



Add a little magic to your classroom through Disney Musicals in Schools!

Disney Musicals in Schools is an outreach initiative with the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. Completely funded by Walt Disney World, Disney Musicals in Schools serves to develop sustainable musical theatre programs in Orange, Osceola and Seminole County title I designated public elementary schools.

Schools will be selected to participate in the 2026-2027 program **free of charge, recognizing that this is a 3 year program commitment**. Any Orange, Osceola or Seminole County Title I public elementary school with 60% of students on free or reduced lunch is eligible to apply. The application deadline is **Friday, September 4, 2026** by 5pm.

The goals of Disney Musicals in Schools are to:

1. Create sustainable musical theater programs in public title I designated elementary schools.
2. Provide school faculty with the training and tools necessary to support student performance and production, and to empower them to do so.
3. Develop a critical awareness and appreciation of the arts within the school.
4. Develop a strong community, including students, parents, faculty, staff and neighbors.
5. Expose students and school faculty to the wide spectrum of skills that are developed when producing a piece of musical theater, including critical thinking, problem solving, ensemble building, communication, self-confidence and interpersonal skills.

Disney Musicals in Schools presents a special opportunity to introduce the collaborative art of musical theater to your school, strengthen your arts programming and develop partnerships among students, faculty, staff and the greater community.

Please note: In partnership with Walt Disney World, recipient schools will receive various levels of support and resources over a period of three years.

Complete the following application and submit your application to Sara Amato, Senior Education Manager at Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts.

Due: Friday, September 4, 2026 by 5 p.m.

Email: sara.amato@drphillipscenter.org

In Person/By Mail: Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts
Sara Amato, Senior Education Manager
155 East Anderson Street
Orlando, Florida, 32801

Applications due Friday, September 4 by 5pm | Questions? Contact Sara York at 407.839.0119 ext. 1807

or email: sara.amato@drphillipscenter.org

Disney Musicals in Schools Program Overview:

Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts will select elementary schools from Orange, Osceola or Seminole County to participate in this year's Disney Musicals in Schools program. Elementary schools must be Title I and have 60% of their students on free or reduced lunch.

Selected schools will receive:

- **Free** performance rights (valid for one year) to a 30-minute Disney KIDS musical of their choosing (available shows include *Aladdin*, *101 Dalmations*, *Winnie the Pooh*, *Finding Nemo*, *The Aristocats*, *The Jungle Book*, *The Lion King* and *Frozen*)
- **Free** ShowKit materials, including a director's guide, student scripts, guide vocal and performance tracks, and cross-curricular activities.
- **Free** in-school support from a team of two Dr. Phillips Center teaching artists (during a 90-minute school visit each week).
 - The teaching artists will serve as production and creative advisors who will train and empower the school team to run the program themselves.
 - The teaching artists will guide the school team through both production management (developing a rehearsal schedule, running auditions, and addressing technical and physical production requirements) and the creative execution of the show (direction, choreography, acting and design). They will also advise the school team on school and community engagement opportunities.
 - Disney KIDS musicals are designed to be produced on any budget. Dr. Phillips Center teaching artists will work with selected school teams to create a production within the budget the school is able to allocate to this project.
- Lastly, the selected schools will participate in a culminating Disney Musicals in Schools Student Share Celebration. At this event, each school will share selections from its production in Walt Disney Theater at Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts.

Selected schools will be expected to:

- Produce a 30-minute Disney KIDS musical involving third- through fifth-graders both on- and off- stage.
- Identify a school team comprised of **at least three** teachers and staff members, who will partner with Dr. Phillips Center teaching artists and oversee and manage the program from beginning to end. The selected school team will receive on-site support from a team of two Dr. Phillips Center teaching artists who will visit the school each week. The school team will also run a 90-minute rehearsal on their own once each week.
- Commit to a full semester of rehearsal /production in an after-school setting.

