



Audition Packet



Disney **THE LITTLE MERMAID**

The Stage Theater Co., the company that brought you Disney's Newsies® and Elf the Musical, is pleased to announce auditions for its upcoming production of Disney's The Little Mermaid!

There are many roles, small to big, for the entire family to join in the fun of The Little Mermaid!

Summary

Based on one of Hans Christian Andersen's most beloved stories and the classic animated film, Disney's The Little Mermaid is a hauntingly beautiful love story for the ages. Featuring some of your favorite Disney music, this fishy fable will capture your heart with its irresistible songs. Ariel, King Triton's youngest daughter, wishes to pursue the human Prince Eric in the world above, bargaining with the evil sea witch, Ursula, to trade her tail for her legs. But the bargain is not what it seems, and Ariel needs the help of her colorful friends, Flounder, the fish, Scuttle, the seagull, and Sebastian, the crab, to restore order under the sea. This show provides a creative opportunity that will bring rich costumes and sets and the ability to perform some of the best-known songs from the past 30 years.

About the Audition Packet

This packet contains valuable information regarding auditions for Disney's Little Mermaid! Please read the information carefully, and feel free to contact us if you have any questions!

Auditions will be held on **Saturday, March 11th, at 9 am** and **Sunday, March 12th, at 2 pm**. They will be held at The Floor Dance Studio, located at 2704 Alexander Drive, Suite K, in Jonesboro. Directly behind Outback Steakhouse. You only need to attend **one** audition session. If callbacks are needed, you will be contacted after auditions are completed.

This production will involve lots of singing and dancing! The large cast of characters also has plenty of opportunities for non-dancers to shine. Check out the character descriptions and learn about these great characters.

Auditions will consist of a three-step process. In groups, you will be taught music and some light choreography. You will then present that to the audition panel. If you want to have a speaking part, you will also be asked to read a few lines for the panel. **The audition song will be a selection from "Under The Sea."** The portion will be taught to you during the audition process, but feel free to listen and learn it early!

The cast list will be posted on The Stage website and social media pages before Noon on Wednesday, March 15th. A **required** cast meeting will be held on Thursday, March 16th, at 6:00 pm at The Floor for all cast members. After the cast meeting, some may have a rehearsal while we are all together. Details on that will be provided during the cast announcement.

This packet contains everything you need to know about auditions—including character descriptions, specific requirements for the show, and your audition forms. Feel free to print these out and bring them to the auditions. Copies will also be available on the day of auditions for you to complete if needed. We also encourage you to complete the online audition form!

We look forward to a fantastic production and cannot wait to start! Please let us know if you have any questions, and we look forward to seeing you at the auditions!

Character Breakdown

Ariel is a strong-willed teenage mermaid who longs to be human. She possesses a keen curiosity for the world both under and above the sea—much to the chagrin of her father, King Triton. Big-hearted, she's more accepting of and delighted by others' differences than most of her fellow merfolk, but she also has a rebellious streak that can get her into trouble.

Prince Eric is the adventurous human monarch who captures Ariel's heart. Charming and sensitive, he has a warm voice and demeanor that evoke his flair for romance. There is also a stubborn side to the Prince, who is determined to do whatever it takes to get what he wants—including the girl with the mysterious voice.

Grimsby is Prince Eric's prim and proper valet. Rigid in bearing and personality, he constantly tries to guide Prince Eric toward the throne, and a suitable bride fit for a royal marriage. Under his stern demeanor, Grimsby truly is fond of Eric, whom he worries about and attends to as though he is his son.

Flounder is Ariel's sincere and sensitive best friend who rarely leaves her side. A spunky fish with a sweet sense of humor, he can be awkward and anxious around his unrequited crush.

Scuttle is the know-it-all seagull who serves as Ariel's expert on all things human. Garrulous and off-beat, Scuttle's eccentricities are more endearing than aggravating. Even as he makes up ridiculous names and functions for common human objects, his intentions are friendly, and his enthusiasm is infectious.

