**The Lion King**

**Audition Preparation**

**Audition Dates: September 13th-17th (**Callbacks as necessary)

Students will audition privately during their scheduled music class time. **Students who do not wish to audition for a featured role will automatically be cast in our ensemble *unless parents choose to opt out of participating*. Also, Students may apply to apprentice in several technical areas including puppeteers.**

**How to prepare:**

* We will be learning audition selections during music class time for the next three weeks. **Please encourage your child to practice and prepare for their audition at home as well.** Resources can be found on the attached pages as well as the “Music” page of the school website. Note: School websites are currently being updated. Please check back if info is not available immediately. Youtube is another good resource.
* **IMPORTANT: Fill out the yellow “Audition Selection Form” and return by Friday, September 3rd. Late forms will not be accepted.**
* **Please note that although students will be practicing for our production during school hours, those with *FEATURED* parts WILL be asked to stay after school on Wednesdays and select Mondays until 4:30 pm beginning in September thru October.** Schedule to follow. Puppeteers and some of the apprentice positions will also meet after school.

**What to expect at auditions:**

* Auditions will be held privately to ease any jitters
* Students will be asked to either sing their prepared selection to a backing track or read a scene if they are auditioning for a speaking only part. I will have lyrics and speaking parts available for the student. Lines do not have to be memorized but students should be very familiar with their audition selection.

**Casting**

 Individual letters will be sent home notifying students of the role they have been cast in during the week following auditions. Music, and scripts will be sent home so that they may begin practicing. **They will need your help at home.**

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**CHARACTER BREAKDOWN**

**Rafiki (5 total actors/ male or female) speaking and singing part**

Wise mandrill and healer of the Pridelands. They act as the narrator.

**Audition song: “Circle of Life”**

**Scar (male) speaking and singing part**

Lion and brother to Mufasa. He is jealous of his brother; coldhearted and smart.

**Audition song: “Be Prepared”**

**Simba (male) speaking and singing part**

Lion prince that grows to be king. Young Simba is playful, energetic, and naïve. Older Simba is strong and authoritative.

**Audition song: “I Just Can’t Wait to Be King”**

**Zazu (male or female) speaking only part**

Hornbill- anxious yet loyal assistant to Mufasa. Zazu’s lyrics are spoken rather than sung.

**Speaking part: “ I Just Can’t Wait to Be King” – ZAZU’S PART IS SPOKEN**

**Nala (female) speaking and singing part**

Courageous lioness and Simba’s best friend. She is not afraid to speak her mind.

**Audition song: “Can You Feel the Love Tonight”**

**Timon (male or female) speaking and singing part**

Outcast meerkat who lives in the jungle with Pumbaa. He is afraid of his own shadow but pretends to be the confident leader of the duo.

**Audition song: “Hakuna Matata”**

**Pumbaa (male) speaking and singing part**

Kindhearted, sensitive warthog who enjoys the simple things in life; Timon’s best friend.

**Audition song: “Hakuna Matata”**

**Mufasa (male) speaking only part**

Lion and King of the Pridelands; strong, honorable, and wise

**Speaking part:**

Mufasa: Come sit by me *(looks over Prideands*). Look, Simba: Everything the light touches is our Kingdom.

Simba: Wow…

Mufasa: A king’s time as a ruler rises and falls like the sun. One day, Simba, the sun will set on my time

 here and will rise with you as the new king.

Simba: And this’ll all be mine?

Mufasa: Everything.

Simba: (*points in the distance*) What about that shadowy place way out there?

Mufasa: That’s beyond our borders. You must never go there, Simba.

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Simba: But I thought a king can do whatever he wants.

Mufasa: Well, there’s a lot more to being king than getting your way all theme.

Simba: Dad, what are those birds over there?

Mufasa: They’re buzzards

Simba: They’re scary. Why don’t you chase ‘em away.

Mufasa: They’re doing what they’re supposed to do. Everything exists in a delicate balance.

 As king, you need to respect all creatures-from the crawling ant to the leaping antelope.

**Sarabi (female) speaking part only**

Lioness and Simba’s mother; strong and kind

**Speaking part:**

Scar: Sarabi!!! Where is your hunting party? They’re not doing their job.

Sarabi: Scar, there is no food. The herds have moved on. We must leave Pride Rock.

Scar: Wer’re not going anywhere.

Sarabi: If you were half the king Mufasa was-

Scar: I am ten times the king Mufasa was!

Simba: (*Simba enters*) No, Scar!

Sarabi: Mufasa?

Scar: It can’t be. You’re dead.

Simba: No, it’s me, Mom. Simba.

Sarabi: You’re alive!

**Hyenas (3 total/ male and female) speaking only part**

**Banzai** – Slick yet childish hyena who works for scar. The gruff leader of the lazy hyenas

**Shenzi** – Sassy and always looking out for herself. Laughs loud and long.

**Ed** – The third member of Scar’s hyenas. His loud crackling laugh and facial **expressions are his only communication**

**Speaking part:**

Hyenas: Hee-hee-hee-hee-hee!!!

Shenzi: *(speaking to Simba*) Well, well, well, Banzai. What have we got here?

Banzai: Hmmm…I don’t know, Shenzi. What do you think, Ed?

Ed: Hee-hee-hee!

Banzai: Just what I was thinkin’: a trio of trespassers!

Zazu: A simple navigational error, let me assure you. We’ll be leaving now.

Banzai: (*grabs Zazu*) Not so fast, food.

Shenzi: How about some take out? (*grabs Nala*). Make mine a cub sandwich!

Banzai: Time to chow down.

Shenzi: Heads or tails?

Ed: Yum yum yum yumyum

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**Drumers (3 total male or female)**

Drummers will play the djembe to accompany the cast during several songs in the show. Students will be trained on the drum.

**Audition song: Prepare the rhythm to accompany “He Lives in You” (see Music section of school website for backing track)**