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- Host a site visit for the selection team during the application process.
- Provide space, time, materials and resources for students and the school team to rehearse and prepare for the musical production.
- Provide opportunities for the whole school, parents and larger community to be connected to the production.
- Hold a minimum of one public performance of the musical.
- Participate in the culminating Student Share Celebration in the Walt Disney Theater at the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. Transportation for participating students will be provided.

Financial Commitment

Performance rights, ShowKit materials, professional development, and on-site teaching artist support will be provided at no charge to selected schools. Selected schools will be responsible for a production budget of any amount, determined by the school. Disney KIDS musicals are designed to be produced inexpensively and have been successfully mounted within a budget of \$300-\$1,500. Dr. Phillips Center teaching artists will work to maximize the school's production budget by using reclaimed and existing materials, such as cardboard boxes and t-shirts brought from home. Any additional costs, such as after-school payments for school staff, will be the school's responsibility.

Disney Musicals in Schools Timeline:

Monday, July 13, 2026	Applications sent to all Orange, Osceola and Seminole County public elementary schools
Friday, September 4, 2026	Applications due
Monday September 21- Friday October 2, 2026	Finalist school site visits
Friday October 9, 2026	All applicants notified of status
Wednesday October 28, 2026	Selected school orientation[Mandatory]
Monday, November 2, 2026 - Friday April 30, 2027	Rehearsals
Monday, April 19 - Friday April 30, 2027	School performances
Monday May 3, 2027 9am-8pm	Disney Musicals in Schools Student Share Celebration

**** All 3rd-5th Graders in Disney Musicals in Schools must be in attendance for all of Student Share on Tuesday May 4, 2027. Please consider testing dates prior to applying.***

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SCHOOL TEAM INFORMATION

Proposed School Team Members: Please commit 3-5 teachers **who will be present at all rehearsals.**

Teacher 1: _____

Content area: _____

Teacher 2: _____

Content area: _____

Teacher 3: _____

Content area: _____

Teacher 4 (optional): _____

Content area: _____

Teacher 5 (optional): _____

Content area: _____

PROGRAMMING

We require **two 90 minute rehearsals each week.** Is your administration on board with this commitment, and can you conduct rehearsals on your auditorium stage?

What days/times work best for your school?

(This is an after-school program only. We highly recommend doing rehearsals on Tuesday/Thursdays after school as there are many Mondays off throughout the year, and Wednesdays can get tricky with teacher trainings.)

What spaces in your school will be used for rehearsal?

How will your school make adjustments so that students, teachers and space will all be available at the same time for 90 minutes twice a week?

It is important to note that the success of this program involves administrative support in the use of the cafetorium space. Disney Musicals in Schools will need to be the only program in the cafetorium during the designated after school rehearsal time. Can your school commit to this?

QUESTIONS

Please provide a detailed answer to each of these questions. If you require more space, feel free to use additional paper.

How would you use Disney Musicals in Schools to develop an ongoing tradition of musical theater at your school?

Disney Musicals in Schools requires time, effort and collaboration from the school faculty participating in the program and from the school's leadership team. What steps will your school team take to ensure the success of the program? How will the school's administration support the program?

Describe the culture of communication and collaboration in your school.

What is unique about your school, your students or your community that makes Disney Musicals in Schools the right program for you?

Is there anything else you would like to tell us?

SIGNATURE PAGE

My principal has reviewed and approved this application.

Principal: _____

Signature: _____

School team member signatures:

Please have all school team members review and sign this application.

Teacher 1: _____

Signature: _____

Teacher 2: _____

Signature: _____

Teacher 3 : _____

Signature: _____

Teacher 4 (if applicable): _____

Signature: _____

Teacher 5 (if applicable): _____

Signature: _____

By signing this document you acknowledge the following statement:

If selected, I understand as a school team member that I will be available for two after-school rehearsals each week from November 2026- April 2027. I also understand that my cast, crew, and school team members will be required to attend and perform at the Student Share event on **Monday May 3, 2027 (fully-funded)**.

Sponsored by



Applications due Friday September 5p.m. | Questions? Contact Sara Amato at 407.839.0119 ext. 1807 or

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