto; Lives on a farm in Kansas with her Aunt Em & Uncle Henry, but dreams of escaping to a far-off place where she will not get into trouble. (Strong vocalist and dancer) Audition song: *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*

AUNT EM A typical, hard-working farmer's wife who is firm & no-nonsense but also warm and caring.

UNCLE HENRY Farmer whose wife, Em, runs things; Adoring uncle to Dorothy (Non-singing role)

HUNK/SCARECROW Clumsy farmhand on the family's Kansas farm; Both characters talk about being smart and having a brain. (Strong vocalist and dancer required. Can be played by a girl or a boy.) Audition song: *If I Only Had a Brain*

HICKORY/TIN MAN Kind, sweet and nurturing farmhand; Tin man has no heart but is very caring. (Can be played by a girl or a boy.) Audition song: *If I Only Had a Heart*

ZEKE/COWARDLY LION Farmhand who lacks courage; Acts tough, but fearful self comes out in any scary situation. (Can be played by a girl or a boy.) Audition song: *If I Only Had the Nerve*

MISS GULCH/WICKED WITCH OF THE WEST Well-off, cold-hearted Gale neighbor who hates Toto (Non-singing role)

PROFESSOR MARVEL/WIZARD OF OZ Traveling salesman who lives by telling fortunes; a con-man with a good heart

TOTO Dorothy's beloved dog. Toto comes to life after Dorothy is transported to Oz. (Toto sings and Dances)

GLINDA Good Witch of the North who is the mother figure for Munchkins and Dorothy whom she guides through Oz; Delicate and graceful. Audition song: *Munchkinland Musical Sequence (Part 1) "Come out, Come Out"*

MUNCHKINS Little people who live in Munchkinland where Dorothy's house lands after the cyclone; Enthusiastic and joyful; Includes Mayor, Coroner, Barrister, Lollipop Guild, Lullaby League and other speaking parts. All Munchkins sing and dance.

JITTERBUGS Forest creatures who serve the Wicked Witch. (Fast paced song and dance number)

FLYING MONKEYS The Wicked Witch's menacing animal army. Includes **NIKKO**, their leader.

OZIANs Citizens of the Emerald City. (Peppy song and dance number)

WINKIES The Wicked Witch's enslaved guards who are freed when Dorothy defeats the Witch

There are a few additional roles that will be covered by ensemble actors.