



Disney Musicals in Schools is a capacity-building initiative of Center Theatre Group that develops sustainable theatre programs in Los Angeles County public elementary schools. Disney Musicals in Schools began at Disney Theatrical Group in New York City in 2009. Through continued expansion to new regions the program has served thousands of students, teachers, parents, and communities.

### GOALS

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

### 2019/2020 PROGRAM DETAILS

Center Theatre Group will select up to four Los Angeles County public elementary schools to participate in this year's Disney Musicals in Schools program. Schools with Title 1 status are eligible to apply.

#### Selected schools receive:

- Free performance rights (valid for one year) to a 30-minute Disney KIDS musical (available shows include *101 Dalmatians*, *Aladdin*, *The Aristocats*, *Frozen*, *The Jungle Book*, and *Winnie the Pooh*).
- Free ShowKit materials, including a director's guide, student scripts, accompaniment and rehearsal CDs, a choreography DVD, and cross-curricular activities.
- A School Team Field Guide containing additional guidance and resources.
- Free in-school support from a team of two Center Theatre Group Teaching Artists (during one 90-minute school visit each week).
  - Teaching Artists will serve as production and creative advisors who will train and empower the School Team to run the program themselves.
  - 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. Center Theatre Group 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 at the Ahmanson Theatre in Downtown Los Angeles.

Selected schools are expected to:

- Produce a 30-minute Disney KIDS musical involving third – fifth graders both on- and offstage.
- Identify a School Team comprised of at least four teachers and staff members, who will partner with the Center Theatre Group 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 Center Theatre Group 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.
- 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 event at the Ahmanson Theatre in Downtown Los Angeles, and provide transportation for participating students, staff, and chaperones.

**FINANCIAL COMMITMENT**

Performance rights, ShowKit materials, professional development, and onsite 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–\$1500. Center Theatre Group 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.

**TIMELINE**

August 22, 2019	Application open
September 19, 2019	Applications close
Sept 25 – Oct 11, 2019	School site visits
October 21, 2019	All applicants notified of status
November 1, 2019	School orientation and training (10am – 5pm in Downtown Los Angeles)
Nov 2019 – Apr 2020	Rehearsals and onsite support from Center Theatre Group Teaching Artists (17 weeks)
April 2020	School performances
May 2020	Student Share Celebration at the Ahmanson Theatre in Downtown Los Angeles