

## AN EASY GUIDE TO THE KALEIDOSCOPE PLAYERS



### What are the Kaleidoscope Players?

The Kaleidoscope Players refer to the ensembles of actors who audition, rehearse, and perform at least three fully staged, costumed, and ticketed productions during the school year open to community audiences. **A revolving, "elite" group, Players productions are a "bonus" experience for students on top of regular classes. Commitment to the group, personal responsibility and skill expectations are high for each actor cast-despite their age.** Intensely hard work - Players rehearse an average of three nights per week for approximately six weeks around regularly scheduled Club classes (4:00-6:30 or 5:00-7:00/7:30 depending on schedule) – but fun and extremely rewarding. Kaleidoscope Players' productions take the skills learned in classes, and turn kids not only into bonded team players, but into talented performers center stage who know how to act and tell a story!

Additional responsibilities and opportunities may include performing or helping with fundraising events and community engagements, and one show rehearsed and performed during summer months. Auditions and age requirements are announced several weeks in advance of a production and rehearsals begin the week after auditions culminating in 4-6 ticketed performances generally over two weekends.

### 2017-2018 Audition & Show Dates:

Auditions Sept 8 & 9  
\*October 27-29  
"Balancing on  
Dragon Scales"

Casting TBD  
\*December 8-10  
"A Winter's Madrigal"

Auditions Jan. 5 & 6  
\*Feb 16, 17 & 23-25  
"Ginders & the Sparks"

Auditions March 8&9  
\*April 27,28  
& May 4-6  
"As You Like It"

**What are Players' Parent Commitments?** A parent of a Kaleidoscope Player must ensure their student actor is meeting **ALL** Players' requirements and fees listed in addition to:

**#1 - Encouraging and supporting their actor regardless of role!** How parents react when looking at the cast list will really help how a young actor views their role in the show. Sometimes a child is relieved that they did not receive a large role, so please act happy for them no matter what the outcome! Your student will grow as an actor **AND** person being a member of a supportive cast. ☺

**#2 - Make sure student actors attend** every rehearsal scheduled, and to be prompt in drop off and pick up of students at said rehearsals.

**#3 - Being Willing to Volunteer\*** to help as needed with show prep (sets, costumes, advertising, etc.), costuming days, selling concessions and/or tickets, and "putting a show to bed" after a production ends.

*\*\*There is a different Players' fee for parents unable to volunteer.*

**#4 - Promote Kaleidoscope** by inviting or purchasing tickets to bring guests to performances and help to "get the word out" about shows.

**#5 - Actively** and to the best of their ability, assist with (be on a committee), attend, and/or bring guests to Kaleidoscope fundraising events **YEAR ROUND**, supporting KYT's programs on a broader scale.

**#6 - Attend informational parent meetings** before auditions and as scheduled.

### Commonly Asked Questions:

**#1 - Can parents watch auditions?** We generally ask parents **NOT** to watch auditions. We find young actors actually perform better!

**#2 - Does my child need to prepare anything to audition?** No. We use a friendly, encouraging, team approach to auditioning, and so will teach your actor what they need to know!

**#3- Does my child have to be a student at KYT to audition?** Yes, for most shows they will need to be signed up for at least 2 out of 3 class sessions.

*\*\*For the Christmas show this may be waived.*

**#4 - Will I get comp tickets to the show?** No. We have a very small "house." Those working concessions or front of house may find a seat in the back of the theater if a seat is available.

**#5 - Does my actor have to take classes while rehearsing a show?** Yes!

We work on different projects in class with sometimes non-cast students, so we need their attendance there as well. ☺

**#6 - How do you communicate with parents?** We use both handouts **AND** email. The show's production manager will keep you apprised of changes in schedule, volunteer opportunities, needs and concerns via email.

**#7- Are there scholarships available?** Yes. There are limited scholarships offered through THRIVE for students enrolled in the Bozeman School District and some through private donations. Payment plans are also offered.

This packet contains all the information you should need to learn about the expectations of being a KYT Player and Player's parent. **PLEASE MAKE SURE** to read over it carefully! If auditioning, also be sure to fill out and sign the attached rehearsal conflict form or download it from the website under "Players." Show descriptions and schedules for specific productions are available separately.

If you have questions, email the staff at kytadministration@gmail.com or call the theater at 587-3642.

