

## 2016 Bryant Play



### 2016 Bryant Drama- Frequently Asked Questions

#### **Why should my student be part of the Play?**

The Bryant Play provides a unique opportunity for students to be introduced to the world of acting and backstage production. The Play is produced, directed and managed by Lathyrus Theater, which has worked with the Bryant Play for the last several years. For a minimal cost to families, students receive 12 weeks of instruction in the world of performing arts.

#### **What are the dates for the Play?**

The Play is scheduled for **March 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>**. There are three evening performances and a matinee performance on Saturday. There is also one short day performance for the Bryant student body that week.

#### **What is this year's Play all about?**

The Play is called "Transyl-Mania".

Cue the lightning! Cue the thunder! It's monster mayhem in this frightfully fun comedy! Transylvania High School is where the kids of all the classic monster movie villains go to learn the tricks of the trade. There are vampires, mummies, werewolves, zombies, witches, Frankenstein's daughter, the Invisible Man's son, and even the Phantom of the Opera's kid, all of them struggling to live up to their parents' legendary examples. From science fair projects to cliques, these monsters struggle with the same stresses as typical teenagers. When a group of human high school students stumbles upon the monster school thanks to a broken down bus, utter mayhem ensues. Far more silly than spooky, this comedy delivers both loads of laughs and a gentle message about befriending those who are different from us.

#### **Where did this Play come from?**

We purchased the script from Pioneer Drama Service based on recommendations from Lathyrus Theater.

#### **How and when do students audition for acting roles in the Play?**

The auditions are scheduled for the following dates:

- **Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:45 pm to 9:00 pm - 5th Graders**
- **Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6:45 pm to 9:00 pm - 4th Graders**

Please note that there will be NO auditions during the Play workshops.

The purpose of the auditions is to find the appropriate role for your child. Returning 5th graders with experience from last year will have priority for any of the larger roles. Please bring a small picture of your child to be used during casting. The Techie meetings will start at 6:45pm.

#### **What do the "techies" do?**

The techie role is the "back of the house" role where students do things such as build sets, create props, and do make-up, lighting and sound effects. They also have the opportunity to be in the chorus and have non-speaking roles in the play. There are a limited number of tech positions (historically 20 total), so we give these roles out on a first come, first served basis as registration materials are received.

#### **Are there two casts?**

Yes, there are two casts. Every student who wants to be in the Play is provided with a role. Because we have so many students who want to participate, we split them into two casts so we have smaller, more manageable groups. As part of a smaller cast, students have a higher quality experience.

#### **Who comes up with the casts?**

The Directors will assign each student to a cast before the Holiday Break. There are no changes made to cast assignments after this point. When making cast assignments, the directors try to balance each cast with an equal mix of 5<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders, and girls and boys. Specific role assignments will be announced at the first rehearsal in January.

### **What are the Parent volunteer requirements?**

All parents must attend one of the following Parent Meetings in the school library:

**Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30 pm to 7:00 pm - 5th Grade parents**

**Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6:30 pm to 7:00 pm - 4th Grade parents**

Parents are also required to volunteer a minimum of five (5) hours of their time. There are several ways to volunteer:

Help manage rehearsals.

- Provide production support on performance night.
- Organize the bake sale, ticket sales, program production, etc.
- Assist with set building, stage set-up or teardown, costume design, make up, etc.

Volunteer Sign-up Forms will be posted on the Play Website and available at your Parent Meeting on December 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **What are the expected costs/contributions for my child's participation in the Play?**

**Enrollment Fee:** There is a \$70 enrollment fee for each child to participate in the Play. The fee covers costs to purchase the play and scripts, purchase production materials, hire the production team from Lathyrus Theatre, print the program, and provide snacks during rehearsals. With each enrollment fee you receive a ¼ page ad in the Play program. Traditionally this “ad” has been a fun way for parents and friends to show support for their student's efforts with a congratulatory message.