King Triton is King of the Sea, a married, single father to seven girls, who struggles to balance his political and paternal powers. A widower, Triton is as fond of his daughters as he is frustrated with their teenage angst. Even when unsure of his parenting technique, he is a tender patriarch who becomes a royal force to be reckoned with when Ariel's safety and happiness are threatened by his sister, the Sea Witch Ursula.

Sebastian is the choirmaster of King Triton's court who has a flair for the dramatic. A meticulous and uptight crab, Sebastian is ever-anxious, whether he's conducting a concert premiere or protecting Ariel from Ursula. When he's performing—which is almost always—he's undeniably charismatic.

Mersisters Aquata, Andrina, Arista, Atina, Adella, and Allana are the daughters of King Triton and sisters to Ariel. Full of personality and sass, each should be distinct.

Flotsam & Jetsam are Ursula's sinister lackeys. With devious charm, these electric eels convince Ariel to visit the Sea Witch. Tricky and menacing, they are always lurking about, ready to take advantage of sea inhabitants at their most vulnerable moments.

Ursula-Ursula is the tentacled and manipulative Sea Witch who is the sister to King Triton. Cunning and calculating, she will stop at nothing to get what she wants, and what she wants is Triton's throne. She utilizes her slick sense of humor, a flash of glamour, and larger-than-life confidence to gain the upper hand.

Chef Louis is the melodramatic head chef in the palace. Wild and frantic, he becomes physically and vocally flustered by Sebastian, who always manages to escape his grasp.

Pilot is the uniformed helmsman of Prince Eric's ship, a nautical expert who entertains the sailors with wild tales of the sea. A little too superstitious for Grimsby's taste, the Pilot nevertheless maintains strict control of his ship and crew even as he sings with a jolly cadence.

Sailors (multiple roles)—are the competent crew of Prince Eric's ship. Hardy and eager for adventure, they are vigorous, efficient, and attentive to the Pilot's orders, always prepared for rough seas and stormy weather.

Sea Creatures (multiple roles)—various shapes, sizes, and species comprise the underwater

Windward & Leeward—trumpet fish and heralds in King Triton's court

Gulls (multiple roles)-The Gulls comprise Scuttle's zany backup flock in "Positooosity." These feathered friends of Scuttle's are equally off-beat, though they present an opportunity to showcase the talented and very on-beat dancers in your cast.

Maids (multiple roles)-The Maids are four palace servants who report to Grimsby. They haughtily assist Ariel in preparation for dinner with Prince Eric and are a bit jealous of this pretty stranger in their midst.

Chefs (multiple roles)-The Chefs comprise the sous staff of the eccentric Chef Louis. Their equally overblown movement adds to the comedic chaos of dinner as they chase Louis around the dining room.

Princesses (multiple roles)-The Princesses try everything they can to win the heart of Prince Eric. As none possesses the voice he is searching for, each should have an exaggerated and comedic personality that is revealed through song.

Ensemble (multiple roles)-We need numerous ensemble members to sing and join in the great music of these Disney classics!

Frequently Asked Questions

Can anyone audition?

Yes, anyone who meets the minimum age requirement of Kindergarten is encouraged to audition.

What if I have never been in a production before?

That's perfectly okay! At The Stage Theater Co., we welcome everyone and anyone who wants to be a part of something magical!

What if I want to help with tech (set design, lights, costumes, etc.) with the show versus being in the cast?

Putting on a production truly takes a village, and we need more than just a cast! Please contact us via e-mail, and we will get you in touch with our technical director for Disney's Little Mermaid.

What if I don't want a solo, and do I have to sing by myself in auditions?

That's perfectly okay! When filling out your audition form, clarify what you feel comfortable doing, and we will stay within the boundaries you set. Don't feel like singing by yourself? No problem! This applies to dancing and speaking as well! We want to make sure everyone feels comfortable!

What do I need to wear to auditions?

Be sure to wear something you can move in and feel comfortable in! Please don't wear anything restrictive, itchy, or it could be bothersome or a distraction.

Can you tell me about rehearsals?

Absolutely! All our rehearsals will occur at The Floor Dance Studio (the same as auditions) and will be split up by music, choreography, and blocking. When filling out your audition form, you will put any conflicts you may have, and we will do our best to make sure your rehearsals fit your schedule! Don't worry if you already have a vacation or something planned during rehearsals; we will work it out!

