

# Stephen Mack Middle School Presents



*Hononegah Community High School  
Performing Arts Center  
February 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>*

## **Show Synopsis**

Thirteen-year-old Edwina Spoonapple would do just about anything to be a part of the Kalamazoo Advice-a-palooza Festival. While her siblings both have proof “up on the fridge” of their accomplishments, poor Edwina has nothing. When a talent scout from the convention visits her hometown of Paw Paw, Michigan, she trots out her musical advice-giving shows live from the family garage in hopes of finding her place in the spotlight.

She is assisted by a host of quirky friends and neighbors: Becky, the perky cheerleader; Kelli, the cool, sophisticated ballerina; Annie, the girl-scout cookie-selling champion; Bobby, the befuddled new kid on the block; and Scott, who is helplessly and hopelessly in love with Edwina. Together they set out to tackle the world’s problems, in number after hysterical numbers about everything from birthday party etiquette, the proper way to set a table, and making new friends.

## **Character Breakdown**

### **\*Edwina Spoonapple**

The creator, director and choreographer of The Dear Edwina Show and is the main-staple of the play. Her character goes through a tremendous arc throughout the series of events in the play; from frustration to relief, anger to joy, horror to happiness, and all within one afternoon in her own garage!

### **\*Scott**

A neighbor boy who is helplessly in love with Edwina. He dotes on her every move and is always conniving a way to gain her attention.

### **\*Becky**

Edwina's friend and the top of the cheerleading pyramid for the Paw Paw Wildcats. Becky cheers most of her lines enthusiastically, even cheering in anger.

### **\*Kelli**

Edwina's friend and Paw Paw, Michigan's resident ballerina. Kelli is the owner of Kelli's Lemonade Stand

### **\*Annie**

Edwina's friend and the Girl Scout of Paw Paw. Annie works for and collects her Girl Scout badges like they were buried treasure.

### **\*Bobby**

Edwina's new next-door neighbor. He is a friendly and compassionate character who goes out of his way to help others.

### **Lars Vanderploonk**

One of the Vanderploonk triplets and a neighborhood friend of Edwina. He is incredibly accident-prone.

### **Billy Vanderploonk**

One of the Vanderploonk triplets and a neighborhood friend of Edwina. He works double duty on The Dear Edwina Show by performing onstage and serving as her box office manager.

### **Cordell Vanderploonk**

One of the Vanderploonk triplets and a neighborhood friend of Edwina. He works double duty in The Dear Edwina Show by performing onstage and serving as House Manager.

### **\*Aphrodite**

One of the 'letter readers' in The Dear Edwina Show who has a vocal solo. Aphrodite has a brother who is a picky eater.

### **\*Carrie**

One of the 'letter readers' in The Dear Edwina Show who has a vocal solo. Carrie has the typical "valley girl" voice and chants her solo asking for help with where to place the silverware when setting the table.

### **\*Abigail**

One of the 'letter readers' in The Dear Edwina Show who has a vocal solo. Abigail is a frustrated sister who is worried about her brother embarrassing her at her birthday party.

### **\*Periwinkle**

One of the 'letter readers' in The Dear Edwina Show who has a vocal solo. Periwinkle is a sweet, shy girl who is moving to a new country and worried about making new friend.

### **\*Ziggy**

One of the 'letter readers' in The Dear Edwina Show who has a group number. Ziggy is the leader of the group Ziggy and The Marching Band. He sings in a Jamaican reggae style.

### **The Marching Band**

The Marching Band are backup singers to Ziggy.

### **\*Vladimir**

One of the 'letter responders' in The Dear Edwina Show. He is Edwina's scary uncle from afar who speaks in a Dracula inspired accent. He leads the song Frnakenguest.

### **Frank**

One of the 'letter responders' in The Dear Edwina Show. He is a rude, self-centered, bratty, offensive, disrespectful, child and the subject of Vladimir's song, Frankenguest.

### **\*Chef Ludmilla**

One of the 'letter responders' in The Dear Edwina Show. Chef Ludmilla is part of a team to instruct the rest of the company on how to set a table in "Fork, Knife, Spoon."

### **William**

One of the 'letter responders' in The Dear Edwina Show. He is part of a team to instruct the rest of the company on how to set a table in "Fork, Knife, Spoon."

