



Dear Students and Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for your interest in being a part of *Cactus Flower* and/or *First Date*. This contract contains information about being part of the cast. When you have read it, sign the contract with a parent/guardian bring it to your audition.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us before auditions begin. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

Mr. Jason Hamen, Director

Jason.Hamen@centerville.k12.oh.us

Mrs. Melissa Stamm, Music Director

Melissa.Stamm@centerville...

Mrs. Erin Wheeler, Choreographer

CHS Dance Studio

AUDITION CONTRACT for CHS Theatre's Productions of *Cactus Flower* and *First Date*

FORM IN
BACK
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The information in this packet explains the responsibilities of being part of the cast. **Read carefully**, and be sure you are willing to make these commitments before signing the contract with a parent/guardian.

THE SHOWS

Cactus Flower is a 1960s comedy about a man who is having an affair...only he isn't actually married and enlists his secretary to pretend to be his wife.

First Date is a new musical comedy about the endless search to find "the one." As Casey and Aaron open up, the voices in their heads of their friends, family, and their own insecurities try to shut them down.

We aim to set separate "overstudy" and understudy/swing roles, when possible for the success of the show, to offer more opportunities. Expect us to ask questions at callbacks about your preferences for being cast in one show versus the other.

AUDITIONS/CASTING

Auditions (August 26-27) are a chance for directors to "try out" actors in different roles to find the best fit for the show. Sign up for one audition slot outside the PAC office. Please arrive at least 10 MINUTES EARLY, and be sure to bring a completed audition form/contract. You may not audition without first turning in your form.

Cactus: Perform the scene cuttings ("sides") available. It is not necessary to memorize them, but it is recommended that you prepare to perform the characters (in other words, we are looking at your acting choices, not your reading ability). Additional information is found on the handout.

First Date: Perform one song for your audition (singing + acting). This may be one of the selections provided (outside the PAC office) or a one-minute musical theatre cutting you have selected that best shows your abilities as a performer. You are encouraged to be familiar with each of the selections provided (labeled "boys" and "girls"), even if you do not plan to use them for your audition. Be aware that cast recordings are not always identical to what is in the script. If you plan to prepare your own selection, we encourage pop musical theatre styles (i.e.. not *classic Broadway* for this show). You may choose to bring a karaoke backtrack to use (test on CHS wifi) or provide sheet music for an accompanist. There is no dance audition for this production.

Callbacks will be held after school on August 28 (being called back is not a guarantee that you have been cast or cut). The cast list will be posted after school on August 30 outside the PAC office and on www.centervillehstheatre.com. Casting decisions are not based on seniority. All casting decisions are final.

WHAT IS A DIRECTOR LOOKING FOR AT AUDITIONS?

Following are brief descriptions of the criteria that will be considered at auditions and callbacks:

1. **WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT DECISIONS.** Directors must make decisions in the best interest of the *show*, which may not match your own. Accept these decisions with grace and maturity. In rehearsal, this is called *taking direction*.
2. **POTENTIAL.** Only a few lucky people are born ready to act. The rest of us must be willing to learn and grow with every experience. Directors are also looking for choices that match their vision of the show.
3. **CONFIDENCE.** Directors want you to be awesome so they can have an awesome cast—they are on your side! Be willing to put forth your best effort in any situation.
4. **AVAILABILITY.** Check your schedule NOW and list any conflicts on your audition form. We will honor your conflicts and expect you not to add to them. Students who are not passing all of their classes may not participate.
5. **TEAM PLAYERS.** When a student is late, missing, unprepared, uncooperative, or has a poor attitude, the entire production is affected.
6. **"STAGE PRESENCE."** In theatre, actors must have energy and personality, or shows appear lifeless and flat. Projection, speaking clearly, note accuracy (when songs are involved), and vocal and physical expression are part of this, too.

REHEARSALS/SCHEDULE*

Cast members must attend every rehearsal where they appear in the scene. We are willing to work with scheduling conflicts **when they are provided in advance at auditions**. Conflicts are not accepted for tech week (the week leading up to the performance), performances, and strike (the day after the final performance). When absolutely necessary, rehearsals may be scheduled with twenty-four hour notice. Rehearsals are closed (no spectators).

Cast members who are consistently unprepared or missing from rehearsals will meet with the director, which may result in their removal from the show. You are joining a team, so losing anyone is a major hardship.

**A detailed schedule for this show will not be published until after casting is complete. Refer to the tentative schedule.*

HAIR and COSTUMES

Productions are often set in a specific time, place, or style to achieve a “look” that fits a script. Therefore, cast members may be asked to trim or dye their hair and should not make noticeable changes in cut or color without consulting the director. Cast members may be asked to bring personal items (undergarments, deodorant, hair styling tools, etc.) for use during the production that will be stored in the theatre throughout the week of the show, if not earlier.

CENTERVILLE SCHOOLS ACTIVITY FEE / CHS THEATRE FEE

Centerville Schools requires students who are part of the cast of each CHS Theatre production to pay a \$30 activity fee. This fee is separate from the CHS Theatre fee. The fee is due to the Central Unit Office once we begin rehearsals. Make checks payable to CHS. CHS Theatre requires all participants (cast and crew) to pay a \$10 participation fee which covers expenses like show materials or meals, for example. **DO NOT LET THIS KEEP YOU FROM JOINING!** If you have concerns about paying, speak with Mr. Hamen as soon as possible.