You can either create an ad yourself or use a generic template provided by the Play committee. Additional ¼ page ads can be purchased for \$30 each. Please note that all ads are ¼ page – there is no variation in size. More details, along with an order form, will be available after rehearsals begin in January. Students will receive one script as part of the enrollment fee, but will be expected to pay for lost or damaged scripts should they need another one.

**Costume:** Many costumes can be created by old clothes you might already have or by a trip to Value Village or Goodwill. We'll also put out a request to the Bryant community for costume pieces. The techies will also have a costume – probably a t-shirt and/or hat. More details about costumes will be available once rehearsals begin in January.

**Tickets:** Tickets will cost \$5.00 per person. Ticket orders will begin a few weeks prior to the production dates.

**Bake Sale:** There will be a bake sale during the performances. Parents are encouraged to bake/buy something to sell. Money raised by the bake sale helps cover Play expenses.

**DVD Sales:** A videographer will film the entire play during one of the performances and prepare a professional version of the play on DVD for parents to order (this is optional). The DVD will cost approximately \$40. The drama program does not receive any money from the sale of the DVD.

### **What are the expenses to put on the Play?**

Expenses for the Play include, but are not limited to, the fee to Pioneer Drama Service for the scripts; the fee to Lathyrus Theater to hire a producer, directors, technical director, and other production staff; materials to build the set and props; materials for costumes; renting production equipment, printing the program, and providing rehearsal snacks.

### **When is the enrollment fee due?**

The enrollment fee is due at your parent meeting – December 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>. Make checks payable to Bryant PTSA.

### **When will rehearsals begin and what is the schedule?**

Rehearsals for all actors will begin the week of January 4, 2016. Techies will start the week of January 19<sup>th</sup>. Cast "A" will rehearse Monday and Wednesday from 3:45 – 5:45PM. Cast "B" will rehearse Tuesday and Friday from 3:45 – 5:45PM. There are no rehearsals on Monday January 18<sup>th</sup>, Monday February 15<sup>th</sup> or Tuesday February 16<sup>th</sup>. Due to the number of students involved, we are unable to accommodate individual schedule requests. Rehearsals will take place in the cafeteria and on the stage. We will provide snacks. Please take note of the following.

- **Early Dismissal Days:** The Early Dismissal rehearsal schedule is 1:45 – 3:30pm on Wednesday January 13<sup>th</sup>. Wednesday March 23<sup>rd</sup> is also early dismissal and this is a dress rehearsal day. Rehearsal on Wed March 23<sup>rd</sup> will be from 1:45 – 6:00pm
- **"Tech Only" rehearsal days:** This year we have two "Tech Only" rehearsal days: Wednesday March 9<sup>th</sup> (Cast A) and Friday March 11<sup>th</sup> (Cast B). Actors do not rehearse on these days; only "techies" are required to attend.

You will need to sign your student out at the end of each rehearsal or provide your written consent, **before rehearsals begin**, that it's okay for them to sign themselves out and leave the school on their own.

### **Are there Saturday Rehearsals?**

We are scheduling Saturday Rehearsals for the following dates:

This will allow both the actors and techies more time to run thru the play together. If, as we approach these dates the Directors feel comfortable with the casts progress, we will cancel and let you know but for now, please plan on attending.

### **What is a Dress Rehearsal?**

The dress rehearsals provide the cast with the opportunity to run thru the entire performance. Actors wear costumes and full make-up, while the techies manage the lights, sound and stage. Even though dress rehearsals are longer than the standard rehearsal, the casts sometimes do not make it thru the entire Play. It is critical that everyone attend the dress rehearsal. We will provide dinner during the dress rehearsal dates.

### **What if my child does not like the snack?**

We provide a snack to help kids remain focused during rehearsal. If your child does not like the snack, or needs a bigger snack, please send them with an additional snack. Kids should also bring a water bottle with them.