### **Sonoma**

One of the 'letter responders' in The Dear Edwina Show. He is part of a team to instruct the rest of the company on how to set a table in "Fork, Knife, Spoon."

### **\*Fairy Forkmother**

One of the 'letter responders' in The Dear Edwina Show. She is part of a team to instruct the rest of the company on how to set a table in "Fork, Knife, Spoon."

### **\*Susie**

One of the 'letter responders' in The Dear Edwina Show. Susie and The Napkins are a local band who have just come from a Battle of the Bands concert at the Paw Paw Community Center to sing "Say No Thank You."

### **The Napkins**

The Napkins are Susie's back up in the song "Say No Thank You."

### **Johnny**

One of the 'letter responders' in The Dear Edwina Show. Johnny helps to act out the scene in "Say No Thank You."

### **Queen of Boola Boola**

One of the 'letter responders' in The Dear Edwina Show. Queen of Boola Boola helps to act out the scene in "Say No Thank You."

### **Lola**

One of the 'letter responders' in The Dear Edwina Show. New to America, Lola expresses her shyness in the song, "Hola, Lola." This character will sing/speak part of her lines in Spanish.

### **Harry**

One of the 'letter responders' in The Dear Edwina Show. Harry is Lola's cousin and the reason she flies from Lima, Peru, to Honolulu. He is a fun, happy-go-lucky character who just wants to make sure his favorite cousin is having a good time.

### **\*Mary Sue Betty Bob**

One of the 'letter responders' in The Dear Edwina Show. She sings "Put it in the Piggy" along with her backup singers. She is a country girl with a sweet, spunky personality.

### **Farmer Jerry, Girls and Pigs**

Mary Sue Betty Bob's backup for "Put it in the Piggy."

### **Katie Spoonapple**

Edwina's little sister and a math wiz. Although she arrives at the end of the play, she has the very important role of influencing Edwina's thoughts and feelings.

### **Myra/Myron Spoonapple**

Edwina's little sister/brother and musical director of The Dear Edwina Show.

### **Joe/Jo Spoonapple**

Edwina's older brother/sister and drummer of The Dear Edwina Show.

**Ann Van Buren**

The Kalamazoo Advice-A-Palooza talent scout.

## Auditions

**Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> 2:30-5:00 p.m.** at Stephen Mack Middle School. Participants should plan to attend both audition dates.

### **Audition will include**

- **Check in, submit audition application and signed contract**
- **A short monologue introducing yourself**
  - Use your personality to its fullest! If you're outgoing and silly, show us! If you are shy and reserved, show us! If you have a weird or quirky talent, show us! Tell us the 5 most important things that we should know about you in monologue format!
- **A prepared vocal solo**
  - Pick a song or clip between 60 and 90 seconds long. Be sure this showcases your voice, personality, and vocal range! **DO NOT USE ANY MUSIC FROM DEAR EDWINA JR. AS YOUR AUDITION PIECE!** Please provide background accompaniment on a CD and bring a spare copy just in case! Contact us if you have any questions about songs and background tracks.
- **Script reading from parts of Dear Edwina Jr.**
  - We will provide the selections from the script to you after your introduction and vocal solo. You will have a few minutes to look it over and come back in to read. It doesn't hurt to look up the show and familiarize yourself with the characters and the lines, but we will not provide the script selections in advance.
- **A short dance**
  - You will be taught, as a group, a short, simple dance on night one. You will have time to practice it overnight for day 2 of audition. You do not have to be a dancer! A majority of musical participants in middle school and high school are not dancers! We promise this will be short and simple, so don't worry if you have no dance training.

### **Audition Tips**

- Relax and have fun! The directors want you to do well! Everyone is nervous! Even seasoned performers get nervous.
- Don't be afraid to move around the stage and act out the scene.

- You only have a few seconds to dazzle the directors so speak loudly and clearly.
- Let your true personality shine through! This show has a role for every personality and character type!