YOUR DIRECTORS' ROLE

In exchange for your commitment to this production, you may expect equal commitment from your directors, including

- a safe working environment for a fun experience
- rehearsals with feedback to help you shape your role
- acting and technical challenges to use your creativity
- encouragement of students interested in growing as actors and technicians

CENSORSHIP

The Educational Theatre Association’s policy on censorship states, “[We] oppose any censorship that silences the expression of ideas and that may seek to impose boundaries on ideas in the world of dramatic literature.” While the directors do carefully consider the sensibilities of our potential audiences and students in selecting each production and working with a script, CHS Theatre seeks to provide experiences that are appropriately challenging for our caliber of high school theatre. Anyone interested in previewing a script is encouraged to check out a copy through Mr. Hamen.

MIAMI VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE AWARDS SHOWCASE REHEARSALS

CHS Theatre is a member of the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards, which celebrates the work students around the area. Our shows will be judged by theatre professionals, and awards are presented in June. *Musicals* that receive outstanding musical or lead actor awards will be invited to perform at the MVHSTA Showcase. This will require brush-up rehearsal(s) and rehearsal time at the Schuster in June. mvhsta.org

A SPECIAL NOTE FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

It is difficult to be held in suspense waiting for Opening Night when you know your students have been working hard for a long time to prepare a production! Unlike other extra-curricular activities, the excitement of theatre comes from celebrating a final product, rather than a series of wins or losses. Whether your student is new to CHS Theatre or a familiar face, we are happy to meet or speak with you about the rehearsal process so you too know how everything works!

It takes a large team to make each show a success, including our parent support network. We welcome you to be involved in many different areas, including:

- Snacks for our construction teams
- Flower/souvenir sales on show nights
- Poster hanging in our community
- Food for cast/crew meals
- Chaperoning trips to State Conference/International Festival
- Clerical work when our office gets busy
- Spreading the word about your students’ accomplishments!

BE A TEAM LEADER

We’re looking for parents to assist current team leaders and to serve as leaders in the future. Contact Mr. Hamen if you’re interested.

CONTRACT
DO NOT SIGN UNTIL YOU HAVE READ THE ENTIRE PACKET.



STUDENT

By signing below, I agree to...

1. read this packet and ask questions if I have them
2. accept the directors' decisions with grace and maturity
3. maintain solid, passing grades
4. follow through with my commitments to the show with the understanding that anything less creates unnecessary stress for everyone involved, not just the directors
5. contribute to a successful process
 - a. attend every rehearsal where I appear in the scene
 - b. submit schedule conflicts NOW
 - c. arrive on time
 - d. create a respectful, positive, collaborative environment
 - e. keep track of deadlines and prepare in advance for the day's goals

Student Signature

Date

REMEMBER TO FILL OUT THE FORM ON THE BACK AND SIGN UP FOR YOUR
AUDITION SLOT OUTSIDE THE PAC OFFICE!

PARENT/GUARDIAN

By signing below, I...

1. have read this packet, including the conditions my student accepted above
2. will support my student in his/her commitment to the production if chosen
 - a. will help my student avoid situations that affect his/her participation, with the understanding that the actions of students who fail to meet the conditions above affect everyone
3. agree to pay the Centerville Schools \$30 activity fee (which is separate from the CHS Theatre \$20 participation fee)
4. will review my student's audition form for accuracy
5. acknowledge the risks of preparing live performances and release the directors and Centerville Schools from liability in the event of an accident.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

**FILL OUT THE
FORM**





AUDITION/INTERVIEW FORM

Centerville High School Theatre



Prior to completing this form, you'll need essential information ready (like a parent/guardian email and your calendar).

LAST NAME _____ FIRST NAME _____

ADVISOR _____ UNIT _____ GRADE _____

STUDENT PHONE NUMBER _____

STUDENT EMAIL ADDRESS* _____

@centerville.school addresses cannot receive outside email from CHS Theatre

PARENT/GUARDIAN PHONE NUMBER _____

NAME ASSOCIATED WITH ABOVE PHONE NUMBER _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN EMAIL _____

SIGN THE CONTRACT
→

SCHEDULE CONFLICTS: Review the tentative rehearsal calendar packet outside the PAC office. LIST ALL CONFLICTS below. *Include specific dates and times.*

AUDITION INTERESTS AND OTHER ROLES: I would like to be considered for the following (mark all that apply):

- | | |
|--|--|
| _____ Role in <i>Cactus</i> | _____ Role in <i>First Date</i> |
| _____ Understudy/Swing Role in <i>Cactus</i> | _____ Understudy/Swing Role in <i>First Date</i> |
| _____ Assistant Director for <i>Cactus</i> | _____ Assistant Director for <i>First Date</i> |
| | _____ Assistant Music Director for <i>First Date</i> |
| | _____ Assistant Choreographer for <i>First Date</i> |
| _____ Backstage crew (See Mr. Cordonnier/Ms. Lambert/Mrs. Kledzik for more details.) | |

TRAINING: If you have taken voice lessons, acting class, or dance class, please complete the following.

Name of teacher/studio: _____ Length of study: _____

Area(s) of study/technique: _____

EXPERIENCE: Please list your three most recent theatre roles. If you have no experience, don't worry; we will train you.

SHOW TITLE	ROLE	THEATRE
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

OTHER SKILLS: Do you have any special skills or talents that could be useful in our productions?

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Do you have any questions, or is there information the director should know prior to your audition? (E.g. medical conditions, concerns about grades, etc.)