How can I help?

The biggest thing you can do is join us, share us on social media, and help get the word out about The Stage Theater Co. We also accept Business Sponsorships and Personal Sponsorships- so if you know of a business

willing to sponsor, please let us know! It truly takes all of us to make community theater successful and help spread the arts' love. It's incredible what a simple "like" or "share" on social media can do!

When are the performances?

The performances for Little Mermaid will be Thursday-Saturday, June 15th-17th at 7 pm and Sunday, June 18th at 2 pm.

If you have any questions, please contact thestageoffices@gmail.com or inbox us on Facebook or Instagram.



The Little Mermaid Audition Form

Auditions: March 11th-12th

Performances: June 15th-18th

Name _____

Birthdate _____ Age _____ Grade (if in school) _____

Parent/Guardian(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Cast Member Cell Phone _____ Parent/Guardian Cell Phone _____

E-mail _____ School (if applicable) _____

Tell us more about yourself and what brings you to The Little Mermaid:

- I currently take dance classes at _____. The classes I take are (list all classes): _____
- I would like to have a solo in the show.
- I would like to have speaking lines in the show.
- My top two roles I would love are: _____
- I have other artistic talents that may be valuable in the show (list all that apply): _____
- I would be willing to help with tech (lights, sound, etc.).
- I would be willing to help with costumes.
- I would be willing to help with the set (paint, build, etc.).
- I would be willing to help with the advertising of the show (radio, tv)
- I would be willing to distribute posters/flyers for the show.

We understand everyone has a busy life! But we want to ensure everyone can enjoy their plans and partake in *The Little Mermaid*!

Below please list any dates or days that you may have conflicts during the production period of March 13th-June 18th. Include camps, vacations, dance classes, school plays, events, weekly church events, and anything else you think we should know about. Also, please have the time of day to help us with rehearsal scheduling.

Day/Time	Activity/Event
<i>Example: Every Wed Evening</i>	<i>Church</i>
<i>Example: June 1-3, 9am-3pm</i>	<i>Camp</i>

Do you have any questions or comments for the production team? Please provide them below.

The Details

Director: Abby Kuonen-Broadway

Assistant Director: Peyton Riley

Music Director: Sarah Martin

Lead Choreographer: Victoria Mitchell

Auditions will be held on Saturday, March 11th, at 9 am and Sunday, March 12th, at 2 pm. You only need to attend one audition session. The auditions will be held at The Floor Dance Studio, 2704 Alexander Drive, Suite K, in Jonesboro. If callbacks are needed, you will be contacted following auditions.

Participants in *The Little Mermaid* must be in at least Kindergarten to audition.

Performances will be held at Nettleton Performing Arts Center on June 15th, 16th, and 17th at 7 pm and June 18th at 2 pm.

Cast List will be posted before Wednesday, March 15th at Noon on The Stage website and Social Media pages.

Cast Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 16th, at 6:00 pm at The Floor. All **must** attend this important meeting to receive performance materials, rehearsal schedules, and important announcements. If you are until age 18, please bring a parent or guardian.

Rehearsals will be held at The Floor Dance Studio, and a schedule will be provided at the cast meeting. Every effort is made to respect your time and show/life/work balance, and you will only be required to attend those rehearsals in which your character is involved. Please make sure to be on time for rehearsal, as we will start promptly and ensure you are dismissed at the scheduled time.

Production Fee is required of all cast members \$45. For The Little Mermaid, we will also offer a production fee option of \$60, which includes a cast t-shirt! **Production Fees must be paid before receiving your script.**

However, if you cannot pay the fee, do not let that stop you from auditioning! We have a 'Sponsor a Fish' program to help make sure you get that fee taken care of. Please let us know, and we will take care of your fee. We want everyone to participate regardless of the production fee!

Costumes will be provided for the production and are property of The Stage Theater Co. Individual cast members will be responsible for basic items, including leotards, jazz pants, shoes, undergarments, basic tees, etc. We will ensure you have these things if you can't provide them. If you have a family member wanting to be involved in the costuming process, give that information on your audition form. Basic makeup will be required of all cast members.