### Rehearsals & Performances

Rehearsals will take place after school from 2:30-5:00 p.m. at Stephen Mack Middle School on the following dates:

- Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> – Full Cast Meeting & Rehearsal (Parents are welcome to attend.)
- Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup> – Principal Cast\*
- Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> – Full Cast
- Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> – Principal Cast\*
- Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> – Full Cast
- Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup> – Principal Cast \*
- Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> – Full Cast
- Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> – Principal Cast \*
- Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup> – Full Cast
- No Rehearsals During Winter Break (cast will submit practice videos during winter break)
- Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup> – Full Cast
- Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> – Full Cast
- Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> – Full Cast
- Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup> – Full Cast
- Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup> – Full Cast Must Date
- Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> – Full Cast Must Date
- Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup> – Full Cast Must Date
- Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup> – Full Cast Must Date
- Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> – Full Cast Must Date
- Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> – Full Cast Must Date
- Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> – Full Cast Must Date
- Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup> – Full Cast Must Date

\*Principal cast will be indicated with an asterisk on the character breakdown included in this packet. If the student is not able to participate in principal cast rehearsals on Mondays and Wednesdays, please note that in the rehearsal conflict section of the audition application.

## Rehearsal Guidelines

- Students must wear proper attire to all rehearsals. This includes close-toed shoes and clothing that allows movement. No skirts, heels, or flip flops.
- Performers must bring their script and a pencil to EVERY rehearsal.
- When not rehearsing, performers will memorize lines quietly, read, or work on homework.
- Students should bring a small snack and water to rehearsals. Please no soda, energy drinks, or messy snacks.
- Electronics are not permitted during rehearsals. Cell phones must be put away and turned off until 15 minutes before end of rehearsal in order to contact parents for pickup.
- Rehearsal is not the time to learn your part; it is the time for everyone to learn how to perform their individual parts together! Don't waste anyone's time. Practice on your own, come to rehearsal prepared and watch how quickly the whole show improves and comes together with proper personal preparation!

## Tech Week

Tech Week Rehearsals will take place from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Hononegah PAC. Parents are responsible for finding reliable transportation for their student. Tech Week Rehearsals are treated as required rehearsals (Must Dates) for the entire cast and crew in order to continue participation in the show.

- Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup> 4:00-6:00 p.m. – Dress Rehearsal
- Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup> 4:00-6:00 p.m. – Dress Rehearsal
- Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> 4:00-6:00 p.m. – Dress Rehearsal
- Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup> 4:00-6:00 p.m. – Final Dress Rehearsal

## Performances

All performances will take place at the Hononegah PAC. Ticket information will be released before winter break.

- Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> – Daytime Performance(s) for Rockton School District Students
- Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> – *Possible* Evening Performance 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> – Public Matinee Performance 2:00 p.m.



## Additional Information

### **Miscellaneous Dates**

- Load in and set construction will take place on Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. (Volunteers will be needed; more information will be available at a later date.)
- Set de-construction and cleanup will take place immediately following the Saturday matinee on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. All students are required to stay until everything is complete. (Additional volunteers will be needed; more information will be available at a later date.)
- Cast Party! TBD

### **Participation Fee**

- Students will be required to pay a \$20 fee that will cover a show t-shirt, a script, and a rehearsal cd. All three items are for the student to keep after the show is complete.
- Additional shirts, scripts, or rehearsal CDs will be \$15 each.
- Copies will not be made of CDs or scripts, so students must be responsible for keeping track of these items.
- Checks should be made directly to SMMS and turned into Mrs. Kramper no later than Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Costumes and Props**

- Costumes will mostly come from the students' own wardrobe. We will not ask a student to purchase any pieces of their costume, if something is needed to add to what they already have, we will budget for those pieces.
- Proper undergarments are the responsibility of the student and will be discussed as costumes are approved.
- Shoes are the responsibility of the student and will be discussed as costumes are approved. Students will not need to purchase new shoes for the show. Shoes must be worn at all times, at all rehearsals!
- When possible, props will be items donated or purchased from goodwill. A list of props will be sent home at a later date and will be updated on a need basis.

### **Academic Eligibility**

Students must maintain their academic eligibility and keep up with school work. This show may not be used as an excuse for not

turning in homework. All teachers at SMMS have the right to contact the Mrs. Czizek or Mr. Roer with any concerns they have about the effect of this show on a student's ability to maintain grades.

### **School Absences**

If a student is absent from school for any reason, other than a school excused absence (field trip, athletic competition, etc.), the student will not be eligible to participate in rehearsal on the day they are absent. Please email Mrs. Kramper by 12:00 p.m. on the day of the absence to let Mrs. Kramper know.