### **What are Player Requirements & Fees?**

**#1 - Players must be "card-carrying" Club Kaleidoscope Members.** Students must be registered for an age appropriate class in at least 2 sessions during the school year. The purchase of a Club Kaleidoscope punchcard(s) is required for classes. ☺. Family Club Cards cost \$215.00 for 16 classes. It is **HIGHLY** recommended for students interested in being a Player to get **REGISTERED IN THE FALL** for their sessions in order to meet requirements! *For first time actors in Kaleidoscope programs, an 8-class punch card is acceptable to get students started for \$135.00.* There is also a one time per year registration fee of \$25/individual or \$35/family.

### **#2 - Players must be enrolled and attend Club Classes (See #1!)**

This means, Players need to be in regular attendance in at least two (2) acting, singing or dance classes during the year or while participating in Players' rehearsals to fulfill requirements. KYT believes classes give the strong educational foundation and basis for students to be successful in a fast-paced, high-expectation rehearsal process. *An athlete would never be able to play a game or a musician an instrument, without first learning the basic skills of their craft, the rules, and how to practice, so if Players drop out of classes, they may sacrifice their role in the show.* **\*\* FOR OUR CHRISTMAS MADRIGAL DINNER THEATER, CLASS PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS MAY BE WAIVED AT DIRECTOR'S OR BOARD DISCRETION FOR CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE CAST DUE TO THE NATURE, TIMING, & NEEDS OF THE SHOW.**

### **#3 - Players must be chosen through audition to be a part of the cast.**

**Kaleidoscope directors do their best to include every child who auditions if possible and appropriate for the production, but it is NOT a guarantee.** Sometimes, when an occasion merits, a student may be invited to be part of a cast or asked to resign. The decision for casting is based upon several things: \*The audition \*Whether they fit the age and/or physicality of certain characters \*Behavior off stage and **IN CLASS** \* Whether they have met all class requirements \*Turning in ALL paperwork! *The decision for casting is made with entire production team, but the final decision is made by the director.*

### **#4 - Rehearsals ARE NOT optional and MUST be a priority for actors.**

\*The **rehearsal schedule** is developed around the needs of the show and NOT around actor's other schedules. Please be thorough and forthcoming when filling out potential activity conflicts on audition forms!

\*Please **BE ON TIME** having snacks already eaten! All effort will be made to end rehearsals as scheduled, so please be prompt in pick up. *(During tech rehearsal week and dress rehearsals, expect things to run long.)*

\***ILLNESS** is considered an excused absence **ONLY** if a parent calls or emails the production manager **BEFORE** rehearsal begins. *Due to the team nature of theater production, DURING DRESS REHEARSAL AND SHOWS, WE ONLY EXCUSE ILLNESS UNDER DOCTOR'S ORDERS.*

### **#5 - Players are expected to be TEAM PLAYERS ON AND OFF the stage. The highest standards of behavior are necessary in order to assure the best possible production, the safety of all participants, and a positive memorable experience for each actor.**

\*Players show respect to all directors, student assistants, and fellow participants. They understand that every part is equally important. A show is a team effort.

\*Players come to rehearsals prepared and ready to work.

\*Players accept directions with a positive attitude.

\*Players stay in designated areas and listen carefully for directions.

\*Players take care of scripts, costumes, set and props.

\*Players keep their personal items organized and in designated areas.

\*When snacks are eaten **BEFORE REHEARSAL**, all garbage will be thrown away and the Playhouse kept clean.

\*Temper displays, inappropriate language and gestures, and disrespect of adults or other actors may be grounds for dismissal from the production.

### **#6 - Players are positive, appropriate ambassadors for KYT. Players are expected to help promote shows, activities, and fundraisers at KYT whether they are currently acting in a show or not.**

This means, KYT Players throughout the year are encouraged to:

\*Attend other KYT Players' shows themselves.

\*Invite friends, family, and community members to classes, shows, auditions or fundraisers.

\*Offer to assist in the dressing room, with concessions, backstage, or help to poster the town.

\*Actively and to the best of their ability participate in selling tickets and/or raffle tickets when requested.

### **#7 - Players are assessed a \$125.00\* Theater Fee/Production (with parent volunteer commitment) or \$175 Theater Fee/Production (without parent volunteer commitment) which helps to cover costs (production team, scripts, sets, costume use, care & cleaning), and is paid for each show in which a student is cast payable AFTER auditions, but by the end of the first week of rehearsal. This Fee may be waived in special circumstances or if a show has adequate community sponsorship.**

**\*\* (The Players' fee costs parents approximately \$ .60/per on site hour!)**