### **Audition Results and Casting**

- Audition results and cast list will be posted on the closed Facebook group as well as emailed to all student and parent emails listed on the audition applications.
- Results will be available at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.
- By signing up to audition, students and their parents are agreeing to accept the results regarding casting of the show. Parents and students should not participate in gossip or disrespect towards the directors or other students because of disappointment in the results. If parents have questions or concerns at any point during the audition or production process, they can be *respectfully* submitted via email to the director.

### **Parent Involvement**

- Parents will be asked to volunteer a minimum of 3-hours during the 2 months of production. Some of this can be done at home and some will be needed during rehearsal times. A more detailed list of volunteer opportunities will be available when the cast list is announced.
- Rehearsals are closed unless otherwise announced or if a parent has permission of the director to volunteer during a rehearsal.
- Parents will not be allowed backstage at any point unless permission has been granted by the director for volunteer purposes.

### **Contact Information**

- Please send all questions, comments, or concerns to Mrs. Kramper at [smms.musical.director@gmail.com](mailto:smms.musical.director@gmail.com)
- Signup for remind texts by texting @2h26c4 to the number 81010

- Request to join our closed Facebook group by searching SMMS Dear Edwina Jr. – This group will be used to post reminders and updates. Participating students and parents/guardians are welcome to join, public will not be permitted.

**SMMS Dear Edwina Jr.**  
**Audition Application**  
(PLEASE PRINT NEATLY!!!)

**Student Information**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom Teacher \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Student Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Student Email \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Does the student have any medical concerns that we should be aware of? (If yes, please explain.)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are there any other things that the directing team should be aware of in order to make this a positive experience for the student? (If yes, please explain.)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Student Height \_\_\_\_\_ Student T-Shirt Size (Adult Sizes) XS S  
M L XL

Rehearsal Conflicts - Please list any potential conflicts with the rehearsal schedule. More than 2 unexcused absences may result in removal from the show. Performances may not be missed. Absolutely no absences during "Must Dates"

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**Performer Questions**

For which role(s) are you auditioning?

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Will you accept another role or non-speaking role if offered?    Yes  
No

What stage, dance, music (vocal or instrumental), or technical experience do you have? (You may attach a resume if you have one.)

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What special talents do you have? (i.e. second language, juggling, karate, etc.)

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What extra-curricular and non-school clubs and activities are you regularly involved in? (i.e. scouts, dance team, church youth group, etc.)

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Why do you want to participate in the SMMS Musical – Dear Edwina Jr.?

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## **SMMS Dear Edwina Jr. Performer Contract**

### **Student Contract**

- Rehearsals begin promptly after school at the designated location.
- More than 2 unexcused absences may result in being removed from the show. All rehearsals January 16<sup>th</sup> to February 1<sup>st</sup> are mandatory for all cast members.
- Grades and school conduct are of utmost importance. A performer may be removed from the show due to poor grades or for disciplinary measures in the classroom or rehearsals.
- Students will abide by ALL rehearsal guidelines listed in the information packet.
- Students will be respectful of their peers, paid staff, and volunteers involved in the show.
- Students will address any personal conflicts or concerns with Mrs. Kramper directly. Making disrespectful comments or addressing personal concerns on the closed Facebook group for the show will not be tolerated.
- Students agree to accept the results regarding casting of the show.

### **Parent Contract**

- Parents will help their child keep his or her commitment to the cast and the show by ensuring that the performer is at all scheduled rehearsals.
- Parents will pick their child up from rehearsal on time.
- Parents will email Mrs. Kramper by 12:00 p.m. if their student is absent from school.
- Parents will not enter the rehearsal hall until performers are dismissed. The only parents allowed in the rehearsal are scheduled chaperones and parents who have specific duties for the show.

- Parents will be respectful of performers, paid staff, and volunteers involved in the show.
- Parents agree to contact Mrs. Kramper via email with any questions or concerns. Making disrespectful comments or addressing personal concerns on the closed Facebook group for the show will not be tolerated.
- Parents agree to accept the results regarding casting of the show.

**I have read the following guidelines and procedures for the 2017 Stephen Mack Musical and I agree to follow all the rules.**

**I also know that failure to follow these guidelines and procedures may result in being removed from the show.**

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_